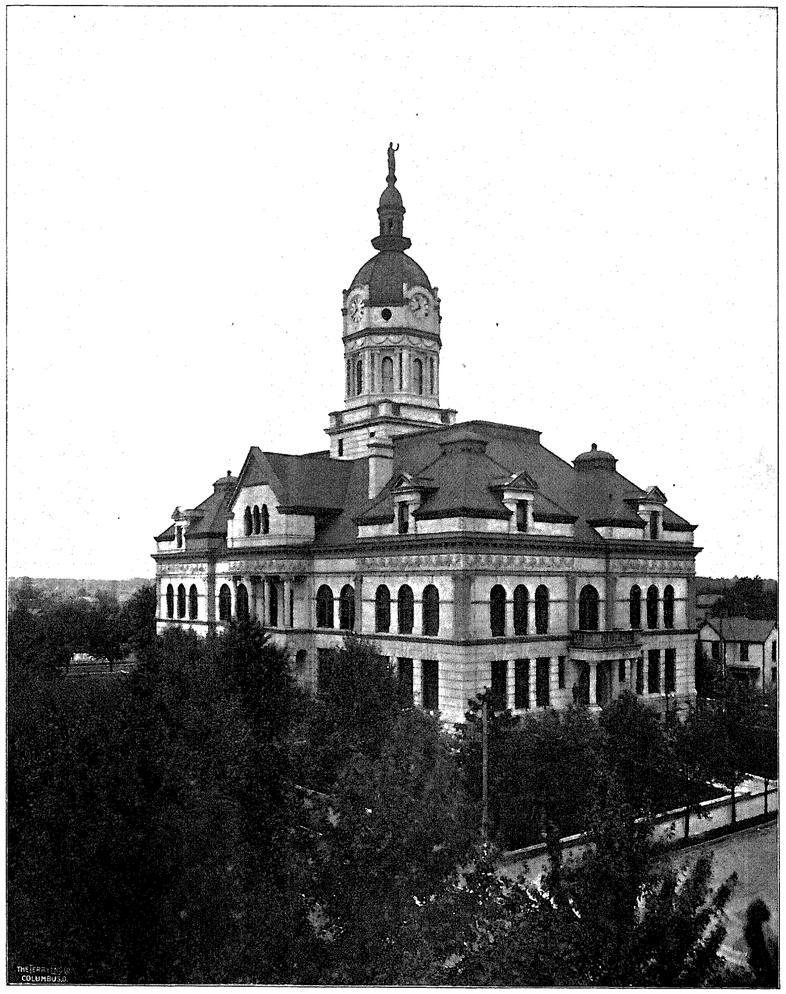

AUGLAIZE COUNTY COURT HOUSE.

ATLAS

OF

AUGLAIZE COUNTY,

WITH

Historical and Biographical Sketches.

PUBLISHED BY THE ATLAS PUBLISHING COMPANY,

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF

JOHN B. WALSH,

WAPAKONETA, OHIO,

1898.

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NOTE OF EXPLANATION.

On the Outline Map, the Oil territory in the county is shown by irregular meandering lines.

On the Township Maps of Jackson, German, and Duchouquet townships, producing oil wells are indicated by small circles. In the other townships of the oil territory, they are shown by crosses. Pikes are designated by double lines with intercepting cross lines.

The scale of all township maps is 2 inches to the mile.

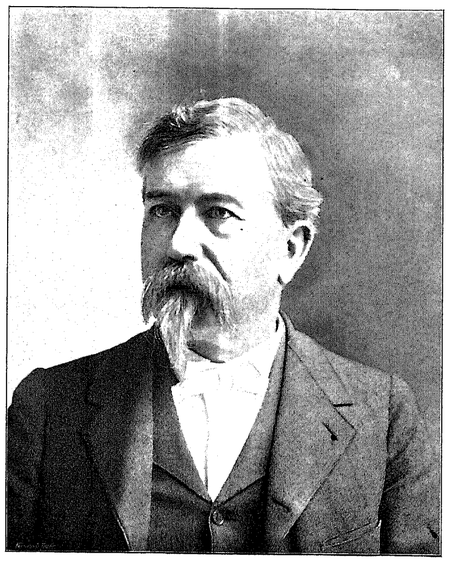


FRED. H. HAMAN.



JAMES WILSON, JR.

CONSTRUCTION BOARD, WATERWORKS TRUSTEES, WAPAKONETA, O.



HENRY MOSER.

AUGLAIZE COUNTY.

ONE of the most substantial and wealthy counties in the great Northwest of Ohio was established in the year 1848. The movement to form it, like all great public questions, involved months of agitation and controversy, but with George W. Holbrook as its able champion it was finally erected into a separate organization February 13 of that year.

The County is divided into fourteen townships, namely: Clay, Duchouquet, German, Goshen, Jackson, Logan, Moulton, Noble, Pusheta, St. Marys, Salem, Union, Washington and Wayne. There are but two of these townships, St. Marys and Union, that are regular in size. The townships are composed respectively of the following sections, and are distinguished from one another by the governmental designation belonging to each, namely: Clay Township, sections 6 to 30, T. 6 S., R. 7 E.; Duchouquet Township, sections 31 to 36, T. 4 S., R. 6 E., and sections 1 to 36, T. 5 S., R. 6 E.; German Township, sections 1 to 13, T. 7 S., R. 4 E.; Goshen Township, south half sections 25 to 30, and sections 31 to 36, T. 5 S., R. 8 E., and sections 2 to 11, T. 6 S., R. 8 E.; Jackson Township, sections 19 to 36, T. 7 S., R. 4 E., and section 6 and north part section 7, T. 8 S.,R. 4 E.;Logan Township, sections 19 to 36, T. 4 S., R. 4 E., and sections 1 to 6 and north part sections 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, T. 5 S., R. 5 E.; Moulton Township, south part sections 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, T. 5 S., R. 5 E.; Noble Township, sections 7 to 36, T. 5 S., R. 4 E.; Pusheta Township, sections 1 to 25, T. 6 S., R. 6 E.; St. Marys Township, sections 1 to 36, T. 6 S., R. 4 E.; Salem Township, sections 19 to 36, T. 4 S., R. 4 E., and sections 1 to 6, T. 5 S., R. 4 E.; Union Township, sections 1 to 36, T. 5 S., R. 7 E.; Washington Township, sections 1 to 25, T. 6 S., R. 5 E.; Wayne Township, sections 1 to 24 and north half sections 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30, T. 5 S., R. 8 E., and a portion of the Virginia Military lands.

The Virginia Military lands, which are referred to, comprised a portion of the United States Military lands, which were so called because they were appropriated by an act of congress in 1796, to satisfy certain claims of officers and men who were soldiers of the Revolution.

Any such soldier holding a Virginia Military land warrant could locate his land wherever he desired in the district, and in whatever shape he pleased.

The territory of the County may be further defined as included between 40 deg. 22 min. and 40 deg. 42 min. north latitude, and between 84 deg. 06 min. and 84 deg. 32 min. west longitude. Its greatest length is 30 miles east and west, and its greatest width 22½ miles north and south. It contains 385.45 square miles, equivalent to 246,466 acres, and is bounded by Allen, Logan, Shelby, Darke, Mercer, and Van Wert counties, all of which have contributed to give it independent existence upon the map of the great State of Ohio.

The early history of the County of Auglaize is so interwoven with the history of some of the towns and townships located within its borders that it would be superfluous to attempt to repeat here what will appear more in detail in the narratives pertaining to each as they appear in this work.

To treat of the present conditions of her soil, her people, her progress and advancement in material growth and wealth, is more within the province of this sketch. That the County possesses everything which combines to make a prosperous and happy people is evident on every hand. In the year 1850, two years after the organization of the County, the population, according to the most reliable information, was 11,341. Since then its growth has been gradual and substantial. In 1860 the number of inhabitants had increased to 17,187; in 1880, to 25,444; and in 1890, to 28,100. To-day, from the most available figures that can be procured on the subject, it is estimated that the total population is fully 36,000.

The County now has distributed, at various points within her borders, fourteen towns whose population ranges from 100 to 4,000 people. The following table shows the population of the County, by townships, at the end of each decade for the past forty years:

TOWNSHIPS.	1850	1860	1870	1880	1890
Clay	840	1,091	1,095	1,346	1,430
Duchouquet	1,753	2,502	3,959	4,971	5,925
German	1,470	1,721	1,750	2,239	2,185
Goshen	356	407	524	796	949
Jackson	.....	1,554	1,502	1,991	1,966
Logan	336	706	900	1,206	1,369
Moulton	450	794	1,252	1,436	1,339
Noble	309	826	1,159	1,303	1,283
Pusheta	1,008	1,280	1,290	1,456	1,437
St. Marys	1,066	2,342	2,420	3,147	4,388
Salem	400	677	877	1,160	1,136
Union	1,008	1,430	1,402	1,590	1,661
Washington	688	980	840	1,515	1,581
Wayne	672	877	1,011	1,288	1,451
Totals	11,341	17,187	20,041	25,444	28,100

The soil of the County is of the best that can be found in the State of Ohio, a great portion of it rivaling that of the great Miami valley. The surface is generally rolling and undulating, interspersed in the southern and eastern portions with prairies of a black, sandy loam. The following tabulated statement gives some idea of the production of the principal crops, as per acreage, sown in the various townships:

TOWNSHIPS.	WHEAT.		RYE.		OATS.		BARLEY		CORN.	
	Acres Sown for Crop of 1897.	Bushels Produced 1897.	Acres Sown for Crop of 1897.	Bushels Produced 1897.	Acres Sown for Crop of 1897.	Bushels Produced 1897.	Acres Sown for Crop of 1897.	Bushels Produced 1897.	Acres Planted 1897.	Bushels(Shelled) Produced 1897.
Salem	1,038	18,566	34	490	946	25,740	....	.....	2,086	53,221
Noble	2,132	24,257	48	550	1,445	37,910	....	.....	3,212	89,820
St. Marys	2,752	40,964	11	158	1,085	36,419	37	1,230	3,234	117,810
German	1,640	19,398	15	191	887	29,408	14	244	1,893	72,730
Jackson	2,241	27,587	24	318	1,324	42,417	38	687	2,220	72,576
Logan	1,824	19,766	25	280	784	20,149	17	260	2,259	62,315
Moulton	2,338	27,209	30	513	898	23,670	18	234	2,830	63,690
Washington	3,317	65,585	27	590	1,042	38,240	115	3,209	3,546	145,080
Duchouquet	3,884	42,035	23	551	1,577	48,453	....	.....	4,020	127,460
Pusheta	3,806	32,830	24	383	1,316	42,460	36	675	3,736	139,840
Union	2,855	28,859	26	473	812	24,870	....	.....	3,481	127,065
Clay	2,534	26,013	19	380	611	21,429	....	.....	3,099	117,272
Wayne	1,165	13,137	40	448	687	26,655	....	.....	2,975	111,725
Goshen	1,049	13,399	12	304	602	19,002	....	.....	2,980	103,375
	33,775	399,480	358	5,629	14,216	436,821	272	6,590	41,577	1,403,978

The County is drained principally in the central and northwestern portions by the Auglaize and St. Marys rivers, while a part of the east and southeast empties its waters into the Scioto and Miami rivers. Aside from these streams, there are within the limits of the County vast systems of ditches, made under the provisions of the ditch laws of the State, which provide ample drainage in every portion of the County, and which were constructed at the cost of thousands of dollars.

The material wealth of the County has increased proportionately to the development of its resources. The taxable value of all property, real and personal, exceeds ten millions of dollars, in accordance with the following compilation made from the returns to the county auditor in 1897-'98, the returns of railroads and other corporations not being included.

TOWNS AND TOWNSHIPS.	No. of Acres.	Value—Real Property.	Value—Personal Prop'y.	Total.
Clay	19,224	$393,715	$92,155	$485,870
Duchouquet	25,193	552,060	390,011	942,071
Cridersville Village	.....	46,250	41,778	88,028
Wapakoneta Village	.....	670,820	465,892	1,136,712
German	11,323	260,740	246,220	506,960
New Bremen Village	.....	151,520	186,915	338,435
Goshen	11,336	222,780	60,290	283,070
Jackson	12,011	278,510	144,179	422,689
Minster Village	.....	133,260	64,093	197,353
Logan	17,567	318,820	131,450	450,270
Buckland Village	.....	99,810	38,222	61,032
Moulton	17,495	316,220	54,061	370,281
Noble	19,378	368,230	53,600	421,830
Pusheta	19,062	414,865	92,790	507,655
Salem	15,524	295,230	82,815	378,045
Kossuth Village	.....	9,450	6,319	15,769
St. Marys	19,331	495,770	153,020	648,790
St. Marys Village	.....	630,790	362,980	992,770
Union	22,662	532,820	106,360	639,180
Washington	19,428	449,340	205,110	654,950
New Knoxville Village	.....	53,990	22,420	76,412
Wayne	17,133	282,080	74,965	357,045
Waynesfield Village	.....	72,920	20,050	92,920
				$10,069,139

The County's total indebtedness, bonded and otherwise, at the present time (August, 1898) amounts to $215,750; the greater part of which was occasioned by the construction of the Court House and recent new bridges.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

The First Court House.

Keeping pace with other developments, and perhaps most noticeable of all improvements which year after year a progressive people establish and enjoy, are the public buildings erected for their use and convenience, and the advancement in the methods and manner of the conduct of public institutions, charitable and otherwise.

Auglaize County, following all precedent and the necessity born of political and governmental organization, then completed, commenced in January, 1850, at Wapakoneta, the erection of its first public building, now known as the old Court House and located on South Blackhoof street. The building is of the Corinthian style of architecture, and upon its completion, during the same year in which it was commenced, was probably viewed by the frugal citizens of that period as a luxury far beyond necessity, and a monument that would endure, in the capacity for which it was erected, through all time. The Board of County Commissioners, then composed of Shadrack Montgomery, Hugh T. Rinehart and John Morris, out of but two or three bids submitted, awarded the contract to James Elliott and Sabert Scott, for the sum of $11,499. Of this amount the Board advanced the contractors $295 in cash and $1,500 in bonds of the town of Wapakoneta. Immediately upon its completion the few records accumulated during the three years' establishment of the County, were removed to its vaults, and there the business of the County was conducted during a period of forty-five years. Though inadequate in every respect to the County's needs, it is yet in a fair state of preservation and will undoubtedly be preserved for many years.

The County Prison.

The erection of the County Jail and sheriff's residence was begun during the same year in which the Court House was built, but was not completed until January, 1851, when it was occupied by the sheriff at once. The contract for its erection, together with the material, was awarded to Dr. G. W. Holbrook for the sum of $3,950. Of this amount the Commissioners advanced $2,000 in cash and $600 in corporation bonds of Wapakoneta. Extra allowances were made to the contractor amounting to $306.15. The building continued to serve the purpose for which it was erected until 1873, when the Board of Commissioners, then composed of J. L. McFarland, L. H. Heusch and Joel Loomis, recognizing the necessity of a more modern building, appointed Sheriff Theodore Dickman, Clerk C. P. Davis and Probate Judge Levi Hamaker, a committee to inspect plans and specifications for a reconstruction or improvement of the Jail, but stipulated that the amount of money to be expended should not exceed fifteen thousand dollars. Numerous plans were submitted, and in June, 1873, one was selected and the contract awarded for the sum of $15,098.

The County Infirmary.

The County Poor Farm is located in sections 19 and 20, Duchouquet township, and about one and one half miles north of the county seat. The property occupies two hundred acres of as fine farming land as the County contains, is well stocked, and is conducted on modern methods. The first tract of land designed

for this purpose was purchased of W. L. Ross and contained one hundred and twenty acres. Almost immediately eighty acres adjoining and belonging to John Fisher was purchased. Upon this tract was a log building which served as the first Infirmary of the County, with John Shubert as Superintendent. In 1858 an addition was made by the erection of a one-story, five-room frame building, but it became apparent as early as 1861 that both were inadequate to the demands, and the Commissioners received bids for the erection of a brick building. All bids for the work were above five thousand dollars, the amount authorized by law, and nothing further was attempted until 1867, when in June of that year the contract was awarded, and the original brick building erected. In 1889 an attempt was made to remove the institution and a farm was purchased in Pusheta township, but in deference to public opinion the plan was abandoned, and in 1893 an addition was built to the main building, which with other improvements provided ample accommodation for the care of the County's unfortunate.

The New Court House.

Though the purpose for which the old building was erected had been served, the growth of the County in population and in wealth, the accumulation of valuable records and the importance of a repository that would insure their preservation, forced upon the attention of the people the necessity of some action looking to the erection of a suitable building. Like all matters of this character action was long deferred, but the continued agitation of the subject finally resulted in the building of the magnificent new Court House, which is a monument to the resources of the County and her people. The preliminary steps to a public work of this kind are necessarily many, and the first to be taken was the introduction of a bill in the State Legislature by Hon. M. D. Shaw, then a member of the Senate, authorizing the issuance of bonds of the County to the amount of $125,000. The bill became a law February 2, 1893, and June 26, of the same year, the Board of County Commissioners, then composed of Jacob Logan, William Barth and William Kelley, entered into contract in the sum of $102,563.80 for the construction of the building. In the meantime the Board had purchased the property comprising one entire half block, bounded by Willipe, Pearl, Perry and Mechanic streets, upon which the building is located, and on July 2, 1893, the work of excavation was begun. As the work progressed, addition after addition, and almost innumerable alterations were made, and when completed and official possession taken of the building in December, 1894, the total cost of its construction amounted to $259,481.21.

The structure is a massive one, built entirely of Berea sandstone, with tile flooring, and as nearly fire proof as is possible to construct a building of its character. Every modern convenience is in operation. The County owns the electric lighting plant by which the entire building is lighted from basement to dome, and in the power house are located the boilers furnishing steam by which it is heated throughout. On the second floor are located most conveniently the Common Pleas Court room, an Assembly room, the private office of the Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, the Law Library of the County Bar Association, and the offices of the Prosecuting Attorney, Clerk of Courts and Sheriff. Below stairs on either side of the immense corridor are the offices of the Auditor, Commissioners, Probate Judge, Recorder, Surveyor and Treasurer, while the basement is occupied by a large Assembly room used by the Commissioners, and offices for the Infirmary Directors, the County Board of Election Supervisors, the School Examiners, and the County Agricultural Society Directors. An excellent view of the building adorns the first page of this work.

PUBLIC HIGHWAYS.

In summing up the material growth of a community, tracing the progress of a people in wealth, in the development of the resources which nature has provided, and following their achievements collectively, perhaps nothing is more important than the public highways over which is annually transported the product of the farm and forest to the market afforded at the centers of trade.

In this matter of improvement Auglaize began the work early after the organization of the County, and among the first proceedings recorded on the journal of the County Commissioners are petitions praying for the establishment of public highways in different parts of the County. This work progressed for years, and the result was of course beneficial to the inhabitants, but these efforts, located as the County is, on the southern border of what is known as the "Black Swamp" region of Ohio, and the general character of the soil, not yet thoroughly drained, left the roads, improvements though they were, almost impassable during a part of the year, impeded traffic and the marketing of crops, and created a demand for pikes or gravel roads which were building all over the state by authority of an act passed by the General Assembly in 1848, and known as the "Two Mile Assessment Law." Under its provisions all property located within a distance of two miles, on either side of the proposed improvement, is assessed in proportion to the benefit it derives, and by this plan the pikes in the County, with the exception of toll pikes which were purchased from the companies controlling them, were built. Like every other improvement costing large sums of money and necessitating the levying of a tax upon the people, it met with decided opposition, which indeed became violent in some quarters, but the better judgment of the majority prevailed, and the first meeting resulting in a practical and concerted effort in behalf of good highways took place September 26, 1874, in the office of Hon. George W. Andrews, at Wapakoneta. Following this meeting petitions were filed for pikes leading from Wapakoneta to the Bowdle church, on the County line between Harden and Anglaize counties, in Wayne Township, from Wapakoneta to Deep Cut and from Wapakoneta to Minster. Other public meetings resulted in the establishment of many new roads, and the report of the Commissioners, published in September, 1876, mentioned the Finke, Schmieder, Vossler, Nickell, Uniopolis and Waynesfield and St. Marys and New Knoxville pikes as being in course of construction. At this time much controversy exists as to the first pike constructed, but it appears from all the records obtainable that the road running two miles east from New Bremen, and known as the German Township pike, was the first built.

Appended is a list of pikes of the County, showing date of filing of petitioners' bond, length, and estimated and actual cost of construction. Also cost of repairs of same for a period of ten years, dating from 1887 to 1897:

NAME.	Length.	Date Petitioners' Bond.	Estimated Cost.	Actual Cost.
German Tp. Pike	2.00	.....	$3,000	$2,700.00
Schmieder	7.64	Jan. 3, '76	30,669	22,840.00
Vossler	3.97	Jan. 31, '76	10,844	8,830.00
Uniopolis & Waynesfield	16.39	Mar. 21, '76	34,064	20,670.00
Finke	9.00	Mar. 23, '76	24,703	14,875.00
St. Marys & Knoxville	6.13	June 16, '76	16,722	11,720.00
Goshen	4.82	.....	6,000	5,936.24
Nickell	3.91	.....	6,000	6,775.00
Wayne	3.02	Feb. 2, '80	5,600	4,431.58
Union	6.09	Feb. 2, '80	9,800	11,483.04
Cook	2.20	Feb. 2, '80	3,964	3,940.55
Middle Road	5.45	Feb. 2, '80	5,900	8,136.27
Kossuth	13.15	Feb. 2, '80	30,245	36,146.77
Wrestle Creek	3.00	Feb. 2, '80	5,000	4,762.39
Five Points	7.97	Feb. 2, '80	16,000	15,611.79
Lima	5.79	Mar., '80	11,791	12,552.06
Washington & Wash. Branch.	17.21	Mar., '80	43,025	51,995.18
Glynnwood	8.80	May, '80	18,200	22,076.68
Bremen	5.48	Feb., '80	10,800	10,814.20
Axe	6.21	Feb., '80	13,700	14,587.65
Amanda	5.96	Feb., '80	11,500	15,625.45
Van Wert	10.25	Feb., '80	26,000	34,696.24
Neptune	3.96	Feb., '80	10,600	10,928.21
Doenges	3.00	June 6, '81	7,200	8,819.37
Fairmount	3.00	Nov. 30, '81	8,137	5,168.46
Virginia Creek	3.00	Nov. 26, '81	8,180	6,569.01
Lahman	2.97	June 28, '82	7,000	5,790.47
Cumberland	2.97	Feb. 18, '82	9,567	7,370.99
Crawford	2.95	Jan. 21, '82	10,053	7,826.11
Elliott	7.76	Jan. 4, '82	23,370	19,694.97
Ashburn	7.29	Jan. 17, '82	19,704	14,145.06
Geyer	5.54	Dec. 29, '81	14,860	9,335.99
Freyburg	5.30	April 1, '82	15,193	11,631.25
Goecke	5.20	Jan. 2, '82	19,000	19,082.95
Barth	7.35	Jan. 21, '82	13,739	11,342.12
Amsterdam	5.60	Jan. 4, '82	23,545	25,527.84
Montezuma	3.10	.....	14,557	10,824.09
Noble	2.16	June 10, '82	8,644	6,729.40
Allentown	7.98	April 12, '82	27,118	25,776.55
DeLoss	2.63	June 20, '82	7,917	8,671.00
St. Johns	6.50	April, '82	.....	6,500.00
Sidney	5.56	Sept. 14, '82	11,130	9,308.45
Hardin	7.85	Sept. 29, '82	25,921	22,029.50
Wapakoneta & St. Marys	9.14	Mar. 18, '84	27,444	22,000.00
Lutterbeck	3.28	Mar. 17, '84	9,852	6,000.00
Egypt	5.54	April 21, '84	22,168	16,853.51
Holtkamp	.08	April 5, '84	1,875	850.82
Reservoir	5.14	Dec. 9, '84	12,000	11,300.00
Bank	6.65	June 8, '87	16,000	10,995.00
Valley	2.58	Dec. 17, '87	4,786	3,750.00
Boundary Line	3.00	Mar. 29, '87	6,600	3,675.00
Graham	1.00	Mar. 23, '88	2,000	1,400.00
Two Mile	6.00	Jan. 21, '88	19,600	11,999.00
St. Marys & Kossuth	8.93	Mar. 5, '88	26,790	17,000.00
Plattner	12.25	April 15, '89	29,575	23,890.00
Gray	2.53	April 1, '89	6,000	5,200.00
Hobbs	1.00	Mar. 10, '90	1,892	1,343.00
Western	2.74	Feb. 8, '92	7,150	5,999.00
Quellhorst	3.25	Jan. 30, '92	7,150	6,500.00
Brorein	6.98	April 20, '92	17,460	12,469.00
Fairground	1.37	June 27, '92	4,000	3,940.00
River Road	11.95	Mar. 25, '93	35,865	20,230.00
Cemetery	3.19	April 18, '96	5,700	3,990.00
Gossard	2.49	April 16, '98	7,494	4,625.00
Heitt	.37	April 16, '98	1,001	686.00
Bowers	4.06	Feb. 19, '98	8,922	5,892.00
Moyer	3.21	Feb. 17, '98	8,025	4,732.00
	359.27	.....	$932,510	$789,928.82

Actual cost of construction per mile—a fraction over $2,198 per mile.

Pike Repairs.

1887	$11,880.36
1888	8,281.15
1889	10,311.33
1890	11,552.78
1891	13,818.93
1892	3,407.78
1893	9,190.47
1894	16,322.52
1895	22,771.34
1896	11,022.92
1897	16,854.41
Total	$135,413.99

Average cost per annum, $13,541.39.

RAILROADS.

The rapid development of the territory comprising the newly organized County inspired the few enterprising pioneers, who recognized the merits of the soil and the possibilities of the future, with the necessity of greater facilities of transportation, and when an act to charter the Dayton and Michigan railroad with a northern terminus at Sidney was before the State Legislature, Dr. G. W. Holbrook, the founder of the County, and Hon. G. W. Andrews, acting in behalf of the citizens of Wapakoneta and the surrounding country, succeeded in procuring the sum of $75,000, which bonus induced the projectors of the road to extend it through the County, and in 1858 the work of construction was completed, giving an outlet north and south.

Although projected many years before, and a portion of it graded, the Lake Erie and Western railroad was not completed through the County until 1872. The road enters the County west of St. Marys and passes from that town northeast through St. Marys, Noble, Moulton, Logan and Duchouquet townships. In 1877 an extension or branch was constructed south from St. Marys in St. Marys, German and Jackson townships, to New Bremen and Minster. It has been the beneficiary of the development of the great western and northwestern oil fields opened a few years ago.

The Ohio Southern Railroad, which was completed in 1893, is another important line. It enters the County near the center of the south line of Clay, and traverses that township in a northeasterly direction, to Union township, through which it passes in an almost direct north and south line. The territory comprising eastern Duchouquet and Pusheta, the whole of Union and Clay, and the greater part of Wayne and Goshen townships, is tributary to the road, and its building has greatly facilitated the moving of crops in the eastern portion of the County.

The following is the appraisement on the books of the County Auditor, for 1898, of the roads mentioned above, together with their length in the County:

Dayton and Michigan.

Length of Main Track ..... 12.62 Miles.
Length of Siding ..... 2.32 "

Amount of taxable property, including main track, sidings, rolling stock and buildings, $150,258. Amount of taxes paid in 1897, $3,600.68.

Lake Erie and Western.

Length of Main Track ..... 16.204 Miles.
Length of Siding ..... 4.473 "
Length of Branch ..... 9.945 "

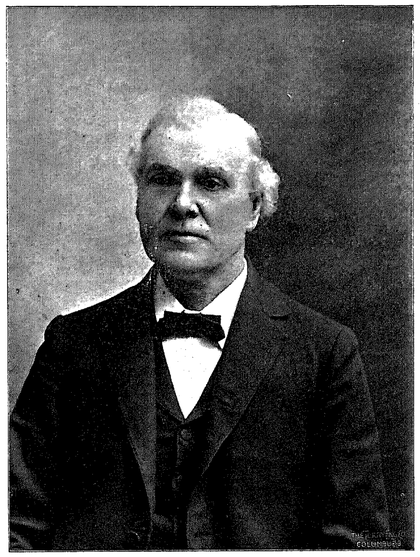
Amount of taxable property, including main track, sidings, branch, rolling stock and buildings, $211,751. Amount taxes paid in 1897, $5,094.24.

Ohio Southern.

Length of Main Track ..... 11.244 Miles.
Length of Siding ..... .918 "

Amount of taxable property, including main track, sidings, rolling stock and buildings, $69,181. Amount of taxes paid in 1897, $1,542.90.

The latest railroad in the County is the Columbus and Northwestern, a branch of the Detroit and Lima Northern, which was



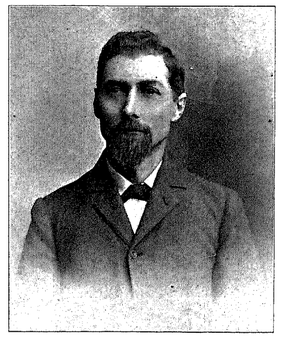
GEORGE FISHER.



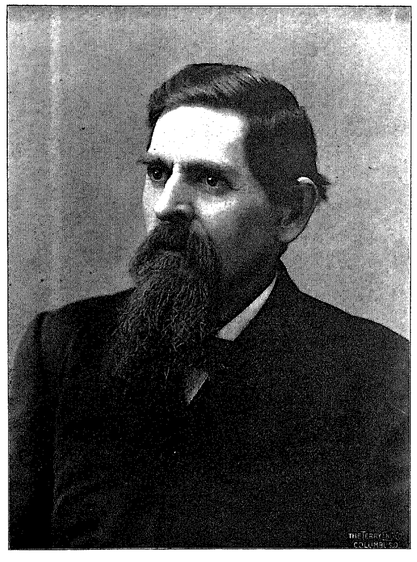
C. W. TIMMERMEISTER.



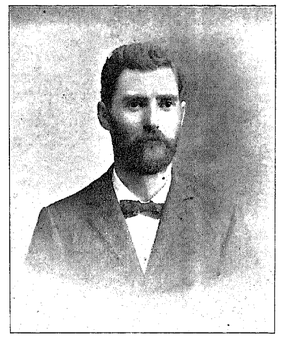
J. H. TIMMERMEISTER.



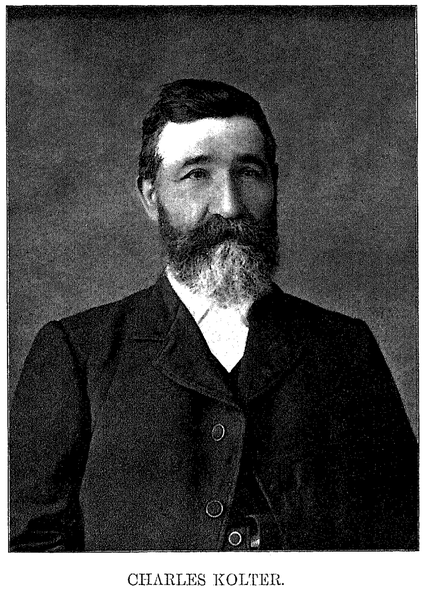
HENRY TAEUSCH.



HENRY W. TAEUSCH.



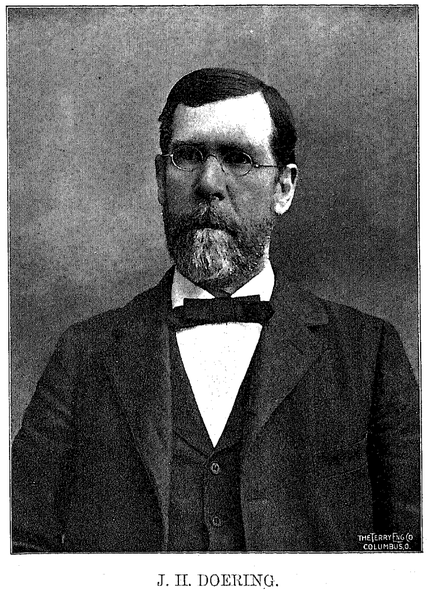
JOHN TAEUSCH.



CHARLES KOLTER.



W. S. ROGERS.



J. H. DOERING.

projected early in the year 1898, and the line is now under construction from the southeastern corner of the County, by way of Wapakoneta to St. Marys, Ohio, covering a distance of about 23 miles. A bonus of $47,000, and the grant of right-of-way along the entire route was given for this road, and it will afford what has been sought for long: an eastern and western outlet to the two principal towns of the County.

COUNTY OFFICIAL STATISTICS.

The first term of the Court of Common Pleas in Auglaize County was held in May, 1848; Patrick G. Goode was Presiding Judge, and George W. Holbrook, David Simpson, and John McLean Associate Judges.

The first term of the Supreme Court was held in June, 1850, by Judges Edward Avery and Rufus P. Spalding.

The following list of names of County officials, together with the times of induction into office and length of service, dates from the first election held in the County after its organization to the present year. The County, now a part of the Thirty-second Senatorial District, has furnished six State Senators, whose names appear below. The court of the Judicial District in which the County was located had three Associate Judges until 1852, or until the new state constitution, adopted in 1850, came into effect. Under its authority and provisions the County has furnished two Common Pleas Judges, Hon. E. M. Phelps and Hon. William T. Mooney. The Probate Court was also authorized and organized at the same time.

Associate Judges.

George W. Holbrook, John McLean and David Simpson 1848-52

Senators.

E. M. Phelps 1855-59
Charles Boesel 1869-71
George W. Andrews 1875-77
J. P. Schmieder 1881-85
M. D. Shaw 1889-93
W. G. Brorein 1897

Representatives.

S. R. Mott, Sr., ... 1848-49
Henry Sipps 1849-50
William Blackburn 1850-51
J. J. Rickey 1851-53
John Walkup 1853-55
William Sawyer 1855-57
George W. Andrews 1857-61
Charles Boesel 1861-65
Robert B. Gordon 1865-69
S. R. Mott, Jr. 1869-73
Henry Mesloh 1873-77
L. C. Sawyer 1877-81
George W. Holbrook 1881-85
M. D. Shaw 1885-89
Jacob Boesel 1889-93
W. G. Brorein 1893-97
Joseph E. Schmieder 1897

Probate Judges.

Michael Dumbroff 1852-55
William L. Ross 1855-58
A. H. Trimble 1858-64
J. S. Williams 1864-67
Levi Hamaker 1867-79
John McLain 1879-88
Benjamin Linzee 1888-97
J. J. Walter 1897

Auditors.

M. W. Smith 1848-51
A. H. Trimble 1851-57
J. B. Craig 1857-61
M. W. Smith 1861-67
James Wilson, Sr. 1867-71
James F. Smith 1871-77
Jerome L. McFarland 1877-83
W. F. Torrance 1883-90
R. B. Gordon 1890-96
G. A. Orphal 1896

Commissioners.

Shadrick Montgomery 1848-51
Hugh T. Rinehart 1848-50
John M. Drees 1848-49
John Morris 1849-51
Elisha Noble 1850-53
Samuel Focht 1851-57
John M. Drees 1851-58
Nicholas Brewer 1853-59
Christian Ellerman 1856-58
William Bush 1857-63
William Finke 1858-61
William Nelson 1859-65
John H. Gossard 1861-64
L. Sammetinger 1863-72
John B. Krusie 1864-70
J. L. McFarland 1865-74
L. H. Heusch 1870-76
Christian Heisler 1874
Joel Loomis 1872-78
William Craft 1876-80
J. H. Dunathan 1876-82
Daniel Focht 1878-84
John A. Werst 1880-86
George Van Oss 1882-89
John Reichelderfer 1884-90
Henry Koop 1887-89
William Kelly 1889-95
William Barth 1890-96
J. W. Logan 1891-97
J. S. Butcher 1895
Henry Hellbusch 1896
Samuel Plummer 1897

Treasurers.

John J. Rickley 1848-51
B. A. Wendlen 1851-55
Daniel Bitler 1855-57
B. A. Wendlen 1857-61
M. Miller 1861-63
B. A. Wendlen 1863-65
A. Bitler 1865-69
M. Mouch 1869-73
L. Myers 1873-77
Theodore Dickman 1877-79
William Heinrich 1879-82
Middleton Lucas (appointed and elected) 1882-85
Israel Lucas 1885-87
C. C. Pepple (appointed and elected) 1887-90
S. W. McFarland 1890-94
A. O. Pepple 1894-98
D. A. Clark 1898

Prosecuting Attorneys.

George W. Andrews 1848-50
Christian Barr 1850-52
John Walkup 1852-54
Joseph Craig (resigned) 1854
Samuel R. Mott, Sr. 1854-56
C. W. Cowan 1856-60
Joseph Plunkett 1860-62
R. D. Marshall 1862-66
W. V. M. Layton 1866-70
R. D. Marshall 1870-74
F. C. Layton 1874-78
F. C. Van Anda 1878-84
C. A. Layton 1884-96
J. H. Goeke 1896

Clerks.

Thomas E. Nichols (appointed pro tem. May 1) 1848-49
William Crane 1849-52
Samuel R. Mott, Sr. 1852-53
John S. Williams (first regular term) 1853-54
E. T. Bates (deceased) 1854
Anthony D. Dieker 1856-63
Edward Meyers 1863-69
C. P. Davis 1869-79
T. B. Baker 1879-85
J. A. Nichols 1885-88
Anthony Culliton (appointed) 1888-89
John Keller 1889-95
T. B. Baker 1895

Sheriffs.

John Elliott 1848-50
M. Miller 1850-54
John Mertz 1854-58
William Wise 1858-62
M. Mouch 1862-66
William Wehrman 1866-70
Frederick Kohler 1870-72
Theodore Dickman 1872-76
Frederick Kohler 1876-80
T. B. Baker 1880-82
William Schulenberg 1882-84
John Distelrath 1884-88
Nicholas Shubert 1888-92
Charles W. Nichols 1892-96
Charles Hauss 1896

Recorders.

Simon Dresher 1848-51
C. G. Galezio 1851-54
J. S. Williams 1854-57
Edward Meyers 1857-60
James H. Skinner 1860-66
S. R. Mott, Jr. 1866-70
Robert McMurray 1870-76
Henry Ruck 1876-82
Henry C. Settlage 1882-88
J. J. Connaughton 1888-94
Charles Frech 1894

Surveyors.

Dominicus Flaiz 1848-51
J. B. Craig 1851-54
John Cutler (appointed) 1854-57
Eli Dennison 1857-60
William Limbacher 1860-66
Samuel Craig 1866-72
William Limbacher 1872-75
Samuel Craig 1875-84
John B. Walsh 1884-93
Samuel Craig 1893

Infirmary Directors.

M. Mouch 1858-61
Russell Berryman 1858-60
Sabirt Scott 1858-61
Samuel Focht 1861-73
Henry Noble 1863-74
John A. Shubert 1864
Michael Schneider 1865-72
Cornelius Winegardner 1872-77
Melchoir Mayer 1873-81
Thomas Barrington 1874
Henry Reiselt 1877-89
Christian Eberly 1881-87
Thomas M. Elliott 1883-88
Asa Martin, Sr. 1887-92
Jacob Grebe 1888-94
Henry Schmidt 1889-95
M. V. Buffenbarger 1892-96
Thomas M. Elliott 1894
Henry Holliet 1895
John Bowers 1897

Coroners.

T. W. Underwood 1858-62
W. S. Bailey 1862-66
M. A. Fergerson 1866-70
Henry Mesloh 1870-72
M. Lucas 1872-76
O. W. Jacobs 1877-78
John A. Werst 1878-80
J. T. Moore 1880-84
F. C. Hunter 1884-93
N. T. Noble 1893-97
F. C. Hunter 1897

HISTORY OF THE WAR OF 1812

In its Relation to the Northwestern Portion of Ohio.

A long period of peace and prosperity had succeeded the Revolutionary War. In that memorable contest the people had emerged covered with glory, and the supremacy of the American arms had been established. Confidence in their own strength had been increased and renewed, and victory over the same foe would now be so much the more certainly and easily gained should still further contention become necessary. And not many years elapsed until a second call to arms was issued from the councils of the nation. Great Britain had refused to execute the treaty which had followed the recognition of American Independence in 1783. She had declined, contrary to an express agreement to that effect, to surrender and evacuate the western posts, and had from 1785 to 1796 witheld them; endeavoring in the interval to incite the Indians to open war with the white men. The instigations by her officials became so persistent, and intrigues so numerous, that in the year 1812 hostile demonstrations began between the Americans and the Indians and British led by Lord Dorchester, who at that time was Governor-General of Canada, and on the 18th of June a formal declaration of war was made by President Madison.

From the veteran officers who had rendered their names illustrious by successful achievements in the former conflict, selections were made to lead the new army. Colonel Henry Dearborn, of Massachusetts, who had achieved distinction at the memorable battle of Bunker Hill, and later as Captain under Arnold, in the expedition against Quebec, was appointed Major-General and Commander-in-chief. Thomas Pinkney, of South Carolina, was also appointed a Major-General. Among the brigadiers were Wilkinson, Hull, Hampton and Bloomfield.

On the 12th day of July, 1812, General Hull, who was also at that time governor of the Michigan territory, crossed the Detroit river, separating the United States from Canada. At the same time couriers were dispatched to the enemy with a message from him tendering them the blessings of civil and religious liberty, and assuring them in emphatic language that his force was sufficient to overcome all opposition. Notwithstanding the prompt refusal of the Canadians to relinquish their station, General Hull, with cowardice ill-becoming a true soldier, delayed and deferred the threatened attack, until Malden, the objective point of his contemplated attack was re-enforced and the troops under his command gave up hope of any successful resistance. Word was brought that Mackinaw, an American post, just above Detroit, had surrendered, and that a vast army of British and Indians was rushing down the river in numbers sufficient to overwhelm the American forces. Hull became panic stricken even before it came within his sight, and under his orders his forces beat a precipitate retreat to Detroit. General Brock, the commander of the British forces, pursued him, and on the 14th day of August erected at Windsor, opposite Detroit, a number of batteries, and the following day began cannonading the fortifications on the American side. This attack was repelled by the American arms with characteristic precision and effect. On the 16th the British forces, accompanied by a large number of Indians, crossed the river about three miles above the American forts, and prepared to make a sweeping assault upon the same. The Americans awaited their attack with coolness and bravery, prepared and assured themselves of an easy victory.

When the attack was made, however, and conquest was plainly within their grasp, to the utter astonishment and discomfiture of the troops under his command, General Hull forbade his men to fire, and ignominiously surrendered them—including General Cass, who had previously been detached probably with this sinister design in view—and the Territory of Michigan into the hands of the enemy. The news of this disgraceful preceeding was spread broadcast over the land, and the people of Michigan, Ohio and Kentucky became alarmed, and at once the Americans were re-enforced by ten thousand citizens who voluntarily tendered their services for the maintenance of the American cause. The army was placed under the command of General William Henry Harrison. Indian hostilities began in earnest on the 17th day of September, 1812, and the vast territory between the Ohio river on the south and the lakes on the north, witnessed the frequent incursions of the savages, incited by the Gerrys, the McKees, and the Elliotts, and the British, with whom the Indians allied themselves in the attempted subjugation of this Territory.

When General Harrison was placed at the head of the army in the West, there were three objects to be attained, namely, first, to drive the hostile Indians from the country; second, to take Malden; and third, to recover the Michigan Territory. In the accomplishment of these purposes, and the subsequent concentration of the troops under his command, various forts or posts were established throughout the Northwest Territory, at Wooster, Urbana, Defiance and St. Marys. The base line of the new campaign stretched from Upper Sandusky to St. Marys. At this time General Winchester was in command of troops at Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Colonel Duncan McArthur was detached from a regiment at Urbana and established a fort about three miles southwest of the present town of Kenton, Ohio, calling it Fort McArthur. Forts were established at the same time at St. Marys, called Fort Barbee, after Colonel Barbee, also at a point near Shane's crossing, in Mercer county, called Fort Adams, also at a point near where the Auglaize river crosses the present line between Auglaize and Allen counties, called Fort Amanda. This is the same fort which was afterwards named Fort Jennings, and which remained for a long time in a good state of preservation, after the military operations had entirely ceased.

After the concentration of these various troops at the localities mentioned, and numberless attempts upon the part of General Harrison to gather them together for a march upon Malden, the severe winter set in, the roads became absolutely impassable, and the matter of any further invasion of the Michigan and Canadian territory was temporarily abandoned.

So great, however, was the desire of the citizens of the western country to regain possession of the Territory of Michigan, that in order to effect it General Harrison in a short while resolved to undertake a winter campaign. Accordingly, General Winchester, with a portion of the western army, proceeded in advance of the full force to a place called Frenchtown, on the river Raisin, not far from Detroit. Upon reaching their destination they encamped near this town, in an open field. Although near an enemy's post, no precaution was taken to prevent a surprise. On the 22d day of January, 1813, they were unexpectedly attacked by a large force of British and Indians, the former commanded by Colonel Proctor, and the latter by the Chiefs Roundhead and Splitlog. The troops, after ineffectual attempts on the part of General Winchester and other officers to rally them, were put to flight, great numbers of them being killed. General Winchester and Colonel Lewis were made prisoners.

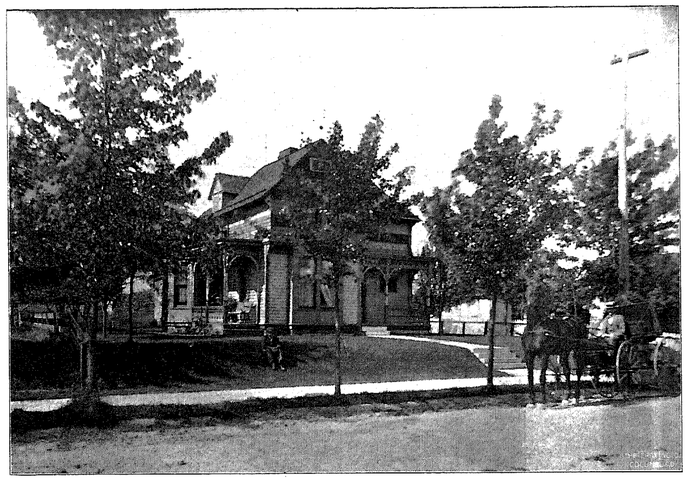
Upon the following morning the imprisoned officers and men were subjected to the most horrible massacre that has ever been recorded in the annals of Indian warfare. One by one they were dragged into the street, killed and scalped. The houses were set ablaze, and those who attempted to escape were hurled back into the flames. Others were put to death by the tomahawk, and left bleeding and mangled in the highway. The consummate cruelty of these atrocities incensed the people of Ohio and Kentucky, and additional preparations were made to conduct the war with renewed vigor, and among the operations which form an important link in the campaign of that period was the important conflict connected with the siege of Fort Meigs, located at the Maumee Rapids, which General Harrison built immediately after the massacre at Frenchtown. This occurred in the winter of 1812-13, when General Proctor, with all his available force, consisting of Canadian regulars and a large body of Indians under the command of the celebrated warrior Tecumseh, amounting in all to about 2,000 men, laid siege to that fort, which a few months previously had been taken possession of by General Harrison. The British, in their desire to take the place, had established their batteries on a high hill upon the opposite side of the Maumee, where they commanded a view of the entire surroundings. On the first days of the month of May they began a terrific bombardment of the fort, and General Proctor sent a message to General Harrison that he was ready to receive the surrender of the occupants of the fort. An answer was immediately returned to the effect that no surrender would be made on any terms.

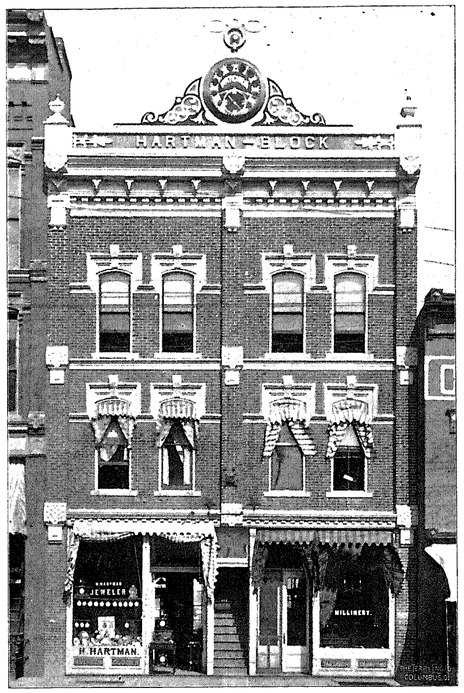
General Harrison in anticipation of this attack had previously notified the Governors of Ohio and Kentucky of the urgent demand for re-enforcements, and this demand had been as readily anticipated, for while the messages were speeding on their way to their destination, twelve hundred hardy Kentuckians were on their way to his relief. On the night of the 4th, Captain William Oliver arrived from General Clay with information that he, General Clay, was awaiting his orders. An immediate disposition was made of the troops under General Clay, and while eight hundred men were landed on the left bank of the river, with orders to take the British batteries, the remainder were to land on the right bank and fight their way to the fort. Captain Hamilton, a subordinate officer under General Harrison, was directed to land a subaltern force on the right bank and station his forces at the place designated for other troops to land. Troops under command of Colonel Dudley and Colonel Boswell were landed further down the river. In aid of these operations sorties were made from the garrison in conjunction with Colonel Boswell, in both of which the Canadians and Indians were defeated. Colonel Dudley with his detachment of eight hundred militia succeeded completely in routing the British and capturing their batteries. Notwithstanding the orders of Colonel Dudley to return immediately to their own fort, elated with their victory, the troops continued to blindly pursue the retreating forms of their enemy until they were caught in a narrow defile and surrounded by superior numbers, and were subjected to a furious attack of the savages led by Tecumseh. Immediately the Indians began to inflict the most atrocious injuries, and a massacre of inhuman character was averted by the magnanimous interference of Tecumseh himself, who sunk his own tomahawk into the head of one of the bloodthirsty savages. Of the eight hundred brave soldiers, not more than one hundred and fifty escaped, while gallant Colonel Dudley himself gave his life to satisfy the vengeance of the ferocious savages.

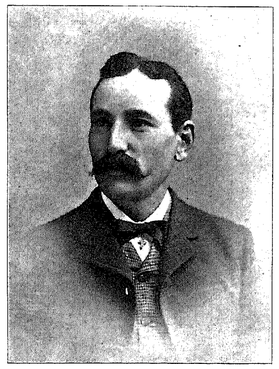
Out of this conflict two or three hundred Americans had escaped to the fort, which they continued to defend with such bravery and skill that on the 8th of May the Indians, weary and discontented, deserted their allies. On the following day the British also relinquished their ground. General Harrison, leaving General Clay in command at this place, returned to Ohio for re-enforcements; but further active military operations were deferred until a squadron had been built and prepared for action on Lake Erie. While this squadron was built for naval service, General Clay remained inactive at Fort Meigs.

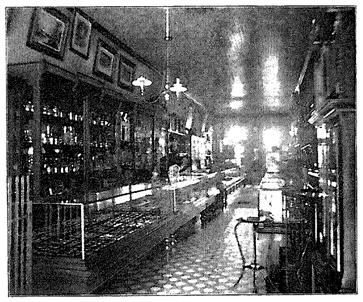
About the last of July a large number of British and Indians appeared before the fort, and endeavored to induce the garrisoned forces to an engagement in the field. After unsuccessful efforts in this direction they decamped and proceeded to Fort Stephenson. This fort was little more than a picket hedge, surrounded by a ditch; and the garrison consisted of but a hundred and sixty men, who were, however, commanded by as brave a soldier as ever carried arms, although a youth of twenty-one. The British began a fusilade which they kept up incessantly for two days, and on the evening of the second day, supposing a breach had been made by their cannons, which they brought with them, they advanced to assault the works. The sagacious commander, Major Croghan, however, had prepared for this emergency, and planting the only piece of cannon he had, a six pounder, in such a position as to enfilade the ditch, he discharged it the instant the assailants attempted to cross it. So complete was the havoc caused by this single discharge, composed of grape shot and slugs, that hundreds of the British were killed, among whom was their commander, and the remainder fled in dismay and disorder. Thus a little band of 160 men, and their gallant commander, put to rout a force consisting of 500 regulars and 800 Indians.

In the meantime the American squadron was completed and placed under command of Commodore Perry. It consisted of nine small vessels, carrying fifty-four guns. A British squadron had also been built and equipped and placed under the command of Commodore Barclay. On the 10th day of September, with banners unfurled to the breeze, the valiant crew set sail from Put-in Bay to give them battle. They encountered the British fleet some miles out from Malden, and the memorable conflict began in earnest, and for several hours kept up with unremittent fury. From noon until four o'clock the battle waged in fierce intensity, and the Commodore's flag ship, the Lawrence, having borne the brunt of the greatest battle, was rendered wholly helpless. In this critical moment Commodore Perry, with an intrepidity that never faltered, sailing in an open boat under the fiercest fire of the enemy, transferred his flag to the Niagara, under command of Captain Elliott. In a short while one of the British ships surrendered, and soon after another, until at last not a vessel was left to carry the news to Malden, the place whence they had sailed.

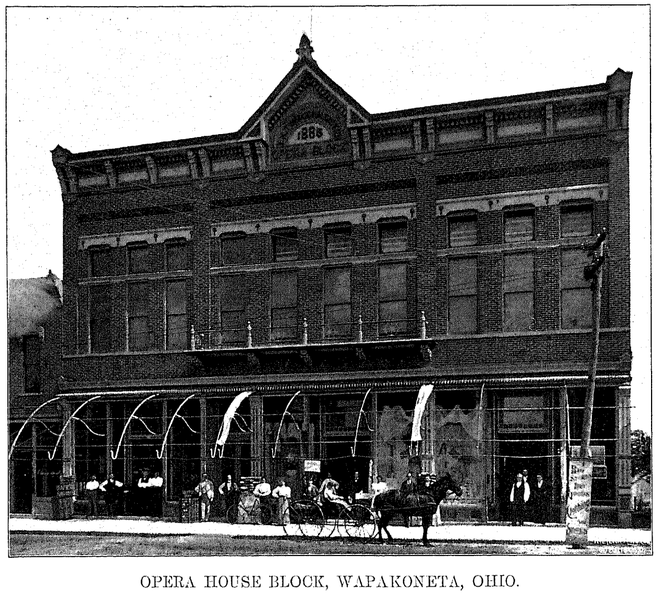




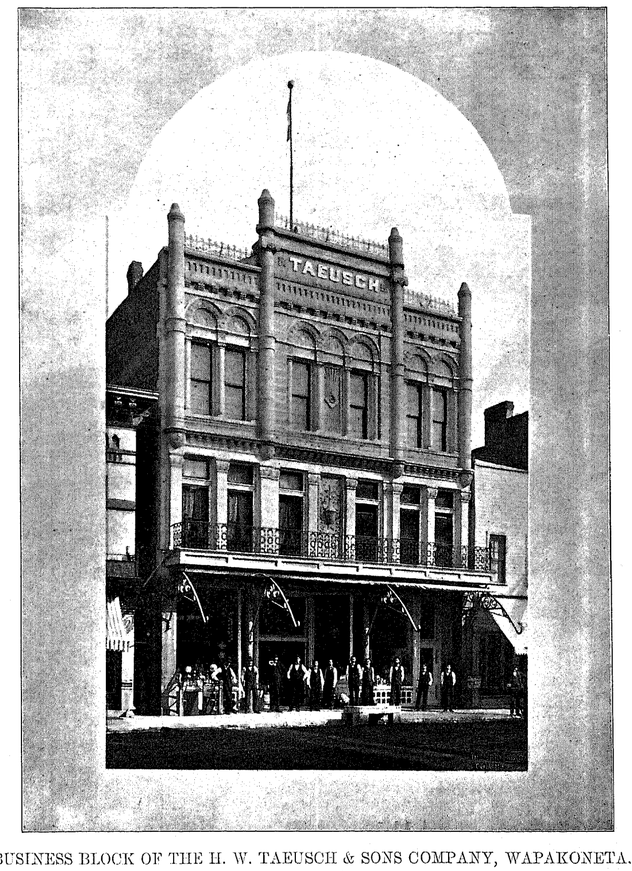




RESIDENCE, BUSINESS BLOCK AND INTERIOR OF SAME, H. HARTMAN, WAPAKONETA, OHIO.



OPERA HOUSE BLOCK, WAPAKONETA, OHIO.



BUSINESS BLOCK OF THE H. W. TAEUSCH & SONS COMPANY, WAPAKONETA.

It was when this conflict was over that the brave and fortunate commander sent a message to General Harrison, containing the famous laconic epistle, "We have met the enemy, and they are ours." As soon as General Harrison had received the news of this victory, he hastened from Fort Meigs, and accompanied by a large body of Kentucky militia under the command of Governor Shelby, proceeded to Malden, and on the 28th day of September took possession of the same.

The British forces on land made a retreat, but were pursued by General Harrison, and on the 5th of October encountered them at the Moravian villages on the river Thames. A spirited conflict took place, but the Americans were easily victorious, and six hundred British were taken prisoners; Tecumseh, the celebrated Indian warrior was killed; and all the posts which had heretofore been surrendered by General Hull were recovered from the enemy.

EARLY INDIAN HISTORY.

It will be observed from a perusal of the foregoing sketch that the Indians were always the faithful friends and allies of the British, and that in reviewing the history of these various campaigns we can readily understand how intimately they and their territory became associated with the events that took place during those stirring times. The Northwest Territory was the home of the Wyandots, Senecas, Delawares, Shawnees, Pottawottomies, Ottawas and Chippewas, and during the period from 1782 to 1794, innumerable conflicts were had with them, and frequent acts of hostilities were committed by them in the country round about Greenville, Piqua, Gertys Town, Fort Wayne, and other places within the Indian territory. Frequent assaults were made on white settlers at various places, and so troublesome did they finally become that an organized force became necessary to repell their attacks.

General George Rogers Clark, in 1782, with a force of 1,000 mounted men, made the first move to punish them for their murderous assault upon the white settlers at Blue Licks. His march extended along the Big Miami and through Piqua, where he with Colonel Benjamin Logan had an encounter with the savages, driving them out of this locality and destroying all their stores and provisions. He proceeded then up the Loramie to "Loramie's Store," and there also destroyed all the stores and provisions, and put the Indians to flight. No further material trouble occurred with them until eight years afterward, in 1790. General Harmer started out with a force of fourteen hundred men from Fort Washington, which was located where Cincinnati now is, to restrain them from further depredations, and to secure the possession of the junction of the St. Marys and St. Josephs rivers, now known as Fort Wayne.

Notwithstanding the incorrigibility of his men and their frequent refusal to obey orders, General Harmer proceeded by the route that had been followed by General Clark as far as the Loramie, thence continued across the portage to the headwaters of the St. Marys river, where was located Gertys Town, now St. Marys, thence down to the crossing of the St. Marys river, now known as Shane's Crossing, thence across the river and down on the north side to the junction of the St. Joseph and St. Marys rivers. There he engaged in a fierce battle with the Indians, and after strenuous efforts to dislodge them was compelled to abandon his ground, and finally to retire defeated. This was on the 19th day of October, 1790.

The Indians, emboldened by the success that had attended them, finally became so aggressive that in the following year a new army, with inadequate supplies and insufficient equipment, was sent out under the command of General Arthur St. Clair. He, with his soldiers to the number of 2,000, began, on the 24th of October, 1791, a tedious march through the wilderness. Before they reached their destination this force was reduced to about 1,400. On the third of November they encamped within a few miles of Fort Recovery, now in Mercer county, intending to remain there until joined by those who were detached. Before sunrise of the next morning they were unexpectedly attacked by the Indians. His men were put to confusion, and notwithstanding they made many intrepid charges, a great number of them, including many experienced officers, were killed. When the conflict was over it was found that six hundred and thirty were killed and missing, and two hundred and sixty wounded. Those who lived were filled with dismay and fear, and immediately a disorderly flight was begun, which did not cease until they reached the frontier settlements.

This ignominious defeat spread alarm among the people of the white settlements, and the demand for protection from the encroachments and savagery of the red men became so frequent and persistent that Washington, Commander-in-chief of the army, thought it necessary to renew the forces in the field with more vigor and care, and from among the number of men who had been suggested as commanders, he finally appointed General Anthony Wayne. In June, 1792, Wayne took up his station at Pittsburg and proceeded at once to gather and organize his army. In December of that year his forces were put to rendezvous twenty miles below Pittsburg, on the west side of the Ohio river, where they were thoroughly drilled. When General Wayne had thus prepared his army to encounter the hardships of active service in the field, they began a march into the territory of Ohio, where the depredations of the Indians had become most frequent, and from this time up to the conclusion of hostilities, success attended his every manoeuvre, and in every contest in which he engaged he and his loyal soldiers came out victorious.

On the third day of August, 1795, the following treaty was entered into by the United States, and the several Indian tribes herein mentioned: A treaty of Peace between the United States of America, and the tribes of Indians called the Wyandots, Delawares, Shawnees, Ottawas, Chippewas, Pottawottomies, Miamis, Eel River, Weeas, Kickapoos, Piankishaws, and Kaskaskias. To put an end to a destructive war, to settle all controversies, and to restore harmony and friendly intercourse between the said United States and Indian tribes, Anthony Wayne, Major General commanding the army of the United States, and sole commissioners for the good purposes above mentioned, and the said tribes of Indians, by their Sachems, Chiefs, and Warriors, met together at Greenville, the headquarters of the said army, have agreed on the following articles, which when ratified by the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate of the United States, shall be binding on them and the said Indian tribes.

Article I. Henceforth all hostilities shall cease; peace is hereby established, and shall be perpetual; and a friendly intercourse shall take place between the said United States and Indian tribes.

Article II. All prisoners shall on both sides be restored, the Indians, prisoners of the United States, shall immediately be set at liberty. The people of the United States still remaining prisoners among the Indians, shall be delivered up in ninety days from the date hereof, to the general or commanding officer at Greenville, Fort Wayne, or Fort Defiance; and ten chiefs of the said tribes shall remain at Greenville as hostages until the delivery of the prisoners shall be effected.

Article III. The general boundary line between the lands of the United States and the lands of the said Indian tribes, shall begin at the mouth of Cuyahoga river, and run thence up the same to the portage between that and the Tuscarawas branch of the Muskingum; thence down that branch to the crossing above Fort Lawrence; thence westerly to a fork of that branch of the Great Miami river running into the Ohio, at or near which fork stood Loramie's Store, and where commences the portage between the Miami of the Ohio and St. Marys river, which is a branch of the Maumee, which runs into Lake Erie; thence a westerly course to Fort Recovery, which stands on a branch of the Wabash; thence southwesterly in a direct line to the Ohio, so as to intersect the river opposite the mouth of Kentucky or Cuttawa river. And in consideration of the peace now established; of the goods formerly received from the United States; of those now to be delivered, and of the yearly delivery of goods now stipulated to be made hereafter; and to indemnify the United States for the injuries and expenses they have sustained during the war; the said Indian tribes do hereby cede and relinquish forever all their claims to the lands lying eastwardly and southwardly of the general boundary line now described; and these lands, or any part of them, shall never hereafter be made a cause or pretence, on the part of the said tribes, or any of them, of war or injury to the United States, or any of the people thereof. And for the same consideration, and as an evidence of the returning friendship of the said Indian tribes, of their confidence in the United States, and desire to provide for their accommodation, and for that convenient intercourse, which will be beneficial to both parties, the said Indian tribes do also cede to the United States the following pieces of land, to wit: 1. One piece of land six miles square at or near Loramie's Store before mentioned; 2. One piece of land two miles square, at the head of the navigable water or landing on the St. Marys river, near Gertys Town; 3. One piece of land six miles square, at the head of the navigable water of the Auglaize river; 4. One piece six miles square, at the confluence of the Auglaize and Miami rivers, where Fort Defiance now stands; 5. One piece six miles, at or near the confluence of the St. Marys and St. Josephs, where Fort Wayne now stands, or near it; 6. One piece two miles square, on the Wabash river, at the end of the portage from the Miami of the Lake, and about eight miles westward from Fort Wayne; 7. One piece six miles square, at the Onatanon or Old Weea towns, on the Wabash river; 8. One piece twelve miles square, at the British fort on the Miami of the Lake, at the foot of the rapids; 9. One piece six miles square, at the mouth of the said river, where it empties into the lake; 10. One piece six miles square, upon Sandusky Lake, where a fort formerly stood; 11. One piece two miles square, at the lower rapids of the Sandusky river; 12. The post of Detroit and all the land to the north, the west, and the south of it, of which the Indian title has been extinguished by gifts or grants to the French or English governments, and so much more land to be annexed to the district of Detroit as shall be comprehended between the river Raisin on the south, Lake St. Clair on the north, and a line, the general course of which shall be six miles distant from the west end of Lake Erie and Detroit river; 13. The post of Michillimackinac, and all the land on the island on which the post stands, and the main land adjacent, of which the English title has been extinguished by gifts or grants to the French or English governments; and a piece of land on the main to the north of the island, to measure six miles on Lake Huron, or the straits between Lakes Huron and Michigan, and to extend three miles back from the water of the lake or strait, and also the island of Du Bois Blanc, being an extra or voluntary gift of the Chippewa Nation; 14. One piece of land at the mouth of the Chicago river, emptying into the southwest end of Lake Michigan, where a fort formerly stood; 15. One piece twelve miles square at or near the mouth of the Illinois river, emptying into the Mississippi river; 16. One piece six miles square, at the old Piorias Fort and village near the south end of the Illinois lake on said Illinois river. And whenever the United States shall think proper to survey and mark the boundaries of the lands hereby ceded to them, they shall give timely notice thereof to the said tribes of Indians, that they may appoint some of their wise chiefs to attend and to see that the lines are run according to the terms of this treaty. And the said Indian tribes will allow to the people of the United States a free passage by land and by water, as one or the other shall be found convenient, through their country along the chain of posts hereinbefore mentioned; that is to say from the commencement of the portage aforesaid at or near Loramie's store, thence along said portage to the St. Marys, and down the same to Fort Wayne, and then down the Miami to Lake Erie; again from the commencement of the portage at or near Loramie's Store along the portage from thence to the river Auglaize, and down the same to its junction with the Miami at Fort Defiance; again from the commencement of the portage aforesaid, to the Sandusky river, and down the same to Sandusky bay and Lake Erie, and from the post which shall be taken or near the foot of the rapids of the Miami of the Lake; and from thence to Detroit. Again from the mouth of the Chicago to the commencement of the portage between that river and the Illinois, and down the Illinois river to the Mississippi; also from the Fort Wayne along the portage aforesaid, which leads to the Wabash, and thence down the Wabash to the Ohio.

And the said Indian tribes will also allow to the people of the United States the free use of the harbor and mouths of rivers along the lakes adjoining the Indian lands, for sheltering vessels and boats, and liberty to land their cargoes where necessary for their safety.

Article IV. In consideration of the peace now established, and of the cessions and relinquishments of lands made in the preceding article by the said tribes of Indians, and to manifest the liberality of the United States, as the great means of rendering this peace strong and perpetual, the United States relinquish their claims to all other Indian lands northward of the river Ohio, eastward of the Mississippi, and westward and southward of the great lakes and the waters uniting them, according to the boundary line agreed upon by the United States and the King of Great Britain, in the treaty of peace made between them in 1783. But from this relinquishment the following tracts of land are ex-

plicitly excepted: 1st. The tract of one hundred and fifty thousand acres, near the rapids of the Ohio river, which has been assigned to General Clark, for the use of himself and his warriors. 2d. The post of St. Vincennes, on the river Wabash, and the lands adjacent, of which the Indian title has been extinguished. 3d. The lands at all other places in possession of the French people and other white settlers among them, of which the Indian title has been extinguished, as is mentioned in the article; and 4th. The post of Fort Massac, toward the mouth of the Ohio. To which several parcels of land excepted, the said tribes relinquish all the title and claim which they or any of them may have. And for the same considerations, and with the same views as above mentioned, the United States now delivered to the said Indian tribes a quantity of goods to the value of $20,000, the receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge; and henceforward every year forever, the United States shall deliver at some convenient place northward of the river Ohio, like useful goods, suited to the circumstances of the Indians, of the value of $9,500; reckoning that value at the first cost of the goods in the city or place in the United States, where they shall be procured. (Then follows a clause with reference to the various tribes to whom these goods shall be delivered, which is herein omitted). Provided, that if either of the said tribes shall hereafter, at an annual delivery of their share of the goods aforesaid, desire that a part of their annuity should be furnished in domestic animals, implements of husbandry, and other utensils convenient for them, and in compensation to useful artificers, who may reside with or near them, and be employed for their benefit, the same shall, at the subsequent annual deliveries, be furnished accordingly.

Article V. To prevent any misunderstanding about the Indian lands relinquished by the United States, in the fourth article, it is explicitly declared that the meaning of that relinquishment is this: The Indian tribes who have a right to those lands are quietly to enjoy them, hunting, planting, and dwelling thereon as long as they please, without any molestation from the United States; but when those tribes, or any of them, shall be disposed to sell their lands, or any part of them, they are to be sold only to the United States; and until such sale, the United States will protect all the said Indian tribes in the quiet enjoyment of their lands against all citizens of the United States, and against all other white persons who intrude upon the same. And the said Indian tribes again acknowledge themselves to be under the protection of the said United States, and no other power whatever.

Article VI. If any citizen of the United States, or any other white person or persons, shall presume to settle upon the lands now relinquished by the United States, such citizen or other person shall be out of the protection of the United States; and the Indian tribes on whose land the settlement shall be made, may drive off the settler, or punish him in such manner as they shall think fit; and because such settlement made without the consent of the United States, will be injurious to them, as well as to the Indians, the United States shall be at liberty to break them up and remove and punish the settlers as they shall think proper, and so effect that protection of the Indian lands hereinbefore stipulated.

Article VII. The said tribes of Indians, parties to this treaty, shall be at liberty to hunt within the territory and lands which they have now ceded to the United States, without hindrance or molestation, as long as they demean themselves peaceably, and offer no injury to the people of the United States.

Article VIII. Trade shall be opened with the said Indian tribes; and they do hereby respectively engage to afford protection to such persons, with their property, as shall be duly licensed to reside among them for the purpose of trade, and to their agents and servants; but no person shall be permitted to reside at any of their towns or hunting camps as a trader, who is not furnished with a license for that purpose, under the hand and seal of the Superintendent of the Department northwest of the Ohio, or such other person as the President of the United States shall authorize to grant such licenses; to the end that the said Indians may not be imposed on in their trade. And if any licensed trader shall abuse his privilege by unfair dealing, upon complaint and proof thereof, his license shall be taken from him, and he shall be further punished according to the laws of the United States. And if any person shall intrude himself as a trader, without such license, the said Indians shall take and bring him before the Superintendent or his Deputy, to be dealt with according to law. And to prevent impositions by forged licenses, the said Indians shall, at least once a year, give information to the Superintendent or his Deputy, of the names of traders residing among them.

Article IX. Lest the firm peace and friendship, now established, should be interrupted by the misconduct of individuals, the United States and the said Indian tribes agree that for injuries done by individuals on either side, no private revenge or retaliation shall take place; but instead thereof, complaint shall be made by the party injured to the other: by the said Indian tribes or any of them, to the President of the United States, or the Superintendent by him appointed; and by the Superintendent or other person appointed by the President, to the principal chiefs of the said Indian tribes, or of the tribe to which the offender belongs; and such prudent measures shall then be pursued as shall be necessary to preserve the said peace and friendship unbroken, until the Legislature (or Great Council) of the United States shall make other equitable provision in the case, to the satisfaction of both parties.

Should any Indian tribes meditate a war against the United States, or either of them, and the same shall come to the knowledge of the before-mentioned tribes, or either of them, they do hereby engage to give immediate notice thereof to the general or officer commanding the troops of the United States, at the nearest post. And should any tribe, with hostile intentions against the United States, or either of them, attempt to pass through their country, they will endeavor to prevent the same, and in like manner give information of such attempt to the general officer commanding, as soon as possible, that all causes of distrust or suspicion may be avoided between them and the United States. In like manner the United States shall give notice to the said Indian tribes of any harm that may be meditated against them, or either of them, that shall come to their knowledge; and do all in their power to hinder and prevent the same, that the friendship between them may be uninterrupted.

Article X. All other treaties heretofore made between the United States and the said Indian tribes, or any of them, since the treaty of 1783, between the United States and Great Britain, that come within the purview of this treaty, shall henceforth cease and become void.

In testimony whereof, the said Anthony Wayne, and Sachems and War-chiefs of the before-mentioned nations and tribes of Indians, have hereunto set their hands and affirmed their seals. Done at Greenville, in the Territory of the United States, northwest of the river Ohio, on the 3d day of August, one thousand seven hundred and ninety-five.

From the date of signing of the above treaty, up to the inception of the War of 1812, nothing occurred affecting the local tribes of Indians. The treaty between the United States and Great Britain had been adopted twelve years before, but had never been executed. After the campaign of 1812, 1813 and 1814, various other treaties were made, as a result of which the Indian title to lands, except such as were explicitly reserved, was extinguished. Among these later treaties was one dated the 29th day of September, 1817, between Lewis Cass and Duncan McArthur, Commissioners of the United States, and the representatives of the Wyandot, Seneca, Delaware, Shawnee, Pottawottomi, Ottawa, Chippewa tribes of Indians. This treaty was made at St. Marys, on the ground situated on the north side of the west branch of the St. Marys river, and contiguous to the old Lutheran cemetery.

One of the clauses of this treaty required the United States to grant by patent in fee simple, Catewekesa or Blackhoof, Byaseka or Wolf, Pomthe or Walker, Shemenetoe or Big Snake, Othawakese or Yellow Feather, Chakalowah or Tail's End, Pemmaka or John Perry, Wabepee or White Color, chiefs of the Shawnee tribe residing at Wapaughkonetta, and other successors in office, chiefs of the said tribes residing there, for the use of persons therein mentioned, a tract of land ten miles square, the center of which shall be the council house at Wapaughkonetta. Also, to the children of the Shawnee's chief, Captain Logan or Spamagehelee, who fell in the service of the United States, one section of land to contain 640 acres, on the east side of the Great Auglaize river, adjoining the lower line of the grant of ten miles, at Wapaughkonetta, and the said river. In addition to these grants there were also reserves for the use of the Shawnees, twelve thousand eight hundred acres of land, to be laid off adjoining the east line of their reserve of ten miles square, at Wapaughkonetta; and for the use of the Shawnees and Senecas, eight thousand nine hundred and sixty acres of land to be laid off adjoining the west line of the reserve of forty-eight square miles at Lewiston. Subsequent treaties between the United States and the Indians, notably that conducted by James Gardner and Colonel John McIlvain, special commissioners appointed by the government for this purpose, and Willipie, head chief, Blackhoof, Pusheta, and others of the Shawnees, in August, 1831, provided for the purchase of the remaining lands, most of which were in this county. Thus by degrees was the last remnant of the Redman's title extinguished, and in 1845 not a vestige remained upon Ohio soil.

LOCAL HISTORY

Pertinent to Indian Campaigns.

Affecting the localities whose local history we have touched upon, nothing occurred until the breaking out of the War of 1812, to which we have previously adverted, to mar the quietude of the wilderness. The forts which have been mentioned in the previous sketch were maintained under control of various subordinate officers, as storehouses for supplies, and points for the concentration of the different detachments of the army, and while troops were thus congregating, the whites were drawn into various skirmishes with the Indians, in all of which they were more or less successful. At St. Marys, General Harrison, who had been commissioned Major General of the army, had collected in the neighborhood of three thousand troops. Colonel Richard M. Johnston, of Kentucky, joined him there with three hundred mounted men, and Captain Collins, who commanded a company of riflemen from Butler county, was stationed here during the winter of 1813, and did a great deal of valuable services in opening roads, and making other provisions for the transportation of supplies.

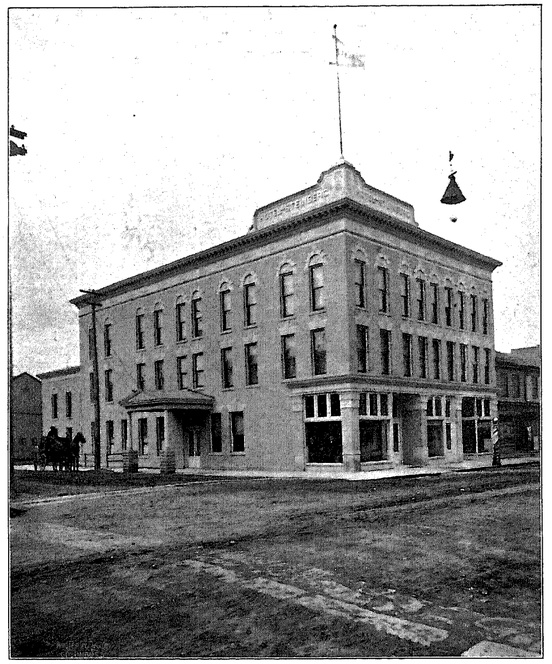
On September 13, 1813, Captains Roper, Clarke and Bacon organized their companies, and in conjunction with Colonel Johnston formed a regiment. Johnston himself was elected Colonel, Roper was elected Major, while Captain Arnold and Lieutenant Ellison succeeded Johnston and Arnold to their former respective positions. This regiment, which was now in command of Colonel Johnston, in company with the Ohio regiment of Colonel Findley, formed a brigade which was placed in command of Brigadier General Tupper, who afterwards developed into much of a coward. The line of march laid out for this regiment was up the St. Josephs river, and at noon of the day when they were about to start, messages were received, first from General Winchester, to the effect that he had shortly before had an encounter with the Indians, and asking for re-enforcements, and also from General Kelso, who was in command on Lake Erie, stating that Indians 2,000 strong were on the move, and contemplated an attack on Fort Wayne.

On receipt of these dispatches orders were issued to move immediately to Winchester's aid. In three hours the entire force was ready to move. On the following day a rain set in, and the troops encountered much difficulty in traveling the roads. On the second day, when some distance out from Fort Amanda, General Harrison received another message from General Winchester, informing him of the retreat of the enemy. Upon the receipt of this news plans were changed, and Colonel Barbee and Colonel Pogue were ordered to retrace their steps, the former to St. Marys and the latter to Fort Jennings, with instructions to cut a road from there to Fort Defiance. General Harrison and Colonel Johnston moved on to Winchester's camp, and after a few days' rest, during which they allayed much discontent in the camp, they returned to St. Marys.

On October 4th, Colonel Tupper, who with his company had proceeded also to Winchester's camp, was ordered by Winchester to go down the Maumee to the rapids, to disperse the foraging bands of Indians, whom it had been reported to him were in the neighborhood. He was then to return by Defiance to St. Marys. After a supply of rations had been issued, and the amount of ammunition which, under all the circumstances, it was deemed necessary to take had been provided, Tupper declined to start out, claiming that he would have need for more. In the morning the order to move was still unheeded, and at noon a party of Indians appeared on the opposite bank of the river and fired upon three whites, one of whom they killed. Afterwards, they fled. They were pursued by different detachments of troops, which they eluded for a time, until they were finally encountered by Captain



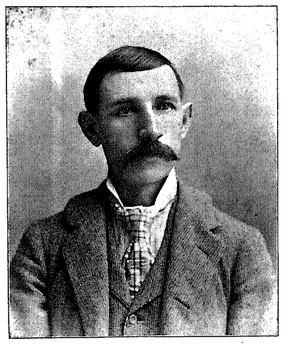
KREITZER BUGGY MANUFACTORY, WAPAKONETA, OHIO.



HOTEL STEINBERG.



DAVID KREITZER.



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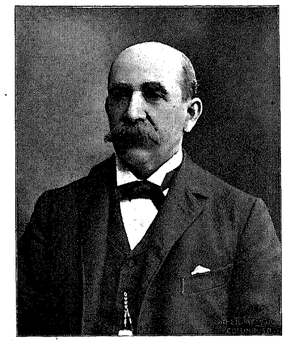

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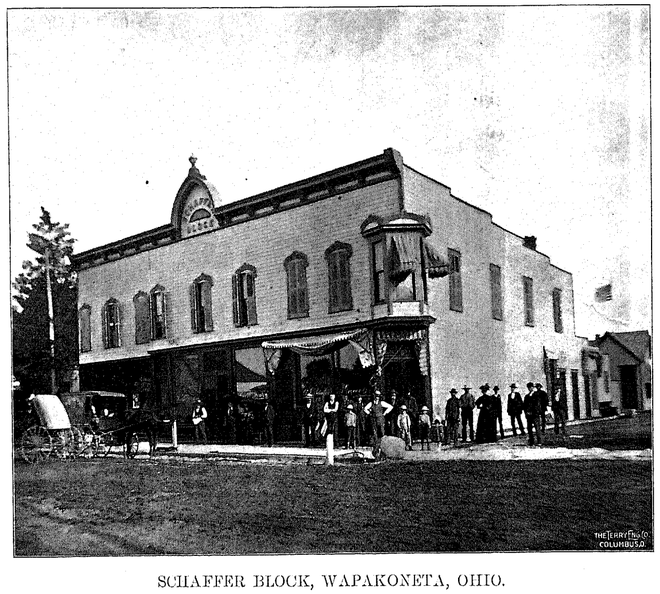
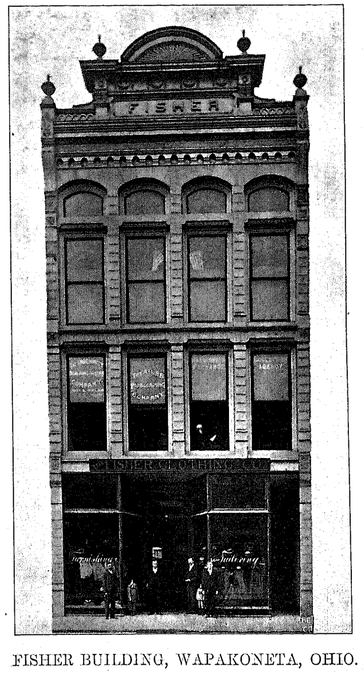


SCHAFFER BLOCK, WAPAKONETA, OHIO.



FISHER BUILDING, WAPAKONETA, OHIO.

Young, with a small number of men, who did not succeed in doing them much harm. In the morning Captain Logan, with six other Indian scouts were sent out on a reconnoitering expedition. A short while after this, Winchester ordered Tupper to set out in pursuit of these Indians, but he replied he would await the return of the scouts.

In the evening Logan returned with his braves and reported that the savages were about fifty in number, and ten miles down the river. Tupper was again urged to move, and his men, disgusted with his unsoldierly conduct, refused to continue in his service unless accompanied by some of Winchester's men. Colonel Allen Trimble then offered his services, and being accepted, they moved by the way of the Auglaize to the Ottawa towns as General Tupper had desired. Here General Tupper again delayed professing the arrival of re-enforcements. His troops became absolutely dishcartened, and all but two hundred refused to move in accordance with orders.

As Harrison was returning from Defiance to St. Marys, he was informed that Indians were collecting at that place. On his arrival at St. Marys he found a corps of 500 mounted volunteers who had come to join the expedition to Detroit. They were placed in command of Colonel Trimble, who also had returned to St. Marys, and ordered to proceed against the White Pigeon Villages, about 60 miles distant, on the St. Josephs river. On his arrival at the fort about half his men refused to go further; but he continued his march and destroyed two villages.

Thus did these preliminary preparations proceed, until finally a general movement was made for the ultimate objects of the campaign, and the Indians had finally consented to terms of capitulation, and removing from their original abiding place, they put aside the tomahawk, and the bow and arrow, to enjoy the blessings of liberty and peace.

DUCHOUQUET TOWNSHIP.

Within this township is located the county seat and all the historical associations that lend interest to its origin. Here in the Shawnee reservation was set apart for the children of Chief Blue Jacket, at the treaty of Greenville, one thousand acres of land each, and through it traveled all the celebrated chiefs to the council house at Wapakoneta. It was organized from Allen county in 1832, and derives its name from Francis Deuchouquette, a counselor and benefactor of the Shawnee nation. The surface is generally level, the soil of a sandy clay, and the products such as are raised in other sections of the county. Much valuable oil territory has been developed in the northwestern and northern sections of the township. Here is also located the County Infirmary, mentioned on another page. The Auglaize river which runs through it from northeast to southwest is the only stream of importance. The roads are of the same character as those which traverse almost the entire county, and the schools have kept pace with all other developments. The first election was held in April, 1833, at the house of Jeremiah Ayres, and was held there until 1839, when the polling place was removed to the school building located in district number one. The polls were again removed to the house of Mr. Ayres in 1840, and the elections continued to be held there for many years. At the first election the number of votes cast was 27, and Peter Hammel, William Patton and Shadrack Montgomery were elected trustees; James Elliott, clerk; John Tam, treasurer; Beal Spurier, Samuel Howell and William Thatcher, supervisors; Alonzo F. Neal and Samuel Howells, overseers of the poor; Bryant McNamore and John Campbell, fence viewers; Henry Vonblaricom and John Campbell, constables. The following spring a special election for Justice of the Peace was held, at which Beal Spurier received 31 votes, James Spray 25, John Corder 25, John W. Coney 18, and William Patton 15. In 1847 the vote had increased to 159. A year later a gain of twenty-five was made. Two years later 195 votes were cast, and in 1853 another gain of 25 showed a population in Wapakoneta and the township of about 1,100. An old record of official proceedings, dated 1833, and the first ever kept, is carefully preserved in the office of the clerk, and contains much of interest in the official history of the township. Within this township was exerted the efforts and influence of the "Friends" whose mission and work are intimately connected with the history of Wapakoneta.

WAPAKONETA.

Wapakoneta is situated on the lines of the Dayton & Michigan and the Columbus & Northwestern railroads. It is 59 miles north of Dayton, 82 miles south of Toledo, and 75 miles northwest of Columbus, Ohio.

The name itself is said to be derived from Wapaughkonetta, a noted Indian chief of the Shawnee tribe; but whether this be true or not, the title of the town will be as immortal as the traditions which gave it birth. Local historians, of more or less celebrity, have taken a just pride in recounting the stories of its early origin, and it is with some degree of satisfaction that the writer is afforded an opportunity to impress upon these pages some facts of an historical nature that will tend to preserve the earlier reminiscences wrapped about the place.

It was here that the noted Shawnee chief, Captain James Logan, lived. To the east of the town, about six miles, lies the old dwelling place of the noted warrior Blackhoof; to the northwest, about eight miles, upon the bank of the Auglaize, whose glassy surface in those old days reflected the image of Blue Jacket, Brighthorn, Blackhoof, and other chiefs of noted prowess, was the site of Fort Amanda, whose fortifications had withstood the most violent attacks of the enemy; to the southwest lies St. Marys, the site of old Fort Barbee; and to the south lies Piqua, memorable as having been the scene of a bloody conflict in those days. Wapakoneta was deemed at that time to have been the converging point whence the victor and vanquished adjusted their conflicting interests. Northeast of the town, about a mile and a half, on what is known as the Schucraft farm, was the site of old Fort Auglaize.

From all the available information that can be procured it appears that Wapakoneta was originally an Indian settlement of the Shawnee tribe, and that it sprung into existence as such, about the time of the expedition conducted by General George Rogers Clark, in 1780. Previous to that time no definite knowledge can be had, but there are evidences which indicate that it was a prominent trading post of the French, who are recognized as the first settlers of Ohio. In 1794 an organization known as the society of Friends sent among the Indians who dwelt at Wapakoneta some of its missionaries: who endeavored to teach them the art and science of many things calculated to advance their material prosperity, and to inculcate the practice of religion, so that the barbarous cruelties which were inflicted by them in consequence of their belief in witchcraft might be entirely abolished.

For several years after their arrival the Friends or Quakers worked among the Indians, exerting their Christianizing influences, and about 1814 erected a saw and grist mill on the Auglaize river, at a point in the rear of where the business block of The H. W. Taeusch & Son's Company now stands. The mission was under the control of Isaac Harvey and family, for whom the "Friends" erected a residence. Under the auspices of this society schools were maintained, and at its own expense, efforts were made to assist the Indians, and in every way to ameliorate their condition. Through its ultimate efforts, the practice of putting to death such persons as were accused of witchcraft was discontinued among them. In 1825, Henry Harvey, a brother of Isaac, assumed control of the schools, and they were afterwards removed south of Wapakoneta, to the Scott farm, and there remained until the removal of the Indians to Kansas, in 1832, when Mr. Harvey and family left with the Indians also, to re-establish the schools among them. About this time there came to the town some Americans, among them was Robert J. Skinner, who afterwards was appointed, by President Jackson, Receiver of the United States land office, with a local office here; Colonel Thomas B. Van Horne, who, at the same time, was appointed Register; Peter Hammel, a French trader; Captain John Elliott, who at this time was the government blacksmith; Jeremiah Ayres, who opened the first hotel in the town, Cummins and Mathers, and Samuel Case, merchants; Henry Thorn, a tavern keeper, and James Elliott.

The first mail route covering this territory, and having Wapakoneta as one of its three offices, was established in the year 1827, and begun in January 1, 1828. Robert Broderick was the first postmaster, and John F. Caples, who is now Judge of the Circuit Court of Portland, Oregon, was the first Mayor.

After a cessation of the hostilities which were incident to that time, and the gradual retirement of the Indians as a result of treaties and otherwise, their rude wigwams and huts were supplanted by structures of more advanced type and the habiliments of a modern civilization.

The real town of Wapakoneta was laid out on January 23d, 1833, and the original proprietors were Robert J. Skinner, Thomas B. Van Horn, Joseph Barnett, Jonathan K. Wilds and Peter Aughenbaugh. "At the first public sale eighty-four lots were purchased, ranging from $20 to $140, the one bringing the higher price being lot No. 36, corner public square and Willipie street. The lot occupied by the Indian trading post, viz., No. 13, on Auglaize street, was sold for $120."

The act incorporating the present town of Wapakoneta was passed March 2, 1849. The division into wards was made November 15, 1875. The population, according to the census of 1850, was 504. Since that time to the present, the improvement has been gradual and substantial. It possesses one of the most complete water works and electric light plants in Northwestern Ohio. The commercial and manufacturing interests of the town involve a large expenditure of money, and the industrial character of its enterprises are such that they demand more than a cursory view.

The valuation of the town for taxation purposes is $1,136,712, which is regarded as about one third of the real value. The total indebtedness at the present time (August 15, 1898) amounts to $122,500, this amount including a recently contracted indebtedness of $35,000 for street improvements.

Wapakoneta is peopled by an enterprising and energetic population, and is regarded by the outside commercial world as a good, reliable, and substantial business town, amply able to discharge its present obligations and assume others of greater moment, if the interests of the community so demand.

The social and intellectual conditions pervading the community are up to the standard, and no enterprise looking to the betterment of its people ever fails to receive the requisite patronage and support.

The municipal affairs of the town are now under the control of a council, composed of W. S. Rogers, John Hassenaur, H. P. Neumeir, Chas. Kentner and John B. Walsh, presided over by John G. Heinrich, Mayor.

The manufacturing interests are varied and numerous. The Wapakoneta Spoke and Wheel Works is an enterprise the product of which is well known to the trade, its reputation for quality being on a par with any of the same class of goods manufactured in the country. This mill is owned by a joint stock company, incorporated August 28, 1872, and composed exclusively of Wapakoneta individuals. It is capitalized at 100 shares of $500 per share, the full amount of same having been paid in, and is under the exclusive management of Mr. Carl D. Fischer. It employs regularly 225 people, and its annual pay roll amounts to between $60,000 and $70,000, while the business for the same period of time amounts to about $200,000.

The Bent Wood Churn Works, owned and operated by M. Brown & Co., is, as its name implies, engaged in the manufacture of this very useful article, which has found its way into the most

remote parts of the United States and Canada. The members of the company are M. Brown and Henry McFarland. The enterprise represents an investment of many thousands of dollars, and employs a regular force of mechanics at an annual outlay of $20,000.

The Standard Churn Company, composed of Fred H. Haman, Charles Kolter and Roy E. Haman, is also a progressive establishment that is engaged in the churn business. It represents a large investment and employs a large force continuously.

The Wapakoneta Handle Company occupies the building in proximity to the Churn Company's property, and is engaged in the manufacture of handles. The product of the factory reaches every point in the United States and some parts of Europe. The business is conducted by Michael Hauss, and is owned by him. It regularly has from twenty-five to thirty employes, and the annual pay roll amounts to more than $15,000.

The firm of J. L. Swink & Co. conducts a general furniture and wood working establishment, and is composed of J. L. Swink, W. H. Swink, W. S. Snyder and J. L. Carson, who do an extensive business in the manufacture of furniture. The plant represents an investment of $30,000. The firm employs about twenty-five persons, who receive between eight thousand and ten thousand dollars annually.

The Kreitzer Buggy Company is another of the enterprising establishments of the community. It is engaged in the manufacture of buggies and vehicles of a like character, and employs from 30 to 35 men the year round, at an outlay of $10,000. The demand of business for the past few years has necessitated the construction of its commodious building at the corner of Auglaize and Park streets.

The Kolter and Koch Brewing Company, whose buildings are located on Water street, manufacture a beer of superior quality; also artificial ice, being the exclusive manufacturers in the county of that article. The joint business represents a large investment, and their trade embraces every town in the county and extends into adjoining counties.

John E. Gunther also conducts a very large and extensive business in the line of beer and bottled goods. He is the local agent in the community for several Cincinnati firms.

The Home Milling Company, composed of Wapakoneta people, is engaged in the manufacture of flour and in the general milling business.

The Farmers' Milling Company is another of the institutions engaged in the manufacture of flour and bread stuffs. It is also a joint stock company, the stock being owned by residents of the town and vicinity.

The Wapakoneta Machine Company, located in the buildings immediately north of the Wheel Works, is another industry that during recent years has become prominent in the making of machinery.

Besides the manufacturing interests of the town the mercantile interests represent almost every line of trade. The following are some of the principal businesses:

The H. W. Taeusch & Sons Company, Groceries.
A. Klipfel, Groceries.
A. O. Pepple, Groceries.
Louis A. Myers, Groceries.
Fisher Hardware Company, Hardware and Farm Machinery.
J. H. Doering & Co., Hardware and Farm Machinery.
Timmermeister & Rogers, Boots and Shoes, Dry Goods and Clothing.
Werst & Collins, Dry Goods.
Kahn Bros. & Co., Boots and Shoes and Dry Goods.
The Model Clothing Company, Clothing.
Fisher Clothing Company, Clothing.
F. C. Hunter, Drugs and Chemicals.
Wm. Kayser, Drugs and Chemicals.
Henry Moser, Jeweler and Optician.
Henry Hartman, Jeweler and Optician.
F. E. Kolter, Stoves and Tinware and Plumbing.
Foos & Wehner, Stoves and Tinware and Plumbing.
Heinl & Yocum, Furniture and Undertaking.

Wapakoneta has two National banks and one private bank. The First National Bank, incorporated in the year 1884, has a capital of $100,000 and a surplus of $20,000. The directory of this institution is composed of some of the leading business men of the community, Mr. L. N. Blume being the President.

The People's National Bank, incorporated in the year 1886, with a capital of $100,000, and having a surplus of $20,000, is another of the solid financial institutions of the town and county. Its business is ably conducted by the President, S. W. McFarland, and efficient associate officers.

The private institution, known as the Farmers' Bank, is owned exclusively by Charles Kolter, by whom its large business is personally conducted.

Wapakoneta at the present time has three newspapers, namely, "The Auglaize County Democrat," conducted by Edmund S. Nichols; the "Auglaize Republican," William J. McMurray, editor; and "Die Post," printed in the German language, and conducted by Henry Holterman.

"The Auglaize County Democrat" was established in 1849, by W. P. Andrews, a brother of Geo. W. Andrews, one of the pioneer townsmen of Wapakoneta, under the name of the Auglaize Republican. In 1857, the name was changed to "The Auglaize County Democrat." Through all the fluctuations of time its unflinching devotion to the cause of Democracy has been maintained, and it is generally conceded one of the strongest and most influential papers of the Northwest.

"The Auglaize Republican" was established in the spring of 1881, by Robert Sutton and W. J. McMurray, and continued under their joint management until 1883, when Mr. McMurray succeeded to the entire ownership of the paper, and under his management it has become a thriving and successful representative of Republican politics.

"Die Post" was established about the year 1891, and at the present time is ably edited by Henry Holterman. The paper has a large and increasing circulation among the German citizens of the town and county.

The educational interests of the community are well and creditably served by the possession of handsome and convenient school structures, and by an efficient corps of teachers, presided over by Prof. C. W. Williamson. The schools are under the supervision of the following Board of Education: L. N. Blume, A. P. Merkle, Caspar J. Heinl, J. H. Doering, John Hoegner, and E. S. Nichols, and are so conducted as to meet the wants of the times.

Places of worship of the Divine Ruler being recognized as a prerequisite to the betterment of mankind in every community, the religious welfare of the inhabitants of the town are well guarded by churches of various denominations: the Presbyterian, conducted by the Rev. J. O. Pierce. This effected a local organization September 23, 1854, and from that time to 1869 the pulpit and pastorate were supplied at intervals with the services of several reverend gentlemen, who, owing to the exigencies of the period could not devote their entire time to its charge. In that year, however, the church came under the constant control of a pastor, and the church has been successively in charge of the following persons, except as noted:

Rev. W. E. Hill, ... 1872—1873
Rev. D. W. Cooper ..... 1879—1880
Rev. C. E. Tedford ..... 1880—1884
Rev. A. N. Robertson ..... 1884—1886
Rev. W. H. Clark ..... 1886—1888
Rev. E. D. Van Dyke ..... 1888—1889
Rev. C. D. Hoover ..... 1889—1897
Rev. J. O. Pierce ..... 1897—

The English Lutheran Church effected its organization in the community in 1857. After the organization, the church was in charge of the following persons:

Rev. A. T. Hills ..... 1857—1859
Rev. J. W. Goodlin ..... 1860—1861
Rev. W. C. Barnett ..... 1861—1865
Rev. D. W. Smith ..... 1865—1872
Rev. C. S. Ernsberger ..... 1872—1877
Rev. D. A. Kuhn ..... 1877—1881
Rev. A. E. Wagner ..... 1881—1885
Rev. A. C. Miller ..... 1885—1890
Rev. S. S. Adams ..... 1890—1897
Rev. W. S. Rangeler ..... 1897—

The St. Paul's German Evangelical Protestant congregation erected a church in 1848, and two years afterward formed a regular organization. From its organization till the year 1855 Rev. During was pastor, and he was succeeded by the following named persons, who presided during the years mentioned:

Rev. Henrich Koenig ..... 1855—1863
Rev. J. Sutter ..... 1863—1867
Rev. — Heinisch ..... 1868—1870
Rev. — Rentzsch ..... 1870—1873
Rev. Adolph Thomas ..... 1873—1875
Rev. Ulrich Thomas ..... 1875—1876
Rev. — Zeineke ..... 1876—1878
Rev. — Burkhart ..... 1878—1892
Rev. L. Alpermann ..... 1892—1898
Rev. — Stave ..... 1898—

The congregation which worships in St. Mark's Lutheran Church was organized on the 19th day of January, 1868, by the Rev. Prof. W. F. Lehmann, of Capital University, Columbus, Ohio. Under his efficient guidance and counsel, a constitution for the government of the new congregation, in full accord with conservative Lutheranism, was read, discussed, adopted, and finally subscribed by the following persons: George Fisher, John C. Fisher, Chris Fisher, Christian Heisler, J. G. Wisener, Lewis Wisener, Chris Hoffman, Lewis Peil, C. Melching, C. Wolf, C. Naumberg, Adam Knarr, H. Frech, C. Schnell, H. Burbach, H. Ruck, Geo. Ruck, B. Zisenis, Zach. Meag, J. Preeser, O. Mellos, August Franke, August Johnson, J. C. Hassenier, Jacob Snider and L. Cook.

The first Church Council chosen consisted of the following members: Elder, George Fisher; Deacons, Lewis Peil, J. G. Wisener; Trustees, H. Frech, C. Wolf, C. Heisler.

The first regular called pastor was the Rev. E. Buchholtz, who served the congregation two years. During his ministry the recently purchased, but unfinished church building, was completed at a cost of $2,500, and dedicated to the public worship of the triune God.

The second pastor was Rev. F. Wendt, who resigned the field in 1877. He was succeeded in office by Rev. C. Benzin, whose pastoral labors in the congregation ceased in June, 1883. In the month of December, of the same year, the congregation extended a call to Rev. G. Schmogrow, of Doylestown, Ohio, whose pastoral labors began on the first day of January, 1884, and who is still its pastor, at the time when this brief sketch was being framed for this Atlas. The congregation has a communicant membership of 175, and numbers about 300 souls.

Having recently changed her synodical relations, she now belongs to the Evangelical Lutheran District Synod of Ohio, in connection with the General Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of North America.

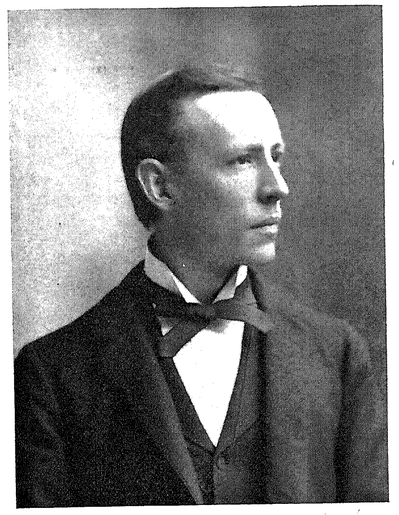
The church property of this congregation is located on West Auglaize street; has a seating capacity of nearly 400; valued at $5,000, and presents a neat and attractive appearance.

The Methodist Episcopal Church, in its initial organization, erected its first church in 1834. This building was subsequently used for school purposes, and, about the time of the organization of the county also as a Court House. The congregation struggled on in a feeble condition until 1872, when Rev. Crozier assumed control of it; and since that time to the present it has steadily kept pace with the religious advancement in the community.

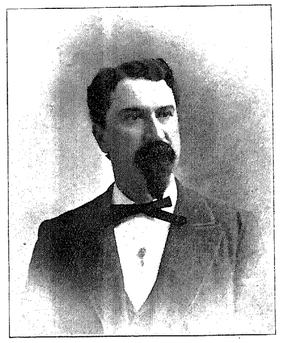
During the succeeding years the following gentlemen served as pastors during the periods indicated:

Rev. — Hunter ..... 1879—1880
Rev. R. R. Bryan ..... 1880—1881
Rev. L. H. Lindsay ..... 1881—1882
Rev. M. M. Figley ..... 1882—1885
Rev. J. H. Cater ..... 1885—1886
Rev. D. F. Helms ..... 1886—1891
Rev. D. R. Cook ..... 1891—1892
Rev. W. H. Leatherman ..... 1892—1896
Rev. C. W. Taneyhill ..... 1896—

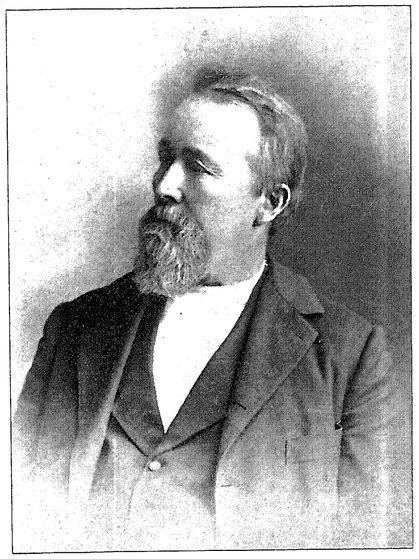
The St. Joseph's Church. The earliest efforts in the promulgation of religion in this vicinity were made by missionaries of the Catholic faith. In 1831, seventeen years before the formation of Auglaize county, Prof. Horstman, a native of Glandorf, Germany, came to Putnam county, Ohio, and established near Ottawa a Catholic settlement which he named Glandorf, in memory of the home he had just left in the Fatherland. In 1832, while on the mission, he came to Minster, at that time known as Stallo town, after the illustrious Catholic Francis J. Stallo, its founder. In this year also a church was built which marked the birth of Catholicity in this locality. This church was used until the year 1848, when the present magnificent structure was erected at a cost of $15,000, and Rev. John Vanden Brook installed as pastor. In 1875 an addition was made to the church, and it was dedicated anew by Rev. A. Kunkler, who was pastor at



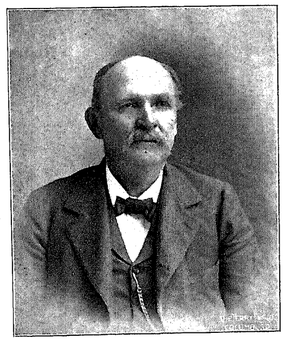
J. H. GOEKE, PROSECUTOR.



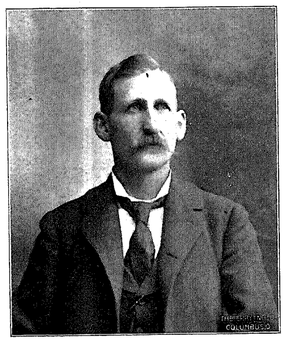
CHAS. FRECH, RECORDER.



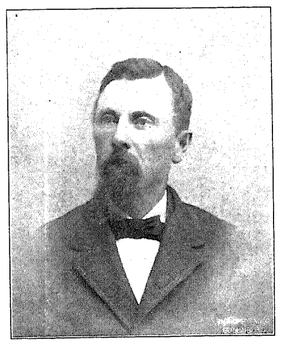
J. J. WALTER, PROBATE JUDGE.



JNO. S. BUTCHER.



SAMUEL PLUMMER.

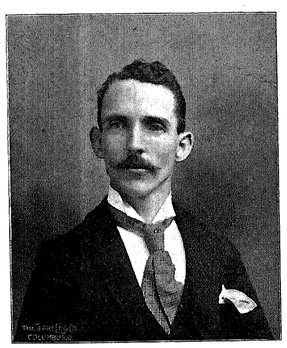


HENRY HELLBUSCH.

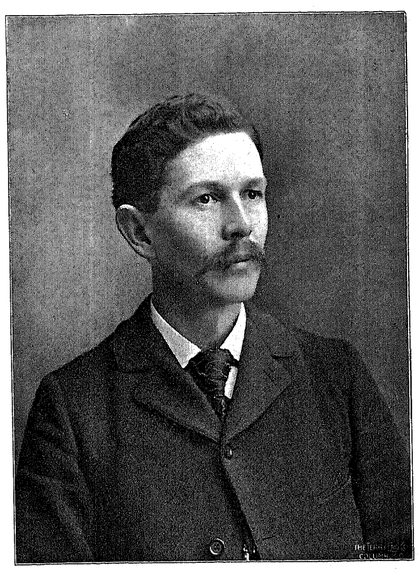
COMMISSIONERS OF AUGLAIZE COUNTY.



W. T. MOONEY, COMMON PLEAS JUDGE.



C. W. NICHOLS, DEPUTY SHERIFF.



A. O. PEPPLE, COUNTY TREASURER.

that time. In 1852, for the convenience of the members who lived at remote distances from the Minster church, a building was constructed at Egypt, three miles southwest. In 1872, another church was erected at New Bremen, three miles north of Minster.

During the years that intervened between 1832 and 1868, churches were established at various other towns in the county. In 1833, Jno. Ruppert entered a half section of land in section 22, Pusheta township, and on this was erected a church, and from this, in 1836, a small settlement of Catholics sprung up at Petersburg, about three miles south of Wapakoneta. In 1848, a place of worship was erected in Freyburg. Edward Craft donated the lot on which the church was built, and on November 4 of that year the congregation was organized, and a building committee composed of Conrad Roth, Cornelius Weingartner and Nicholas Schneider was appointed. The corner stone was laid in 1849, and the church was dedicated the subsequent year, by the Rev. A. Kunkler, C. PP. S. Rev. Winands, residing at Wapakoneta at that time, was the first pastor. He was followed in after years by Revs. Mukerheide, Volm, Kreusch, Backus, Goebels, Daniel, and Kohmischer, the present pastor. In the town of St. Marys, which in early times also had a few Catholics, among whom was Charles Murray, one of the original proprietors of the town, through the active efforts of the Rev. Kunkler, a church was constructed in 1854, and in 1867 the present church on the southeast corner of Spring and Pine streets was built, under the direction of Rev. Dwenger, who afterwards was consecrated Bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne. From this time on the church was in charge of priests of the Congregation of the Precious Blood, whose zeal in the dissemination of the Catholic doctrine knew no bounds. Father Dwenger was followed by Revs. Rist, Kenk, Nigsch, Guggenberger, Schalk, and Joseph Lutz, who, since 1877, has ministered with becoming fidelity to the spiritual needs of the congregation.

At Wapakoneta, the first Catholic church was built on the southeast corner of Perry and Blackhoof streets, in 1839, and the congregation, after years of discouragements, erected in 1857, at the southwest corner of Pearl and Perry streets, its present church. The first regular pastor assigned to the church, which, however, was before the construction of the present building, was Rev. Marten H. Bobst. Immediately after the building was completed, Rev. Andrew Herbstreet, who seems to have been not only a good priest but a progressive citizen as well, took charge of the congregation.

Plans are now prepared and the congregation will shortly begin the erection of a school building of modern design on the lot adjoining the parochial residence. At the present time the church is under the charge of Rev. William Russ. The congregation is the largest of any of the religious denominations, and the pastoral residence is probably the handsomest of the kind in Wapakoneta.

The following named Reverend gentlemen have officiated as pastors of the church since 1857 to 1881, or since the retirement of Rev. Herbstreet, in 1864. Revs. Dwenger, Ruf, Prendergast, Kunkler, Henneberry, Laux, Frensh, Greismeyer, Graf and Nigsch. Since 1881 the church has regularly been in charge of the following named gentlemen for the periods mentioned, respectively:

Rev. Conrad Schneider .....1881—1888
Rev. Frederick Schaub .....1888—1892
Rev. Boniface Russ .....1892—1896
Rev. William Russ .....1896—

BIOGRAPHICAL.

JAMES B. ADAMS, the subject of this sketch, was born at Millville, Delaware county, Ohio, September 15, 1853, his father and mother, John Q. and Susannah (Haynes) Adams, being among the oldest settlers of that county, the father of the latter, James B. Haynes, having driven the first canal boat that ever passed through the Licking canal. In 1875 Mr. Adams came to this county, and the same year was married to Miss Lydia M. Murphy. From this union two children, Ova D. and Bernhard L., have been born. Mr. Adams has been engaged in the livery business at this place for several years and has been most successful.

ROBERT BENTON ANDERSON is a son of Philip B. and Elizabeth Anderson, and was born at Troy, Ohio, July 22, 1868. He came with his parents in 1882 to this place, and attended the public schools, after which he studied law with the firm of Layton & Stueve. He was admitted to the Bar in October, 1889, at the age of twenty-one years, and has practiced his profession since that time. He is one of the brightest young lawyers in the Northwest, and is perhaps better informed concerning the affairs of the county and of Wapakoneta than any man in the county. In 1893 he was elected city Solicitor, and has since been twice re-elected. He was a member of the Ohio National Guard, having been mustered into the service as first Lieutenant of Co. L, at the time of its organization. He has been a member of the Board of Deputy State Supervisors of Elections since 1893. Socially, Mr. Anderson is prominent in K. of P. circles. In May, 1894, he was united in marriage with Miss Jennie M., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Wilson, and two children, James Philip, and Walter Wilson, have been born to them.

FRANK HOWARD ANTHONY, M. D., an able and progressive physician of Wapakoneta, whose portrait will be found in this work, was born at Clinton, Ill., January 20, 1865, and has been well fitted for his life work. He was a son of James H. and Elizabeth Anthony, and resided with his parents on a farm in Edgar county, Ill., until sixteen years of age, when he attended high school and college until his twenty-second birthday. The time having arrived for him to choose a business, he selected medicine and entered the Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital, at Chicago, from which institution he graduated in 1892, after having pursued a thorough course. In 1884 he was married to Miss Elizabeth A. Vale, of Kansas, Ill., and in 1893 located in Wapakoneta, where he has built up a splendid and increasing practice.

VERNON B. ARNOLD is a young man of much more than ordinary ability, who is making his way unaided and by individual efforts. He was born in Champaign county, Ohio, February 16, 1869, and was a son of Samuel J. and Emma J. (Stroble) Arnold. He completed his education at the Mechanicsburg Normal School, and selecting teaching as a profession, secured a school in Wayne township, this county, in 1889, from which time he taught almost continuously until 1896. In 1892 he came to Wapakoneta, and in the fall of the same year was married to Miss Elenor E. Hassenier, daughter of John C. Hassenier, and one child, Vivian B., has been born to them. In 1896 he was nominated by the Democracy of Wapakoneta for City Clerk, and elected the same spring. In this capacity his efficiency was so thoroughly demonstrated that he was re-elected in 1898, by a largely increased majority. He has proven one of the most competent officials the town has ever had, and undoubtedly has an exceptionally bright future before him.

LEWIS P. BAYLIFF was born at St. Johns, this county, March 23, 1835, and has been a life-long resident. In 1865 he was married to Christena Waggoner. She died March 25, 1873, and in 1875 he was married to Rosina Fisher. He is the father of ten children, of whom are living, John E., Elizabeth A., and George J. Mr. Bayliff graduated from Antioch College, and taught school almost continuously from 1853 to 1885. Since that time he has been employed about the court house in different capacities. In the spring of 1898 he was elected Justice of the Peace for Duchouquet township. He has resided in Wapakoneta since 1875.

WILLIAM BITLER was born in Clay township, this county, April 7, 1858, and was a son of Arthur and Margaret Bitler. In November, 1877, he was united in marriage with Miss Minnie L. Mott, and twelve children have been born to them: Morris, George, Milo, Susie, and Arthur are living. Mr. Bitler has resided in the county all his life, and is one of the most popular business men in Wapakoneta. He was manager of the Home Milling Company for several years, and is now engaged with Philip H. Jacobs in the grain and implement business. He has also been, until recently, secretary of the Citizens Building and Loan Company.

L. N. BLUME, one of the most prominent and well known citizens of the town and county, was born at St. Johns, just east of the county seat, June 21, 1846. When he was a small boy his parents moved from that village to Wapakoneta, and Lewis began, at the age of seventeen years, to acquire a knowledge of business and money. Whether from the intuitive knowledge that he possessed, or from the wisdom imparted by his superiors, he soon became recognized as a leader in the business community; and ere he had attained his majority, began to show evidences of superior business tact and judgment, which easily enabled him to outrun all his competitors in business enterprises.

During the earlier years of his life he engaged also in the study of the law; but the conditions surrounding this profession were not congenial to the active and energetic disposition of the young business man, whose mind seemed moulded for attention to purely mercantile affairs. The ultimate success which has attended all the business enterprises of Mr. Blume proves that a man, even though his opportunity may be circumscribed, and the field of activity limited, nevertheless may be entirely successful by strict attention to business and devotion to the duty devolving upon him.

Mr. Blume has long been identified with many of the leading enterprises of the town, having been President of the First National Bank since its organization up to the present time, was largely instrumental in its formation as such; is a large stockholder and director of the Wapakoneta Wheel Company; has been a member of the School Board, and is now its president; and is always among the first to move in whatever will advance the interests of the community.

His ability as a financier is unquestioned, and his sagacious judgment has always served well, where ill-considered and hasty action might have proved disastrous.

Mr. Blume resides in an elegant residence on the northwest corner of Blackhoof and Main streets, with a family consisting of Mrs. Blume and their daughter, Miss Kitty. Mrs. Blume is one of the most agreeable and unpretentious persons, and has a proper idea of the dignity and duties of life; and probably dispenses more charity unknown to the rest of the world than any other one person in Wapakoneta.

MICHAEL BROWN, whose name is inseparably interwoven with the most successful enterprises and industries of the town, was born two miles north of Wapakoneta, September 26, 1846, and was a son of George and Barbara (Conrod) Brown, among the first settlers of Duchouquet township. Mr. Brown is a self-made man in all that the term implies. He is truly the architect of his own successful career, and to his industry and perseverance is due his eminent position in the business world. As a boy, he assisted his father on the farm, doing such work as falls to the lot of the tiller of the soil in a new country, until he was twenty-one years of age, when he left the paternal roof to seek fortune for himself. He worked for some time as a farm hand, and later purchased eighty acres of land in Moulton township, which he cleared and paid for in an extraordinary short time. He removed to town in 1871, and with John Lawrence opened a small establishment north of the river for the manufacture of grain measures. He soon purchased the interest of his partner, and under his management the business grew and prospered until it was necessary to increase the capacity of his factory, and he removed it to the site of the present large churn manufacturing concern. In 1873, his brother Joseph Brown, and F. J. McFarland, became interested with him, under the firm name of M. Brown & Company, which title they still retain. In 1877, he became the patentee of the famous Bent Wood Churn, which, from the very beginning of its manufacture, has found a ready market all over the world. This new departure necessitated large additions of capital and labor, and resulted in the establishment of an industry of great value to the town. The Bent Wood Churns, and the latest improved Washing Machines are manufactured, and considerable attention given to the lumber trade. Mr. Brown was one of the incorporators of the People's

National Bank, which was organized and commenced business in 1886, and in 1890, he, with his partners, purchased the bank building and the stock owned by Francis Fritsch. Mr. McFarland became President of the institution, and Joseph Brown entered the office of M. Brown & Co. The partnership of this prosperous firm was first interrupted by the death of Joseph Brown, November 24, 1890, and six years later by that of Mr. McFarland. Besides his banking and manufacturing interests Mr. Brown has been a director of the Citizens' Building and Loan Association since its organization, and was one of the organizers of the Natural Gas Company. In 1882, the factory and residence of Mr. Brown was entirely destroyed by fire, but the former was rebuilt and fully equipped within two months. In 1894, he erected on Willipi street, near the city building, one of the finest residences in the town, a view of which appears in this book. Mr. Brown was married in 1875, to Miss Louisa Stenger, and to them have been born four children: Katharine (deceased), Joseph Caspar (deceased), Anthony Henry (deceased), and August Joseph.

THEODORE AMBROSE CAMPBELL, M. D., was born near New Hampshire, this county, January 2, 1875, and was a son of George and Sarah Campbell. He has resided in this county all his life and received his preliminary education in the schools of Wapakoneta, his parents removed to the county seat in 1884. In 1893 he graduated from the high school, and later spent some time upon the old home farm. In 1897 he graduated from the Medical College of Ohio, at Cincinnati, and in July of the same year located at Uniopolis. In December he removed to Wapakoneta, and now has his office and residence in the Kahn block.

JAMES LUTHER CARSON is one of those kindly gentlemen whom it is an honor and pleasure to know. He was born near Piqua, Miami county, Ohio, July 26, 1848, and was a son of William and Rachel Carson. He attended the public schools in his youth, and later graduated from the Ohio Central Normal school. After finishing his education he selected the profession of teaching, and was for three years Superintendent of the schools at Granville, Ohio. He was then employed by the Wapakoneta Board of Education as Superintendent, and removed to this place in 1881. He occupied the position six years, when he entered the furniture manufacturing firm of Swink Bros. & Co., in which enterprise he is yet interested. In February, 1894, he was appointed Postmaster by President Cleveland, and held that position until 1898. In the capacity of an educator, a public official, and as a private citizen, Mr. Carson is recognized as a man of ability and integrity. Politically, he is a Democrat of the uncompromising order; and socially, a member of the I. O. O. F. and K. of P. orders. In 1878 he was married to Miss Emma Hall, of Piqua. Two children were born to them, Willard, and Fred. H. (deceased). Mr. and Mrs. Carson are members of the Presbyterian church.

JOHN J. COLLINS was born on the 23d day of July, 1858, at Troy, Ohio. His father and mother were John and Margaret Collins, old residents of that town. On June 29th, 1892, Mr. Collins married Miss Anna O'Neill of Lima, Ohio. Mr. Collins has been engaged in the dry goods business for the past twenty years, being for ten years the managing salesman of J. H. Thedieck, dealer in general dry goods, of Sidney, Ohio. He is now, and has been for the past ten years, the junior member of the firm of Werst and Collins, which conducts one of the leading dry goods stores in Wapakoneta, the business of the firm having grown to large proportions during the past few years. Among his business associates Mr. Collins is regarded as a safe and conservative business man, a kind and considerate employer, and a reliable and substantial citizen.

HON. JOHN J. CONNAUGHTON is a native of Butler county, Ohio, and was born November 27, 1855. His parents, Michael and Cordelia (Brine) Connaughton, are both natives of Ireland. They located in Butler county in 1854, and remained there until 1871, when they purchased a farm in Moulton township, this county, upon which they yet reside. Mr. Connaughton was given an education in the schools of his neighborhood and at Wapakoneta, after which he commenced his career as a teacher, and continued in the profession until 1879, when he entered the National Normal University at Lebanon, Ohio, from which institution he graduated with the degree of B. S. the following year. He immediately took charge of the Rockford schools as Superintendent, and remained in that position one year. He then accepted a place in the store of E. F. Dicker & Bro., at St. Marys, and continued there until 1883, when he removed to a farm near Glynnwood. Mr. Connaughton followed agricultural pursuits until 1887, when he was elected by the Democracy to the office of County Recorder. He was re-elected in 1890, and in that responsible position, as in numerous others with which he has been intrusted, he discharged every duty intelligently, carefully guarding the interests of his constituency, and always with that courtesy which has made him universally popular. After his retirement from office he began the practice of law and established an office in Wapakoneta. In January, 1898, he formed a law partnership with C. A. Stueve, under the firm name of Stueve & Connaughton. The partnership represents legal ability of the first order, and a business already established. Mr. Connaughton has been Mayor of Wapakoneta, is a Director of the People's National Bank, is the legal representative of the Citizens' Building and Loan Association, and is interested in other enterprises of value to the town. In 1883 he was united in marriage with Miss Lena Jacobs, daughter of Leopold Jacobs, and to them have been born seven children: Lulu T. (deceased), Leo J. (deceased), Marie, Eleanor M., P. Francis, George, and Joseph.

JUDGE GEORGE R. DAVIS, son of James and Mary Davis, was born at Huntsville, Logan county, December 13, 1861. When but a small child he removed with his parents to Wapakoneta, and received his education in the schools of this place. He chose the law for a profession, and at the age of twenty-one was admitted to the Bar by the Supreme Court of Ohio. He entered upon, at once, and continued in the practice of law at Wapakoneta until July, 1897, when he was appointed by President McKinley to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Arizona, and took up his residence in that territory. Judge Davis was united in marriage with Miss Emma Davis at Wapakoneta, on December 21, 1886, but their union was shortly severed by the death of the wife. He was remarried at Circleville, Ohio, on October 16, 1890, to Miss Katharine Scovil, and has two living children, George Russel and Florence. While a resident of Wapakoneta, Judge Davis was actively interested in the local enterprises of the town, having been the President of the Citizens' Building and Loan Company, Director of the People's National Bank, the Wapakoneta Natural Gas Company, and the Home Milling Company.

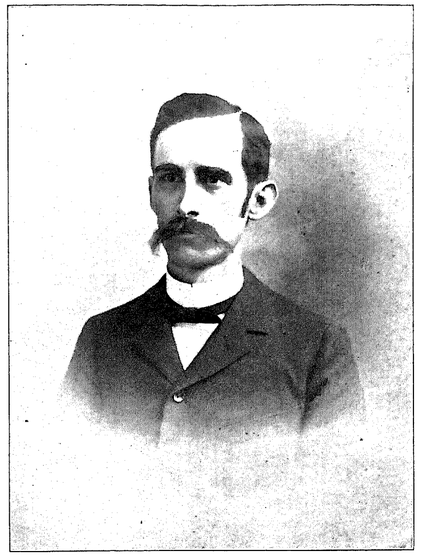
WILBERT C. DAVIS is one of the promising men of Wapakoneta, who, at an early age, has been intrusted with numerous positions of responsibility. He was born in Wapakoneta, August 24, 1871, and is a son of James and Mary Davis. He graduated from the Wapakoneta high schools in the class of 1889, and was for a time Deputy Postmaster. Later he took charge of the books in the M. Brown & Co. Manufacturing Establishment, and remained with that firm until April, 1898, when he resigned to enter upon his duties as Postmaster of Wapakoneta, to which position he was appointed by President McKinley, the month previous. He served as a member of the Republican Central Committee, and in 1897 was chairman of the Executive Committee of that party.

JOHN HENRY DOERING. Prominent in the business affairs of Wapakoneta for more than thirty years, the subject of this biography is one of the best known men in town. Coming here a young man, he commenced a business career that through the years has continued a success and established for him a reputation of which any man might well be proud. Mr. Doering was born in Shelby county, near Sidney, August 29, 1841, and was a son of William and Elizabeth Doering, both natives of Germany. He received his education in that town, and was engaged in different occupations there until 1866, when he came here and entered into the hardware business, on the first day of January of that year, in a small, brick building, erected by Daniel Bitler, where his store now stands. The location of his place of business is upon historic ground, being the site of the Indian council house, where came the chiefs in the early days to perfect their plans of campaign against the white invaders. The business was necessarily on a small scale at the beginning, but with each year new departments were added, until now it is fully abreast of the times. On March 14, 1871, he was united in marriage with Miss Ella Hersh, of this place, and of their union six children, William Raymond, Claude E., Earl B., Della E., Frank L., and Harry H., have been born. Mr. Doering has never held public office except as a member of the city School Board, to which position he has been twice elected. He is a director of the People's National Bank, and has been interested in other enterprises in the town. Socially, he is a member of both the Masonic and I. O. O. F. orders. A splendid likeness of the gentleman appears among the engravings in this work.

CARL DANIEL FISCHER is one of those men who, by force of character, industry and self-reliance, have placed themselves at the head of industrial affairs, and secured a position in the business world that many others, though born to wealth, never succeed in attaining. He was born at Elben Kreis, Walfhagen, Germany, June 19, 1855, and was a son of Johannes and Elizabeth (Schmellenphfeil) Fischer. He was educated in the schools of his native land, and subsequently served an apprenticeship in a mercantile establishment, where the foundation of his future successful business career was laid. In 1873, when eighteen years of age, he immigrated to this country, and came direct to Wapakoneta, where he found employment as a clerk in the grocery store of his brother. He retained the position until 1876, when he became a partner, and later took full charge of the business. In 1883, with Christ Herbst, he founded the Wapakoneta Bending Works, and acted as secretary and manager of the plant until 1886, when they disposed of it. During this time, however, in 1884, he was elected Vice-President of the Wheel Company, the largest manufacturing institution in the town, and in 1886 became its secretary and manager, which position he now holds. He also founded the Wapakoneta Machine Works, and has been its President since the organization. The success of every enterprise with which he has been identified, is sufficient evidence of his ability. He has served as a member of the School Board three years. Socially, Mr. Fischer is a 32d degree Mason, an Odd Fellow, Knight of Honor, and a member of the Royal Arcanum. He was married to Mrs. Louisa (Upmeyer) Fischer in 1878, and four children, Amelia (deceased), Margaret (deceased), Carl Dittmar, and Emil John, were born to them. Mrs. Fischer died July 14, 1892, and Mr. Fischer was again married September 7, 1893, this time to Miss Katie Wintzer. Mr. and Mrs. Fischer are members of the St. Paul's Lutheran church, and he is President of the Church Board.

CHARLES E. FISHER, a son of Anthony and Anna T. Fisher, was born in Wapakoneta, December 22, 1870. In 1891 he was married to Miss Mollie M. Burley, and three children, Joseph F., David A. and Adelia A., have been born to them. Mr. Fisher graduated from the Wapakoneta High Schools in the class of 1888, is a wheel finisher by trade, and has resided in Wapakoneta all his life, with the exception of a short period at Dayton and Piqua. He was a member of Co. G, 3d Regiment, of the former city. He is now employed as a member of the city fire department, and was elected Clerk of Duchouquet township in April, 1898.

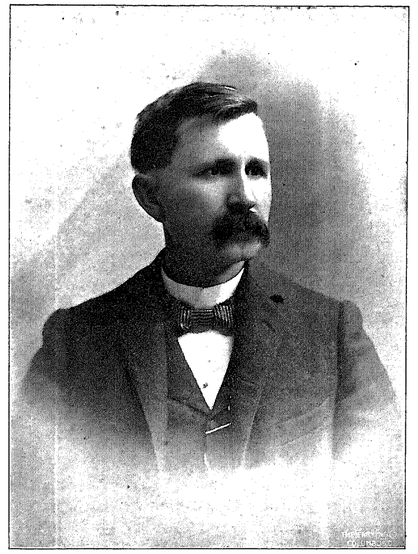
GEORGE FISHER, whose likeness appears among these pages, is one of the pioneer merchants of Wapakoneta, and one of those men, who, by their own individual efforts, have succeeded in acquiring a fortune and a splendid home.



JUDGE GEORGE R. DAVIS.



JAMES L. CARSON.



SAMUEL A. HOSKINS.



M. HAUSS.



ROBERT B. ANDERSON.



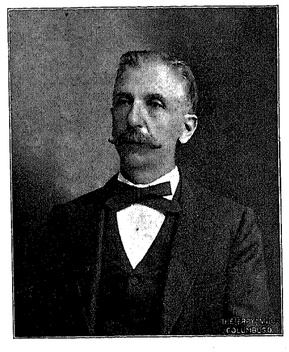
WM. KAYSER.



A. E. SCHAFFER.



CARL D. FISCHER.



A. KAHN.

Starting in life with no other resources than native ability, honesty, and a determination to win success, he has fought the battle and ascended step by step to a realization of the cherished hopes of his youth. He was born near the south corporation line of this place, March 28, 1835, and was a son of Andrew and Mary Fisher. He remained with his parents on the farm until nineteen years of age, when he went to St. Marys, where he remained six years and learned the trade of a miller. During this time, in 1859, he was united in marriage with Miss Katharine Mowery, and six children were born to them: Edward J., Katharine, Emma (deceased), Margaret E., Florence M., and Harry G. Mrs. Fisher died in 1897. In 1860 Mr. Fisher returned to this place and opened a small grocery store. Seeing an opportunity for a flouring mill here he disposed of his store in 1862 and erected the Auglaize Mills. He easily paid for this plant in a few years and continued in the business until 1876, when he established the hardware and implement business, which he yet owns and which has kept pace with the times in growth. He is a director of the First National Bank, has been interested in several other enterprises in the town, and is recognized as one of its most substantial and trustworthy citizens. He resides in a beautiful home on West Auglaize street. The elder son, Edward J., is interested with his father in the hardware business, and the younger, Harry G., is engaged in the clothing trade.

JOSEPH M. FOOS was born in Wapakoneta, Ohio, July 24, 1861, and was a son of John B. and Caroline Foos. He was married to Miss Matilda Honey in 1883, and to them has been born one child, Ruth B. Mr. Foos is a tinner by trade, and is engaged in the tin and stove business at the old Moss stand, under the firm name of Foos & Wehner.

CHARLES FRECH, now serving his second term as Recorder of Auglaize, is without doubt one of the most popular men, with the great mass of people, who has ever been in politics, or held a public office in the county. He was born in Brooklyn, New York, October 5, 1854, and was a son of Henry and Elizabeth Frech, who came to Wapakoneta in 1856. Mr. Frech attended the schools of this place, and later learned the tinner's trade, at which he was employed for several years. With his brother he owned the Frech dairy, just north of town, until recently, and for several years has been largely interested in breeding fine horses and Jersey cattle. He was elected Clerk of Duchouquet township three times, and was elected County Recorder in 1893, taking his office January 1, 1894. He was re-elected in 1896, and is serving in that responsible position with honor to himself and to the large constituency whose entire confidence he enjoys. On April 29, 1897, he was united in marriage with Miss Catharine M. Dickman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Dickman, of this place.

FRANK GANTHER was born at Dayton, Ohio, November 23, 1859, and was a son of Frank and Barbara Ganther, who came to Wapakoneta when the subject of this sketch was but six years of age. In 1896 he was married to Miss Catharine Eckenweiler, of Wapakoneta, and two children, Hermania and Frank C. have been born to them. Mr. Ganther has conducted the Burnet House restaurant and bar for the past four years and is making an entire success.

EDWARD A. GATES, proprietor of the Henry House, Wapakoneta, was born at Memphis, Mo., June 25, 1860, and was a son of Turman and Rebecca A. (McSherry) Gates. He came to Mercer county, with his parents, when quite young, and later to St. Marys. He spent several years in California and other western states, and returned in 1894 to St. Marys, where he engaged in the livery business until his removal to Wapakoneta in 1897. In October, 1896, he was united in marriage with Miss Catharine S. Heinrich, daughter of William Heinrich, of this place, and to them has been born one child, Catharine R. Mr. Gates, as proprietor of the Henry House, is meeting with deserved success.

JOHN HENRY GOEKE, one of the best known men in the county, was born the son of Mathias and Dina Goeke, at Minster, on October 28, 1869. His father and mother both have been life-long residents of that quaint and substantial town, and his ancestors were among the early pioneers of Ohio. Mr. Goeke attended school in his earlier years in his native town, and at Celina, Ohio, and completed his education at Pio Nono College, near Milwaukee, Wisconsin, graduating from that institution in 1888. After graduating, having returned home, he was appointed Probate Clerk of this county, during the incumbency of Probate Judge Benjamin Linzee. Whilst acting in this capacity, he began the study of law, and having pursued the same for one year, he entered the Law School at Cincinnati, Ohio, graduating with a high average in 1891. After his admission to the Bar of Ohio, returning home, he formed a partnership in the month of July of the same year, with W. T. Mooney, at St. Marys, Ohio. This partnership continued until dissolved by the election of Mr. Mooney to the Judicial bench, in 1892. One year thereafter, Mr. Goeke entered into partnership with Anthony Culliton, of the same place, and the firm continued to practice law until 1896, when C. L. Smith was taken into the firm, and for three years the firm of Goeke, Culliton & Smith was foremost in the litigation that came to the courts from the entire western part of Auglaize county, portions of Mercer county, and even a part of the state of Indiana. Their assiduous efforts being constantly employed in the disposal of suits of every conceivable character arising out of the oil business. In 1893, Mr. Goeke was elected City Solicitor of St. Marys, and upon the expiration of his term was re-elected. In 1894 and 1897 he was successively elected to the important office of Prosecutor. During the latter part of the last-mentioned year he formed a partnership with Samuel A. Hoskins, of Wapakoneta, and the firm is now doing a large business. November 5, 1891, Mr. Goeke married Miss Emma Kolter, the eldest daughter of Mr. F. E. Kolter, of Wapakoneta. To this union two children have been born.

Mr. Goeke's career has been one of uninterrupted success. He is regarded as one of the foremost lawyers of the Bar, and his quick perception, proficient knowledge of the law, and his energetic and fearless administration of his official duties, render him deservedly popular among the people. Notwithstanding the demands of an exacting business, he still finds hours, not otherwise engaged, to the continued study of cases, decisions and reports; his library being one of the most complete in northwestern Ohio.

JOHN EDWARD GUNTHER, who is known as one of the most progressive and enterprising business men in the county, was born at Wapakoneta, July 11, 1863, and was a son of Emil and Mary T. Gunther. Mr. Gunther attended the public schools of this place, and at an early age commenced the business that has resulted so successfully. In 1885 he was united in marriage with Miss Anna B. Dickman, also a native of Wapakoneta, and four children, Emil Theodore, Clementine Marie, Franklin William, and Joseph Herbert, have been born to them. Mr. Gunther conducts the wholesale and retail liquor business owned by his mother, is engaged in the bottling of beer and mineral water, and is in the ice business. He was a member of the city council from 1889 to 1893, and was chairman of the light committee when the excellent plant which the town now owns was constructed, and to him is due much of the credit for the able manner in which this public enterprise was handled. Mr. Gunther is not only regarded as a good business man, but as a citizen who is public-spirited in a practical way.

FRED H. HAMAN, a splendid likeness of whom appears herein, as a member of the original Board of Water Works Trustees of Wapakoneta, was born at New Bremen, August 24, 1854, and was a son of Henry and Anna Haman. Mr. Haman's parents died when he was twelve years of age, leaving him to fight the battle of life alone. How well he succeeded need not be asked; the result is apparent. In 1868 he came to Wapakoneta, and has resided here since that time. He is in the manufacturing business, being a stockholder and the manager of the Standard Churn Company, which concern has an immense output of goods annually. He was a member of the Fire Department six years, and a member of the Board of Education ten years. In 1895, when the town of Wapakoneta decided to expend nearly seventy thousand dollars for the construction of a water works plant, the head of the municipality, at that time, looking about for the best business talent to be secured, selected him as a member of the Board of Trustees which would have charge of the work, and which would have sufficient ability to properly care for the interests of the people. In this capacity, as in all others, Mr. Haman proved himself thoroughly competent, and the same year, at a special election, was elected for the two-year term. In 1874 he was married to Miss Jennie Swink, and four children, Roy, Eva, Elsie, and Mamie, have been born to them. Mr. Haman and his family are members of the Methodist church. They reside in a pleasant home on East Auglaize street.

HENRY HARTMAN, now a leader in the business affairs of Wapakoneta, was born here January 6, 1854, and was a son of Otto and Theriesa Hartman. His father was one of the early residents of the town, and was engaged in the brick-making business until his death in 1862. A year later, Mr. Hartman's mother was married to Frank Assman, and in 1866 the family removed to Pomeroy, Ohio, where, in 1872, Mr. Hartman apprenticed himself to a jeweler, and remained with him until 1875, when he went to Iowa. Returning to Pomeroy in a short time, he continued at his trade until September, 1876, when he returned to Wapakoneta and purchased a small jewelry stock, which occupied a very limited space in the cigar factory of C. N. Yokel. This he removed, after four months, to the present site of the People's National Bank building, and entered into partnership with his brother. The firm was dissolved in a few months, and he continued in business alone. In 1878, Mr. Hartman, with John H. Barr, opened a branch store at St. Marys. The business was continued at St. Marys and Wapakoneta, under the name of Hartman & Barr, until 1880, when the former again became sole proprietor, and removed his store to the corner of Auglaize and Park streets, in the latter place. In 1883 he removed to his present location, and purchased one half of what is now known as the Hartman Block, and later became the owner of the entire building. In the meantime his health had, through close application to business, become impaired, and he made an extended visit to California. Returning from there he again applied himself to business, and has had the satisfaction of witnessing its continuous and profitable growth. Thoroughly acquainted with the details of every department of the trade, strictly honest in all his dealings, industrious and energetic, he is justly entitled to the success that has rewarded his labors. Mr. Hartman is also interested in other enterprises, and is a Director of the People's National Bank. He has a fine home on West Pearl street, and enjoys life thoroughly. In 1879 he was united in marriage with Miss Sabine Goetz, and four children, Otto, Clemens, Raymond, and Gertrude, have been born to them. An interior and exterior view of his store, together with a portrait of himself, will be found in this work.

MICHAEL HAUSS, whose portrait appears herein, was a son of Michael and Margaret Hauss, and was born in St. Marys, November 7, 1860. He came to Wapakoneta in 1872, and was, for a time, employed as a clerk. In 1889 he was united in marriage with Miss Matilda Kolter, daughter of Henry Kolter, and one child, Helen, has been born to them. The same year of his marriage Mr. Hauss established the Handle Manufacturing institution, which has grown into one of the largest industries in the town, requiring the employment of many men and much capital. Hundreds of thousands of handles are made annually and exported direct to foreign markets. Of all the young men who have engaged in business in Wapakoneta, in later years, none have been more successful, in a financial way, than Mr. Hauss.

GUSTAV A. G. HEINISCH, an old and respected citizen of Wapakoneta, was born at Stendal, Germany, November 22, 1840, and immigrated to this country in 1858, locating in Chillicothe, but later removing to Portsmouth and Hamilton, Ohio, and to this county in 1869. Mr. Heinisch is a cabinet maker and worked at his trade for many years, but has now retired. He was married March 10, 1863, to Miss Margaret

Densler, a native of Germany, and fourteen children have been born to them. He was a soldier, having served in the Hamilton Rangers from April 20, 1861, to June 10, 1861, and in Co. I, 28th Regiment O. V. I., from June 13, 1861, to August 28, 1862.

CASPAR J. HEINL was born in Wapakoneta, January 18, 1855, and was a son of Anthony J. and Caroline (Daubner) Heinl. His father died July 20, 1858, and he resided until twenty-one years of age with his mother and sister, at the old tollgate house on the Sidney pike, south of town. He then came to Wapakoneta and for more than twenty-one years was in the employ of the M. Brown & Co. manufacturing establishment, which he left in April, 1894, to form a partnership with T. S. Yocum, in the furniture business. The firm is yet engaged in the furniture and undertaking line, and enjoy an increasing business. On June 13, 1876, he was united in marriage with Miss Catherine Brown, and they have been given ten children: George J., Michael O., Caroline L., Leo A., and Anthony L., are living. Mr. Heinl was for twenty-four years a member of the Deluge Fire Company, is a Director of the People's National Bank, and is serving his third term as a member of the city School Board, of which body he was clerk for several years.

HON. JOHN G. HEINRICH, whose portrait appears in this work, is a son of William and Katharine Heinrich, and was born in Wapakoneta, February 14, 1865. He was educated in the public schools of this place, and for a number of years was with his father in the hotel and insurance business. He is now engaged in the latter. In 1890 he was united in marriage with Miss Maud, daughter of Dr. John H. and Caroline Nichols, and three children, Roland, Susie, and Grace, were born to them. Mrs. Heinrich died in 1896. Mr. Heinrich is one of the most popular young men of the town, and in the spring of 1898 was elected Mayor.

WILLIAM HEINRICH was born in Braunsfels, Rhine Province, Prussia, Germany, August 2, 1830, and was a son of George and Lisetta Heinrich. He attended the Neuwied Seminary, in his native province, and immigrated to this country, landing in New York, December 14, 1848. He remained in that city until 1851, when he came to St. Marys and helped to clear a farm in Noble township. On August 12, 1861, he was married to Miss Catharine Herbst, and six children, four of whom, Charley, John, William, and Catharine, are living. Mr. Heinrich was in the hotel business, being proprietor of the Henry House for twenty-nine years, but now represents the best insurance companies in the United States and Europe. The second son, John, was elected Mayor of Wapakoneta in April, 1898.

ALBERT C. HEISLER, a promising young business man of this place, was born in Pusheta township, March 27, 1868, and was a son of Lewis and Mary A. Heisler. In 1890 he was married to Miss Anna S. H. Dillman, and two children, Luetta M. and Edna M., have been born to them. Mr. Heisler has resided in Auglaize county all his life, and is now engaged in the restaurant and saloon business on Willipi street, near the new court house.

SAMUEL L. HEISLER, a son of Lewis and Mary A. Heisler, was born in Pusheta township, May 7, 1872. In 1895 he was married to Miss Mary Koch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Koch, of this place. Mr. Heisler has resided in Wapakoneta almost all his life, and though a young man is one of the most popular in the town. With Jacob Wentz, he conducts the Alpha Cafe and saloon, one of the finest places of the kind in the state.

CHARLES E. HERBST, until recently a resident of Wapakoneta, but now engaged in manufacturing enterprises in Chicago, was born April 8, 1847, and resided here, with the exception of a short time, forty-eight years. He married Miss Julia Franz, of Piqua, and one child, Charles F., has been born to them. Mr. Herbst is a striking example of the young man, thrown upon his own resources at an early age, who, through industry and energy, has accumulated a competence and an enviable standing in the business world. He has engaged in many enterprises in Wapakoneta, and was Vice-President and Cashier of the First National Bank from the date of its organization in 1884 until he resigned in 1895. He also has banking interests in Kansas and Oklahoma.

JOHN JACOB HONEY was born at Attica, Seneca county, Ohio, in 1854, and was a son of Christian and Julia Honey. He was married in 1880 to Miss Elizabeth Foos, and two children, Clarence Irvin and Aaron Winfield, have blessed the union. Mr. Honey is a harness maker by trade, and has been employed at the business in several places in Ohio and Michigan. He came to Wapakoneta in 1877, and since 1896 has been janitor of the Union School building. In politics, he is a Democrat.

FREDERICK M. HORN was born in Huron county, Ohio, December 30, 1852, and was a son of Joseph and Caroline Horn. He was married in 1881 to Miss Elizabeth A. Barkalow, and five children have been born to them, of whom, Raymond R., Howard R., and Robert M., are living. Mr. Horn graduated from the Iron City Commercial College, of Pittsburg. He came to this county in 1867, and has practiced law for several years, being now a member of the firm of C. A. Layton & Horn.

SAMUEL ALLEN HOSKINS, a man of sterling integrity and ability of a high order, the subject of this biography, came to Wapakoneta seven years ago to practice his profession, and has been more than successful. He was born in Union county, Ohio, March 5, 1863, and was a son of Jacob and Martha (Newhouse) Hoskins. He taught school eight years in Union and Morrow counties, attended the Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware, and graduated from the Ohio Normal University, at Ada, Ohio, in 1887, with the degree of A. B. The University later conferred upon him the degree of A. M. He also graduated from the Cincinnati Law School in 1890. Upon graduation from the latter college he came to this place, and in 1892 formed a law partnership with Hon. George R. Davis, now an Associate Justice of the Territory of Arizona. When the latter removed from here Mr. Hoskins entered into partnership with Hon. J. H. Gocke, and the firm is doing business in the People's National Bank block under the name of Gocke & Hoskins. Mr. Hoskins has, ever since his arrival here, been prominently identified with the Democratic party, and is one of the most influential members of that political organization. He is also one of the most eloquent and convincing speakers in the Northwest, and his services, to which his party are ever welcome, are always in demand. He was chairman of the County Executive Committee of his party for two years, and he takes a leading part in every campaign. In 1890 Mr. Hoskins was united in marriage with Miss Clara A. Hamilton, daughter of Senator George B. Hamilton, of Union county, Ohio, and three children have been born to them: George Owen, Allen Hamilton, and Donald Jacob.

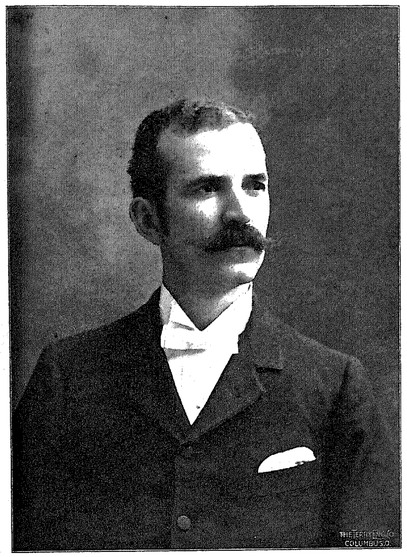
FREDERICK HUMMEL was born in Germany, May 8, 1846, and came direct from that country to Auglaize county in 1860, settling at St. Marys. In 1865 he was married to Miss Selma Ruck, and eight children, Elizabeth (deceased), Charley (deceased), John C., Mary, Anna, Gusta, Eddie, and Clara, were born to them. Mrs. Hummel died in 1890. Mr. Hummel was a soldier, serving four years and four months in Co. H, 37th Regiment O. V. I. He has been engaged in the saloon business in Wapakoneta for the past seventeen years.

FRANKLIN CRITTENDEN HUNTER, M. D. This well known physician was born at Catawba, Clark county, Ohio, July 4, 1846, and was a son of Dr. Milton R. and Nancy J. Hunter. When five years of age his mother died, and he went to reside with relatives at Springfield. From there he went to Yellow Springs, and later to Xenia, Ohio, at which places he attended the public schools. He then returned to Catawba and remained there until he went to Iowa, in 1860. He lived on his father's farm in that state until 1864, when he enlisted in Co. H, 24th Regiment Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and served until the close of the war. He then returned to this state and studied medicine with his father, attended the Eclectic Medical Institute at Cincinnati, and graduated from that institution in 1872. After completing his collegiate course he located in Wapakoneta for the practice of his profession, but removed to Freyburg in 1874, where he remained until 1881, when he re-established himself here and purchased the Francis Fritsch drug store, which, in connection with his practice, he yet conducts. He was elected County Coroner in 1884 and served eight years. In 1888 he was appointed Infirmary physician, and yet officiates in that capacity. He has been a member of the County Board of Pension Examiners, and was again elected Coroner in 1896. Politically, he is a Democrat of the old school; and socially, a Mason, Odd Fellow and K. of P. In 1873 he was married to Miss Anna L. Herbst, and four children have been born to them: Charles M., LeRoy C., Edith Louise, and Marion Nell. The elder son is attending medical college at Cincinnati, and the younger, a graduate of the Ada School of Pharmacy, is interested with his father in the drug business. Dr. Hunter is one of those bluff but kindly gentlemen, who enjoy life to its full, and contributes his portion toward making the world happier.

PHILIP H. JACOBS was born at Jasper, Ind., February 7, 1857, and is a son of Leopold and Theresia (Melchoir) Jacobs, the former a native of Germany and the latter of France. Mr. Jacobs came here with his parents when quite young, attended the public schools, and the Notre Dame University at South Bend, Ind. He has resided in Wapakoneta all his life, since his first coming, with the exception of two years in California, and during an extended tour of Europe. He has been in the grain and implement business for a number of years, and is now a member of the firm of Jacobs & Bitler. In 1879 he was married to Miss Philomena Dieker, and five children have been born to them, of whom three, Otto, Leopold and Raymond, are living.

ABRAHAM KAHN, a good likeness of whom appears among our engravings, was born at Surbourg, Alsace, June 21, 1846, and was a son of Chas. E. and Julia Kahn. Mr. Kahn resided with his parents in his native province, which was later ceded to Germany, until he was eighteen years of age, when he removed to the city of Paris. From there he immigrated to this country in 1869, six months prior to the outbreak of the Franco-Prussian War, and came direct to Wapakoneta. Upon his arrival here he commenced clerking in the dry goods store of Leon Blume, and remained with him until 1876, when he resigned to enter into partnership with Mrs. S. L. Kahn, in the same business. This partnership existed until 1892, when he disposed of his interest to Kahn Bros. & Co. Since that time he has been a large exporter of handles and farm implements, shipping thousands of dollars' worth annually. Mr. Kahn has made several trips across the Atlantic in the interest of the business in which he is engaged, but the last one, in 1894, he went especially to visit his mother, who is eighty-three years of age, and resides at present at Lorraine. He is a man of sterling business qualifications, and is highly esteemed. He is interested in several enterprises, and is a director of the People's National Bank. Mr. Kahn was married in 1888, to Miss Rosa Friedlich, of Piqua, and two children, Forest and Mabel Theresa, have been born to them.

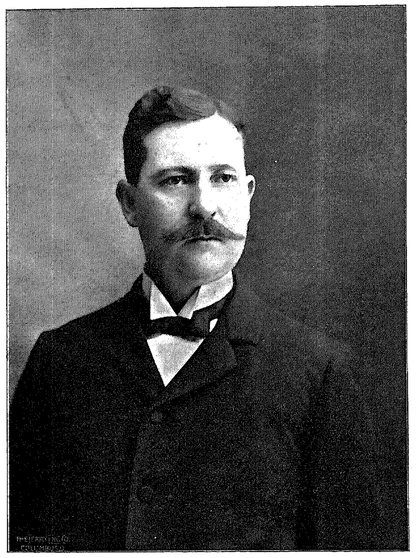
WILLIAM KAYSER, the subject of this sketch, and a leading business man of Wapakoneta, was born at Soest, Germany, March 1, 1858, and was a son of William and Frederika Kayser. He attended high school (Real Schule) in Muenster, Germany, until 1873, when, with his brother Lewis, he immigrated to this country and settled in Auglaize county. In 1874 he became interested in the drug business in Wapakoneta, and is now conducting a first-class establishment of this character. His father, who was an official in the government railroad service



HENRY J. WERST.



CASPAR J. HEINL.



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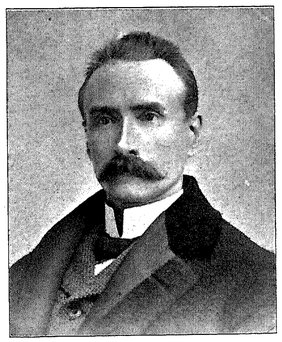


W. J. McMURRAY.



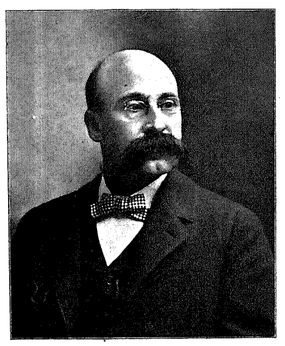
BENJAMIN LINZEE.



DR. F. C. HUNTER.



CLEMENT A. STUEVE.



W. E. POTTER.



J. J. CONNAUGHTON.

of Germany for many years, retired in 1881 and came with his mother and three sisters to this country, but died at New Bremen two months after his arrival. His mother died two months later.

JAMES W. KENTNER was born four miles east of Wapakoneta, November 10, 1862, and was one of five children born to John and Susan (Shuler) Kentner. Mr. Kentner is a painter by trade, but for the past seven years has conducted a meat market and saloon on East Auglaize street. He was married in 1886 to Mrs. Elizabeth Rohrbaugh, and one child, Edna W., has been born to them. He has resided in Auglaize county all his life, and has been very successful in business.

ANDREW KOHLER, the subject of this sketch, is one of the pioneers and most respected citizens of this community. Born in Wurtemberg, Germany, April 5, 1841, he came to this country and settled in Auglaize county fifty years ago. For many years Mr. Kohler was a farmer, but for several years has resided in Wapakoneta. He was twice married, the first wife being Pauline Pfaff, the second Malinda Lee. He is the father of nine children: Anna, John F., Mary, George, Edward, Frank F., George P. (deceased), and Albert A. (deceased). He was a gallant soldier and was twice wounded, once at Missionary Ridge and once at Dallas, Georgia. Mr. Kohler first enlisted in Co. K, 15th Regiment, in April, 1861, and was discharged in August, 1861. He re-enlisted in Co. C, 37th Regiment, in September, 1861, and was discharged in December, 1864.

CHARLES KOLTER. The career of the subject of this sketch has been a remarkable one in many respects, and is proof positive that success but awaits the proper effort. Natural ability no doubt is a great factor, and has contributed much to the success that Charles Kolter has attained, but the indomitable will, the determination to win success, the industry necessary, have also been factors of great importance. Born in Rhine Province, Bavaria, Germany, November 9, 1832, he was a son of Karl and Margaret Kolter. At the age of nineteen years he left his native land to seek home and fortune in the new world, and through individual effort he has been more than successful. In June, 1851, he landed in New York, and immediately cast about for employment whereby he could gain a livelihood. After remaining in that city one year he came to Cincinnati, and continued to reside there until 1854, when he removed to Freyburg, this county, and opened a blacksmith shop. The same year he was united in marriage with Miss Caroline Kolter, and removed to Burlington, Iowa, where he remained about three years. He returned to Freyburg, and soon after came to Wapakoneta and entered into the blacksmithing business, forming a partnership with Mathias Mouch. In 1858 he bought a residence property located near the Standard Churn Works, and the first piece of real estate he owned in the county. The following year he purchased an interest in the milling plant, now the property of the Home Milling Co., and in a few months placed it on a paying basis. His connection with the mill lasted until 1866. In the meantime, in 1861, he built the Kolter brewery, and that institution was a paying investment from the beginning. Prior to retiring from the mill he built the brick store room now occupied by Kolter & Seitz, and for a time engaged in the grocery business. In 1886 he became an original stockholder in the Standard Churn Company, which bore evidence of decline almost from its birth, until 1889, when with Fred H. Haman he secured control. From that time to this the institution has been one of the most substantial and successful in the town. While engaged in numerous enterprises, Mr. Kolter early recognized the possibilities in real estate, and acquired, from year to year, numerous properties until he is one of the largest owners of real estate, both farm and town, in the county, and is one of the largest tax payers. Mrs. Kolter died in 1876, and in 1877 he was again married, this time to Rachel J. Walter. He is the father of twelve children, by the first marriage, six of whom, Charles T., Mrs. Caroline Koch, Mrs. Anna M. Richardson, Louis J., Laura P., and Mrs. Cora K. Connaughton, are living. Mr. Kolter, since his retirement from the brewery, in 1888, has been engaged in the banking business, being the proprietor of the Farmers Bank, but the greater portion of his time is given to the management of his property interests.

CHARLES T. KOLTER, the subject of this sketch, is one of the young men of Wapakoneta who is rapidly forging to the front ranks of the city's most substantial business men. He was born November 9, 1857, and is a son of Charles and Caroline Kolter, who settled in this county in 1832. At an early age he was taken into the grocery store then conducted by his father, and there the foundation for a successful career was laid. In 1881 he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Bausch, daughter of Alois Bausch, an old pioneer of Wapakoneta. Seven children have been born to them, three of whom, Carl A., Mark H., and Florence L., are living. Though a young man, Mr. Kolter has held many positions of trust. In 1885 he was elected a member of the city Council, and held the position for twelve successive years, his constituency recognizing the benefits to be derived from his thorough business methods. During his membership of that body all the most important improvements, street improvement, the construction of the water works plant, and the introduction of the electric lighting system, have been consummated. He is now president of the City Brewing Company, and is engaged in the grocery business under the firm name of Kolter & Seitz. Socially, Mr. Kolter is a member of both the Masonic and K. of P. orders. He resides in a beautiful home, lately erected on East Auglaize street.

FREDERICK EDWARD KOLTER was born at Walhalben, Rhine Pfaltz, Bavaria, Germany, October 13, 1847, and was the second son of Karl and Anna (Schwartz) Kolter. The mother died when he was but an infant, and the father was again married, and on July 4, 1857, with his family, left their native land to seek a home in the new world. They landed in New York and came by rail to Sidney. The C. H. & D. road was not completed at that time, and they proceeded on foot to Wapakoneta, their final destination, arriving on August 19, 1857. Here a home was provided for the family. Frederick E., then ten years of age, passed the succeeding two years assisting his father and attending school during the short winter terms. At the age of twelve years he commenced to learn the tinner's trade and continued at this work until the outbreak of the Civil War, in 1861, when he enlisted as a drummer boy in Co. K, 37th Regiment O. V. I., being then only fourteen years old. The hardships and exposure of active campaigning proved too severe for one of his years, and in February, 1862, he was honorably discharged. In 1863 he went to Cincinnati and completed his trade. Returning to Wapakoneta in 1866 he became the proprietor of a stove and tin store, commencing in a small way, but by continued effort and honest business methods he prospered and was enabled to enlarge every department of his store until he now has the largest stock and business of the kind in the city. He also does an extensive business in plumbing, with gas, water and steam fittings. In 1869 he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Herbst, of this place, and to them have been born four children: Emma, now the wife of Hon. J. H. Goeke; Lulu, now Mrs. George E. Reel, of Lima; Ferdinand F., and Koneta. Socially, Mr. Kolter is a member of the Masonic and Odd Fellow fraternities, and is numbered among the best citizens of the place.

WILLIAM KREITZER, who for years has been the head and active manager of the Kreitzer Buggy Company, of this place, was born in Wapakoneta, September 8, 1856, and is a son of David and Albertina (Merkle) Kreitzer. The father, David Kreitzer, is one of the few remaining pioneers of the town, and from the enterprise which he organized many years ago, alone and unaided, he has witnessed the establishment of an industry that is not only a credit, but is one of practical benefit to the home of his adoption. He was born in Germany in 1822, and when fourteen years of age came to this place. At that time, sixty-four years ago, Wapakoneta was in its extreme infancy, and upon his arrival he found but few inhabitants and fewer houses. He is one of the oldest residents, and retired several years ago from active labor. The buggy and wagon manufacturing business was first established on a large scale in 1869, and in 1878 the large brick block which faces Auglaize street, near the railroad, was erected. Prior to this improvement in the facilities of the plant, in 1871, William Kreitzer, of this biography, was taken into the firm, and upon him its management has devolved from that time. Under his supervision the business has rapidly grown, necessitating the erection, in 1896, of another immense brick building adjoining the original plant, and from which are turned out and sold, annually, between six and seven hundred buggies and carriages. The entire number find a market within a radius of twenty-five miles of Wapakoneta. The vehicles manufactured are constructed entirely within the works, and include all the latest improvements designed for comfort and durability. The institution employs from thirty to forty men continuously, and with those mentioned, the company includes Edward, Joseph, Jacob, and John Kreitzer. Mr. Kreitzer, of this sketch, is a stockholder of the First National Bank, a Director of the Wapakoneta Building Association, and has other business interests of importance. He was a member of the city Council ten years, and Clerk of Duchouquet township ten years. On September 12, 1878, he was married to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Isaac Metz, and three children, Roy, Cora, and Venard, have been born to them. His portrait, with that of David Kreitzer, and a view of the Kreitzer block will be found in this work.

HON. FERNANDO COELLO LAYTON was born three fourths of a mile north of St. Johns, this county, April 11, 1847, and was a son of W. V. M. and Rebecca Layton. He was married to Miss Amelia C. Wehrman in 1871, and from this union two sons, Roy E. and Verne D., have been born. The Layton family were among the earliest pioneers of this county, and Mr. Layton, the subject of this sketch, has spent all his life within its confines. He matriculated when nearing his majority, at Wittenberg College, and shortly after leaving that institution was admitted to the Bar of Ohio, and has continuously practiced law from that time. When just of age he was elected township clerk, which office he held three terms, was a member of the Board of School Examiners for ten years, village Solicitor for five years, and served as Prosecuting Attorney of the county for two terms, from 1874 to 1878 inclusive. He was three times elected a member of Congress from this district, and though tendered the fourth nomination by his party, declined the honor. During his career in that body, from 1891 to 1897, he served on the Judiciary and Appropriation committees, the most important in the House, and was recognized as one of the most useful and intelligent members. Captain Layton, as he is called, received his title from the fact that he commanded a company of boys during the Civil War, known as Home Guards, from 1878 to 1883 was Captain of Co. G, O. N. G., and later was Captain of the Home division U. R. K. of P. for several years. Mr. Layton is regarded by the public generally, and by his brother members, as a leader of the Auglaize county Bar. In 1883 he formed a partnership with C. A. Stueve, which continued until January, 1898, when the latter retired from the firm, and Roy E., the senior of the two sons, entered into partnership with his father.

ROY E. LAYTON, son of ex-Congressman F. C. Layton, was born in Wapakoneta, July 23, 1873, and graduated from the high school as valedictorian in 1891. He entered the State University at Columbus, Ohio, graduating in 1895 from the college of arts, with a degree of A. B., and two years later from the college of law, with the degree of LL.B. He took a prominent and leading part in all college affairs, and during his collegiate career was president of the Thurman Democratic Club, Political Science Club, Oratorical Association, Horton Literary Society, Beta Theta Pi Fraternity, editor of the Lantern, and editor-in-chief of the college Annual. He was admitted to the Bar in June, 1897, receiving the highest honors, and on January 1, 1898, entered upon the active practice of law in partnership with his father, under the firm name of Layton & Son. Mr. Layton was called into service in the recent war with Spain, and although actual hostilities are now at an end, he still remains in the field. He is 2d Lieutenant Co. L, O. N. G., which is a part of 2d Regiment O. V. I.

LEON LEVY, a prosperous business man of Wapakoneta, was born at Lyons, France, January 17, 1851, where he resided until 1861, when he removed with his parents to Paris. He came to this country in 1869, and after making a short stay in Wapakoneta went south and remained in Louisiana three years. In 1872 he returned to this place and accepted a position as clerk in the clothing store of L. N. Blume, where he remained until 1878, when he engaged in the clothing business, which he yet continues. In 1889 he organized the Buckeye Cigar Company, and in 1895 became one of the organizers of the R. F. Oil Company, which developed the Washington township field, and which owns valuable property in the St. Marys and Hume fields. The Company now owns and operates thirty-two wells. In 1878 Mr. Levy was married to Miss Theresa North, and four children, Edgar, Aida, Lucy, and Charles, have been born to them.

HON. BENJAMIN LINZEE. Of all the pioneers who inhabited Auglaize and the counties comprising the great and fertile northwest section of Ohio, in the earliest days of their settlement, none have left the imprint of their individuality stamped thereon more indelibly than Judge Linzee. Though full of years and honors, he continues the practice of his profession with the same energy he has always displayed throughout his long and busy life, and which seems characteristic of all those men who cleared the forests, established the government, and paved the way for civilization. He was born at Athens, Ohio, September 24, 1828. His paternal grandfather, William Linzee, immigrated to this country from Ireland in 1809, and settled in Virginia. His father, Robert Linzee, came to Ohio, and clearing up a farm in Hocking county, remained there until 1831,when he removed to what was then Mercer county, where he resided until his death in 1851, before which time, however, the county of Auglaize was organized, and his property included in its territory. Judge Linzee remained at home until twenty-one years of age, helping clear his father's farm and enjoying only such educational advantages as those days afforded, but he managed by diligent effort to acquire much useful knowledge, and at the age of twenty-three was elected Treasurer of Mercer county, to which position he was twice re-elected, and which he held nine years. In 1851 he was united in marriage with Miss Frances Timmonds, who was born August 4, 1834, and by their marriage two children were born, of whom Catherine is living. In 1867 he came to Wapakoneta and engaged for three years in the hardware business, after which he studied law, and being admitted to the Bar practiced until 1888, when he was elected Probate Judge of Auglaize county. He was twice re-elected, and served with ability in that honorable position for nine consecutive years. He is now a member of the law firm of Anderson & Linzee. No man in Auglaize county is better known or more thoroughly enjoys the confidence of the people than Judge Linzee. Politically, he is a Democrat of the Jacksonian school; and socially, is a member of the I. O. O. F.

FRANK McFARLAND, one of the best known citizens of Wapakoneta and Auglaize county, was born in Moulton township, October 28, 1848, and was a son of J. E. and Rosanna McFarland. He remained upon the farm until twenty years of age, when he came to Wapakoneta and worked at the blacksmith's trade until 1872. He then engaged in the livery business, which he yet conducts. In 1873 he was united in marriage with Miss Louise Hoffman, and to them three children have been born, Edith, born April 11, 1881, being the only surviving one. Mr. McFarland is one of the most substantial citizens of Wapakoneta.

HENRY J. McFARLAND was born in Wapakoneta, September 27, 1876, and was a son of Frank J. and Emma McFarland. He attended the schools of Wapakoneta and has been a bookkeeper for the firm of M. Brown & Co. Upon the death of his father in 1896 he became a member of the above-mentioned firm.

LUKE T. McFARLAND is a native of Auglaize county. He was born in Moulton township, August 5, 1862, and is one of ten children of William E. and Mary (Durkin) McFarland, among the best known and respected citizens of the county. The father died in October, 1879, and the mother now resides in Wapakoneta. Mr. McFarland's early life was spent upon the farm, where he did such work as falls to the lot of the country boy, and attended, during the winter, the schools of his neighborhood. Later, he attended the Northwestern Normal University, at Ada, and at an early age began teaching school. He continued in the profession for some time, and then became engaged with the Standard Oil Co., and remained with the company four years. He served two years and two months as Deputy Postmaster of Wapakoneta, during the administration of that office by J. L. Carson. He resigned that position in 1896, and engaged in the insurance business, which he yet continues, being now located permanently in Wapakoneta. He was married to Miss Grace G. Allison, of Van Wert, Ohio, October 27, 1897. Mr. McFarland was, for more than two years, Second Lieutenant of Co. L, O. N. G.

SAMUEL W. McFARLAND. An excellent portrait of this well known gentleman appears in this work, and the following biography is taken in part from the "Biographical History of the Prominent Bankers of America," recently published in New York. "Samuel W. McFarland, now the president of the People's National Bank, of Wapakoneta, Ohio, was born in Auglaize county, March 31, 1848. He belongs thoroughly to his state, for thus far in his life his home has always been there; he was educated there, and there he received, in his early youth, his training in business life. Entering upon this life with a young man's natural desire to make a fortune and a career, he was ready to devote himself unsparingly and untiringly to the work of accomplishing his purpose. His resolution and perseverance, together with native ability, brought the results that usually follow the diligent exercise of those qualities, and Mr. McFarland became known as one among the prosperous merchants of his neighborhood. From 1871 to 1884 he carried on a business that brought him a large connection and an established reputation. The election of Grover Cleveland to the presidency was the means of bringing Mr. McFarland into political office, for the President, soon after his inauguration in 1885, appointed him, as a representative of Democratic principles, to the office of Postmaster of Wapakoneta. To his efficiency the citizens of the town can testify. He served throughout the presidential term, and in the year of its close, 1889, he again entered public office, for in the election for County Treasurer he was the winning candidate. In the election of 1891, for the same office, he was again the choice of the majority and served during a second term of two years. During these years of public service Mr. McFarland's prominence has increased. He was known, not only in the county but in the state, as a man of successful achievement, and as such was sought as a desirable acquisition in enterprises requiring a skillful leader. In 1896 the election for president of the People's National Bank called him to that office, and after benefiting by a year's service from him in that capacity, the bank confirmed its choice by re-electing him in 1897. As a financier, Mr. McFarland has shown himself shrewd in judgment, enterprising in projecting, able in executing. As a citizen he has aided in promoting many of the works undertaken for public use and improvement. His domestic life is enjoyed with his wife and his only daughter in their elegant home in Wapakoneta, where a genial hospitality welcomes a large circle of friends.

WILLIAM JAMES McMURRAY, editor and publisher of the "Auglaize County Republican," was born at Newport, Ky., October 17, 1849, and was a son of Robert and Mary (Hurst) McMurray, both natives of England. His father died when he was but a small child, and when he was ten years of age his mother removed to St. Marys and later to Wapakoneta. Mr. McMurray attended the public schools of both places until 1867, when he entered the employ of John Shawber, in whose store he remained for thirteen years. Resigning his position he spent the winter of 1880-1 in Cuba and other islands of the West Indies. Upon his return home, he, with Robert Sutton, established the "Republican," but in 1883 he purchased the latter's interest and continued its management alone until 1887, when W. R. Duvall purchased a half interest. The partnership existed until 1890, when he again assumed entire control. Mr. McMurray has not only edited his paper with ability but has been a successful publisher in the fullest sense of the term, the plant being one of the best paying institutions of the kind in the state. In 1892 he was one of the Republican electors in Ohio, and in number of votes received stood well at the top of the list. He had the honor of being chosen by the college, when it met in 1893, as messenger, to carry the returns to Washington. He has at different times been interested in many enterprises that have been beneficial to the town, and is a gentleman much esteemed by the entire people.

FERDINAND J. MAISEN, a son of John B. and Mary Maisen, both natives of Switzerland, from where they emigrated in 1850, was born in Wapakoneta, June 27, 1870, and has resided here since his birth, with the exception of a year spent at Notre Dame University. Mr. Maisen has held the responsible position of Manager and Secretary of the Wapakoneta Telephone Company since its organization.

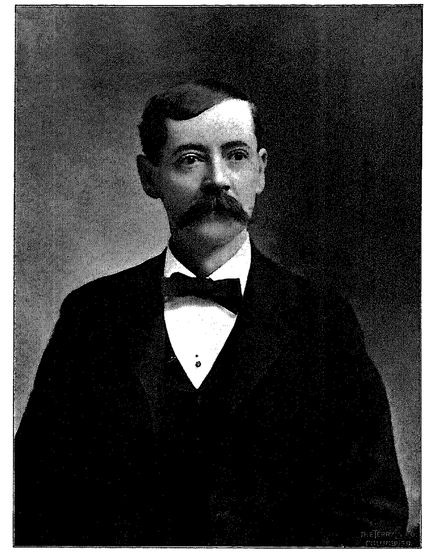
L. N. MEANS was born in Auglaize county, was reared here and has spent his entire life within her borders. No citizen of the county is more thoroughly identified with her various interests than he, and none are more favorably known. His father and mother, Robert G. L. and Sallie W. (North) Means, came to this county and settled in Goshen township in 1835, and July 17, 1840, the subject of this sketch was born. The father died in September, 1885, and the mother yet resides on the old home farm. Mr. Means enjoyed few educational advantages, but native shrewdness, indomitable courage and untiring industry have made him prominent in more than a business way. In February, 1861, he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Edmiston, and in September of the same year he enlisted in the service of the Union in Co. D, 54th Reg. O. V. I., and served until July 17, 1862, when he was discharged because of a wound received at the battle of Shiloh. He re-enlisted in Co. B, 45th Reg. O. V. I., and remained in the service until the close of the war. In the battle of Rockford, near Knoxville, Tenn., he received a second serious wound. Mr. Means' record as a soldier is one of the proudest in the history of Ohio's brave men. From his marriage with Miss Edmiston six children have been born: Robert C., Guy D., Mamie (wife of Dr. G. B. Nichols), Carl, Edna, and Harry L. For many years Mr. Means was engaged in the grain and cattle business, but now devotes almost his entire time to his farming interests, having about fourteen hundred acres of land in this county and several hundred acres in other states. Socially, he is a member of the G. A. R., the Knights of Pythias and Odd Fellows.

WILLIAM L. MELCHING, whose portrait appears among these pages, was born in Ashland county, Ohio, December 30, 1862, and was a son of Charles and Minnie Melching, both natives of Germany. In 1890 he was married to Miss Elfa Williams, of this county, and to them three children have been born: Hazel, July 22, 1891; Rupert, February 7, 1893; and Charles, August 26, 1895. Mr. Melching came to Wapakoneta with his parents when but three years of age. He has always been a popular gentleman, and in 1895 was elected city Marshal. He was re-elected in 1898, without opposition, and has rendered splendid service to the town in that capacity.

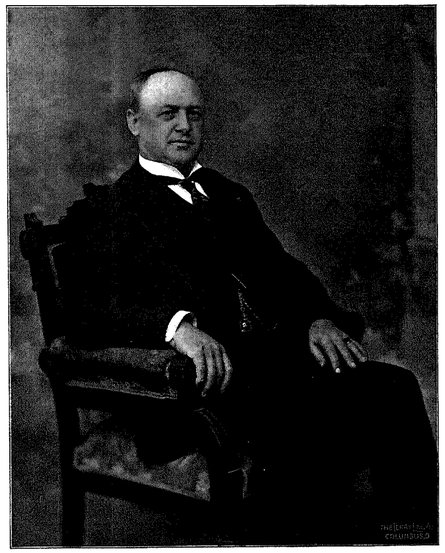
HENRY MOSER, a splendid portrait of whom appears in this work, as a member of the original Waterworks Board of Wapakoneta, was born at Strasbourg, Germany, October 12, 1844, and was a son of John and Caroline S. (Bernhardt) Moser, the former a native of France and the latter of Germany. The subject of this sketch has had a varied experience in many countries. From the city of his birth he went with his parents



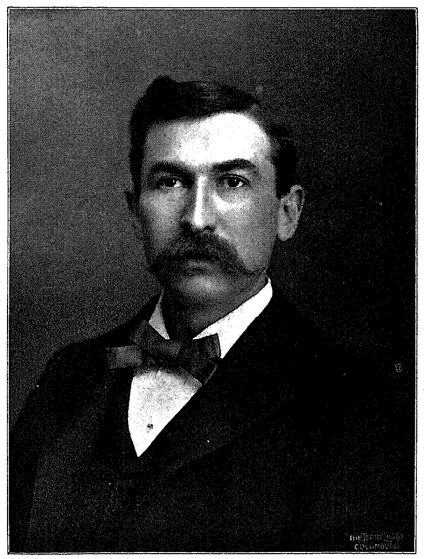
R. B. GORDON.



S. W. McFARLAND.



MELVILLE D. SHAW.



W. G. BROREIN.



JOS. E. SCHMIEDER.

to Lyons, France, from there to Geneva, Switzerland, and then to Algeciras and Gibralter, Spain. In 1853 the family came to this country, landing in New York city, where they remained several years. They also resided in Brooklyn, Williamsburg, N. Y., and Patterson, N. J. Later they came to Cincinnati, where Mr. Moser attended school and learned the jeweler's trade. In 1866 he came to Wapakoneta, and after a time entered into partnership with his father in the jewelry business, which he yet conducts. In December, 1874, he was united in marriage with Miss Anna Kohler, daughter of ex-Sheriff Frederick Kohler, and two sons, Emil H. and J. Feodor, have been born to them. Mr. Moser is a gentleman of many attainments. He speaks with equal fluency English, French, German and Spanish, is a pleasant and entertaining public speaker, and has always been in the front ranks of every movement having for its object the benefit of the town and her people. The esteem in which he is held was demonstrated in 1878, when, though an ardent Republican in politics, he was elected Mayor of Wapakoneta. In 1895, when the Mayor of the city was looking about for representative citizens, business men, men of sound judgment, to compose the board which would have in charge the construction of the new water works plant, he was selected, and a short time later was elected for the long term, to the same position. He was again elected in 1898. Socially, Mr. Moser is a Mason and an Odd Fellow, and has always been prominent in both orders.

LOUIS A. MYERS was born at St. Johns, this county, July 10, 1872, and was a son of Louis and Julia A. (Davis) Myers. At an early age he came to Wapakoneta with his parents, and attended the public schools for several years. After leaving school he engaged in clerking, and was employed in that capacity until 1897, when he embarked in the grocery business for himself on East Auglaize street. In 1894 he was married to Miss Elizabeth Kolter, and two children, Florence A. and Lulu G., have been born to them. Mr. Myers is a young man of energy and honesty, and everything points to his future success.

CHARLES W. NICHOLS, the subject of this biography, was born in Wapakoneta, August 18, 1861, and was a son of Henry and Mary (Crozier) Nichols. He attended the public schools of this place, and since attaining his majority has held many positions of trust. Though yet a young man he is perhaps as well known and popular as any man in the county. He served as Deputy Sheriff, and has been twice elected to that office. He is now engaged in the livery business, and is located opposite the city building. In 1890 he was united in marriage with Miss Ada V. Shaffer, and one child, Mildred, was born to them May 11, 1891. They reside in a neat home recently erected on West Mechanic street.

GRANT BYRON NICHOLS, one of the most successful practitioners in the county, was born in Wapakoneta, January 2, 1862, and was a son of Dr. J. H. and Caroline Nichols. Dr. Nichols received his early education in the schools of this place, and in 1883 graduated from the Ohio Medical College at Cincinnati. In 1889 he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Belle Means, daughter of L. N. and Sarah Means, and three children, Robert M., Mary Lucile, and Dudley Alfred, have been born to them.

GEORGE ANDREW ORPHAL, Auditor of Auglaize county, and one of the most popular young men who has ever held a position of official trust in the county, was born at St. Marys, December 18, 1863. He is a son of Franz and Elizabeth Orphal, both natives of Germany, but for many years residents of this county and St. Marys. Mr. Orphal of this sketch, was given an education in the schools of the town of his birth. After leaving school he accepted a position as bookkeeper in the Gordon Mills, and remained there a number of years, or until the election as Auditor of Hon. Robert B. Gordon, when he was installed as his deputy. Here, during the six years of that gentleman's incumbency of that office, he met the people of every section of the county, and being naturally courteous and obliging made many friends who not only appreciated his kindness but recognized his ability, and when in the spring of 1895 he was a candidate for Auditor before the Democratic primaries, they indorsed their good opinions with their ballots and he received the nomination. He was elected, and is fulfilling every promise of his friends. He was renominated in the spring of 1898, and about the time this book reaches the public will have again been elected. Mr. Orphal was married to Miss Abbie E. Smith, of St. Marys, in 1892, and two children, Helen and Robert, have been born to them.

ARNOLD O. PEPPLE, who is serving his second term as Treasurer of Auglaize county, is a son of C. C. Pepple, whose biography appears elsewhere in this work. He was born in Wayne township, this county, January 8, 1862, attended the schools of his neighborhood, and completed his education at the Northwestern Ohio Normal University at Ada, after which he taught several terms. When his father was elected Treasurer of the county he entered the office as his assistant, and when he was himself elected to that position, in 1893, he was thoroughly acquainted with his duties and responsibilities. He was re-elected in 1895, and no more competent or obliging gentleman has ever held a county office. In April, 1898, he purchased the A. E. Schaffer stock of groceries, and upon his retirement from office will take charge of that business. He was married in 1888 to Miss Millie E. Bennett, of Waynesfield, and four children were born to them: Norma L., Hazel B., Guy C., and Ray B. (deceased). Mrs. Pepple died in December, 1897.

CHARLES J. PEUTZ was born in Wapakoneta, Ohio, February 13, 1864, and was a son of Adolph and Philomena Peutz. June 5th, 1889, he was married to Miss Ella Newmier, and one child, Monica E., born March 11, 1890, has blessed the union. Mr. Peutz has resided here all his life, and from a humble business beginning, he has, by industry and frugality, established himself in a general notion, candy and tobacco store that insures financial success.

LOUIS AND HERMAN E. PIEL are sons of Henry L. and Johanna Piel, old residents of Wapakoneta. Their dates of birth are November 24, 1866, and April 21, 1874. They have been engaged in the clothing trade since 1891, and are now in business at Wapakoneta and Jackson Center, Ohio, under the firm name of Piel & Veit. They are popular and promising young men, with an enviable business career before them.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM E. POTTER is a native of Ohio, and was born at North Amherst, Lorain county, December 26, 1853, a son of Jud C. and Roxanna B. (Nye) Potter. Willis Potter, father of Jud C., was a soldier in the wars that were conducted in this vicinity during the years 1812-1813. In 1881 he was married to Miss Etta Hales, of the same county, and two children, Jud (deceased) and Vernon, have been born to them. Mr. Potter is a photographer, and has been engaged at the business for the past twenty-eight years, at Elyria, Cleveland, Toledo, Newark and Wapakoneta, and during all that time has kept pace with all that is most modern in connection with his art. He has resided here for sixteen years, and has been favored with a splendid business from the beginning. He served nine years in the Ohio National Guards, entering the 5th Regiment as Sergeant and was mustered out as Lieutenant. He was Captain of Co. L, 2d Regiment, located at this place, and was in command of the company at Wheeling Creek during the mining strike in that region in 1894. Socially, he is a member of the Knights of Pythias and Essenic orders, and has served as delegate to the Grand Lodge, and as County Deputy Grand Chancellor of the former. He was for eight years a member of the Republican county central committee, and for three years chairman of county executive committee of that party.

WILLIAM S. ROGERS, the well known gentleman who is a member of the mercantile firm of Timmermeister & Rogers, is a native of Auglaize county, and was born at St. Johns, April 16, 1859. His parents, George M. and Hannah Rogers, have been residents of the county many years. Mr. Rogers came to Wapakoneta at an early age and graduated from the High Schools in the class of 1878. Later he attended the Methodist Protestant College at Adrian, Michigan. Upon leaving college the young man started to make a place for himself in the business world, and his success has been more than gratifying to his friends. He was in the employ of Charles Kolter as a clerk for three years, was with Leon Levy in the same capacity four years, and upon severing his connection with that gentleman entered into a partnership in the clothing business with C. B. Benner. The firm continued in business eight years. In 1891 he entered the firm of which he is now a member, and devotes his attention almost exclusively to the clothing department. He was elected a member of the city council in 1896, and re-elected in 1898 without opposition. In 1891 he was united in marriage with Miss Louise M. Timmermeister, and one child, Roland, now three years old, has been born to them.

A. E. SCHAFFER, starting out in life with the conviction ever in mind that if he would be successful he must accomplish that result by his own efforts, the subject of this biography, from his earliest boyhood has followed that principle in practice as well as in theory. As a boy, he labored early and late, and no work whereby an honest dollar could be earned was disdained. By these methods and a natural business ability, which it is the good fortune of but few men to possess, he has acquired considerable property, and is in most comfortable circumstances. With all this he is one of the most liberal and popular men in the town, and counts as his friends all who know him. He is always among the first to contribute time and money to every project having in view the welfare of the town, and he is recognized as one of the most prominent among the younger business men. He was born in Wapakoneta, August 10, 1866, and is a son of George and Mary (Lenhart) Schaffer. The father has been in business here for many years and is widely known. Mr. Schaffer attended the public schools of this place, and entered his father's grocery store, where he remained until he opened a similar business for himself in 1890. The same year he was united in marriage with Miss Maggie Culliton. In 1892, he erected a large store building, on the old Bothe property, and there continued in the grocery business with splendid success until April, 1898, when he sold his stock to A. O. Pepple, and retired to take an interest in the L. O. Snedecor Commission House, of New York. Mr. Schaffer will have charge of his firm's business in Ohio, and will retain his home at this place. Politically, he is a Democrat, and an indefatigable worker for the principles and advancement of that party's interests. In 1896 he was elected Corporation Treasurer, and was again elected to that office in 1898. In February of the latter year, he was elected Secretary of the County Agricultural Board, and the friends of the Association are satisfied that his administration will be productive of good results.

A. SCHMINKE was born in Hesse, Germany, November 1, 1856, and was a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Beyer) Schminke. He immigrated to this country in 1873, and came direct to Wapakoneta, where he found employment and learned the tinner's trade. In 1880 he was married to Miss Emma J. Schawber, a native of Auglaize county, and six children, Ruth, Henry, Gussie, Louie, Carl (deceased), and Emma, have been born to them. From 1881 to 1886 he was in partnership with F. E. Kolter, in the tinware and stove business. He then worked at his trade as a jobber until 1897, when he opened a tin and stove store on West Auglaize street.

HENRY C. SETTLAGE was born in German township, this county, October 25, 1846. His father died when he was but ten years of age, and he remained at home with his mother and two elder brothers, working on the farm until

nineteen years old. During the winters of 1866-7 he attended the Baldwin University, and in 1868 took charge of the Ober Bremen schools, which position he resigned in 1870. He then removed to Wapakoneta and entered the mercantile and insurance business. He has served five terms as township clerk, was a member of the council, member of the school board, and Justice of the Peace. In 1881 he was elected County Recorder, in which capacity he served two terms. In 1888 he was chosen Secretary of the Natural Gas Company, from which position he resigned in 1892, when he purchased the "Democratic Times," which was published for three years under his management. In 1894 he disposed of the "Times" plant and devoted his attention to the production of oil, having been identified with this industry since its first discovery in this field in 1884. He now resides on West Auglaize street, and is engaged in the real estate and insurance business, representing some of the oldest and largest fire insurance companies in the country. He was married in 1869 to Miss Louisa Kattman, and has four children living: Laura, H. Wesley, Janette S., and Fred L.

HON. M. D. SHAW was born on October 4, 1852, at Van Wert, Ohio. His parents were old and respected pioneers of Van Wert county. He graduated from the Bryant and Stratton Business College, at Cleveland, Ohio, and shortly after took up the study of law, completing the same at Lima, Ohio, under the tuition of Hon. Isaiah Pillars. He was admitted to practice in 1879, and opened an office in Wapakoneta, Ohio, under the firm name of Shaw and Pillars.

In 1885 he was elected the representative of Auglaize county to the State Legislature, and in 1887 was reelected to the same position. In 1889 he was elected State Senator, and filled the office acceptably for two terms. His executive ability has always been recognized in the councils of the party. His Democracy is unswerving, and his loyalty to his friends has been attested by the success of the many political movements in which he has engaged for their interests. He has been instrumental in the passage of some of the most important legislation that came before both branches of the Legislature during his eight years consecutive service. He has always been zealous in the promotion of the welfare of his constituents.

During the past few years Mr. Shaw has been engaged in the oil business. He was one of the pioneers in this industry in Auglaize county and vicinity.

On May 25, 1894, he was married to Miss Tresa Bausch, daughter of Alois Bausch, and they reside in their elegant home on West Auglaize street.

ADOLPH STEINBERG was born on October 21st, 1841, in Hallenberg, Germany. He is the son of H. E. and Caroline Steinberg. December 1, 1867, he married Miss Henrietta Ochs, and to them nine children have been born, viz: Hattie, Millie, Herman, Helen, Max, Melville, Emil, Freda, and Irwin, the three last mentioned being dead. Mr. Steinberg has resided in Auglaize county for the past twenty-eight years, most of that time being spent at New Bremen, where he was engaged in the produce business. In September, 1893, he assumed the management of the Burnet House, in Wapakoneta, Ohio. His fame as a landlord soon brought a business of such increasing proportions that in 1896 he began the erection of the new Hotel Steinberg, where he now is conducting business with the same degree of courtesy and attention that has marked his career from the beginning. The hospitalities of this elegant house are so well known that Mr. Steinberg enjoys a lucrative and agreeable patronage.

CLEMENT A. STUEVE, a prominent attorney of Wapakoneta, was born at Minster, this county, November 27, 1855, and was a son of Clemens and Elizabeth Stueve. Mr. Stueve has resided at various times at Toledo, Cincinnati, Dayton, Ohio, and at Decatur, Ind., but the greater part of his life has been spent in Auglaize county. In 1882 he was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Dickman, daughter of Theodore and Mary Dickman, well known residents of Wapakoneta, and four children have been born to them: Richard C., Winfred H., Theodore F. and Thekla M. A. Several years ago he formed a law partnership with Hon. F. C. Layton, and the firm did a large practice. In January, 1898, this firm was dissolved, and he entered into a similar one with Hon. J. J. Connaughton, with offices in the Gunther block. He resides in a beautiful home on Willipi street, opposite the new court house.

WALTER S. STUCKEY, M. D., was born near the town of Van Wert, in Van Wert county, February 25, 1867, and was a son of Jonas and Mary F. Stuckey. Dr. Stuckey's father is among the most prominent farmers of his county and carefully educated his family. The subject of this sketch commenced his career for himself as a teacher, and continued in the profession until he entered the office of Dr. C. B. Stemen, chief surgeon of the Pennsylvania railroad, where he studied medicine for some time. From there he entered the Ft. Wayne College of Medicine, from which institution he graduated in 1892, when he located in Wapakoneta, where, from the first, he has been most successful in his practice. On April 28, 1898, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary T. Puetz, of Wapakoneta.

JAMES L. SWINK, one of the oldest and most prominent manufacturers in Wapakoneta, was born in Augusta county, Virginia, August 28, 1844, and was a son of Henry and Elizabeth Swink. He came to Ohio in 1853, and settled in Warren county with his parents, and remained there until 1863, when he enlisted in Co. B, 2d Regiment O. V. H. A., and served his country, as a soldier, two years. At the close of the war he went west and worked at his trade, that of a carpenter, until 1869, when he came to Auglaize county. Shortly after his arrival here he engaged in the milling business, and later the furniture manufacturing firm of Swink Brothers & Company was organized, and the works put in immediate operation. Other members were taken into the firm, and the capacity of the factory was increased from time to time, as a prosperous and growing business demanded. New departments were added, and the firm now manufactures furniture of all kinds to order, house furnishings, verandas and store fixtures, their regular line being wardrobes, cupboards, tables, kitchen cabinets, etc. Mr. Swink is in charge of the greater portion of the business, and is recognized as a careful, conservative business man, and a good citizen. He was married in 1873 to Miss Christena Winemiller, and six children, Otho G. (deceased), Cora M. (deceased), Nellie M., Rufus B., Earl L., and Orval O., have been born to them. A view of Mr. Swink's comfortable home appears among these pages.

HENRY C. TAEUSCH, a member of the grocery firm of H. W. Taeusch & Sons, was born in Pusheta township, this county, December 30, 1853, and was a son of H. W. and Julia Taeusch. Mr. Taeusch has resided in the county all his life, and has almost from the time of leaving school been engaged in the grocery business in Wapakoneta. An excellent portrait of Mr. Taeusch also appears in this work.

H. W. TAEUSCH is now enjoying in retirement the fruits of a long, industrious and well-spent life, his name a synonym for all that goes to make the honored citizen. He was born in the Grand Duchy of Saxe-Weimar, Germany, November 29, 1825, and was a son of Charles W. and Emma Taeusch. The father was prominent in his native country, and was an officer of the German government for twenty years; but desiring to try his fortunes in the new world he immigrated to this country and landed in Baltimore in 1835. He was accompanied by the subject of this sketch, the mother not coming until a later date, and they traveled from the East to Cincinnati by wagon. From there they went to St. Louis by boat, but in a short time returned to Louisville, Ky., and in the fall of the same year located permanently in Auglaize county, purchasing eighty acres of land in Pusheta township. On this land a rude log cabin, characteristic of those primitive days, was erected, and the labor of clearing the farm began. As time passed improvements followed each other in rapid succession, until the family found themselves in fair circumstances and a comfortable home. The mother died in 1851 and the father in 1863. Mr. Taeusch, with the same industry and thrift that has resulted in the prosperity of so many of the sons of the Fatherland, began life's work with the fixed purpose of acquiring a competence and he succeeded admirably. He remained on the farm three years after the death of his father, and then removed to Wapakoneta and opened a grocery store under the firm name of Fisher & Taeusch. On December 3, 1851, he was united in marriage with Miss Julia Miller, and to them were born six children: Henry C., Sophie C., John F., Lizzie C., Mary E. (deceased), and Sarah W. Mrs. Taeusch died in 1869, and the following year he removed to Texas. He remained there but a short time and returned to this county where he married Mrs. Mary Frische in 1872. She died April 24, 1894. In 1873 Mr. Taeusch again entered the grocery business, locating on the site of the magnificent new stone building, erected by the firm of H. W. Taeusch & Sons in 1896, which business has recently been incorporated under the name of The H. W. Taeusch & Sons Company. Mr. Taeusch is an honorary member of the County Agricultural Society, and was one of the projectors and founders of the beautiful Green Lawn cemetery. His portrait will be found among those of the pioneer business men of Wapakoneta.

JNO. TAEUSCH, whose portrait appears in this work, is one of those gentlemen who have the happy faculty of making and retaining many friends. He was born in Pusheta township, this county, December 10, 1857, a son of H. W. and Julia Taeusch, and has resided in the county all his life, with the exception of about one year spent in Florida. He has been engaged in the grocery business many years, and is a member of the firm of The H. W. Taeusch & Sons Company, which was recently incorporated under that name. He was a member of the 11th Regiment band for five years, and a member of the city council for one term, declining a renomination. In 1880 he was married to Miss Carrie Wintzer, and five children have been born to them, of whom are living; Fritz, Emma, Wilhelm, and Charlotte.

C. W. TIMMERMEISTER. Inheriting the business talent of a most successful parent, and reared in a commercial atmosphere, the subject of this biography, though young in years, has attained an enviable reputation and position in business and financial circles. He was born in Wapakoneta, January 10, 1861, and is a son of J. H. and Caroline Timmermeister, among the best known residents of the county. He attended the public schools at this place, and the Miami Commercial College at Dayton, Ohio. After completing his education he entered his father's store, and for several years has been a partner in the institution. He is interested in the St. Marys Woolen Mills and other enterprises of importance. In 1886 he was united in marriage with Miss Thresa Althausen, daughter of Albert Althausen, of St. Marys, and two children, Lillian and Edwin, have been born to them.

JOHN H. TIMMERMEISTER, for years a recognized leader in business circles of Auglaize county, but now retired from active management of the many enterprises which his ability has fostered and made successful, is a native of the Province of Hanover, Germany, and was born April 13, 1831. He was reared and received his education in the country of his birth, and in 1851, at the age of twenty years, immigrated to this country, determined that if honest effort would result in financial success, his would be but a question of time. Being a tinner by trade, upon his arrival in New York he secured employment and remained in that city until 1855, when he came to Wapakoneta and entered the store of Otto Dieker, remaining with him until 1859, when he engaged in business for himself, opening the general store which has grown into the great department institution now conducted under the firm name of Timmermeister & Rogers, and



ADOLPH BOESEL.



HON. JACOB BOESEL (Deceased).



JULIUS BOESEL.



C. F. WISSMAN.



H. J. C. LAUT.



HENRY A. JAEGER.



RESIDENCE AND FARM VIEW HENRY C. FRISCHE, WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP.

one of the largest concerns of the kind in the Northwest. Mr. Timmermeister has not only succeeded as a merchant, but in every enterprise to which he has lent his time and talent. He was one of the organizers of the Wheel Company, and has been its president from the beginning. He is a stockholder and director of the First National Bank, was interested in the Natural Gas Company, and is Vice-President of the Artificial Gas Company. In 1885 he erected the large brick block where the stores are now located, a view of which appears in this work. The second floor is occupied by the only opera house in the town, and the building is fitted completely with all modern conveniences. Mr. Timmermeister's life has been such as to gain for him the admiration and respect of all those who know him, and his is a worthy example to follow. In 1859 he was united in marriage with Miss Caroline Machetanz, and nine children have been born to them, of whom William C., Bertha, Carrie, Louise, Emma, and Karl, are living.

CHARLES P. VEIT was born in Clay township, this county, and was a son of Valentine and Catharine Veit. In 1891 he married Miss Callie Franz, and two children, Gladollia and Ernest, have been born to them. Mr. Veit is engaged in the clothing business in Wapakoneta, and at Jackson Center, Ohio, under the firm name of Piehl & Veit, and is one of the young men whose sagacity and industry insures his success.

HON. JOSEPH J. WALTER is known to almost every citizen of Auglaize county. He was born at Elizabethtown, N. J., July 14, 1837, and was a son of John and Gertrude Walter, who came to Ohio and located in Green county when the subject of this sketch was but three years of age. In 1855 he came to this county and commenced farming, but in 1874 he attended and graduated from the Cleveland Law School, and since that time has practiced his profession at the county seat. In 1865 he was married to Miss Catharine Kantner, who died in 1897. The result of this union was twelve children: Mrs. Matilda Zanglein, Mrs. Anna Brockert, Mary, Gustave A., Fernando, Lenora, Margaret, Esther, Gertrude, Aldo, Alvin, and Carl. Judge Walter is an old-time Democrat, and has been identified prominently with the party's interest for many years. He was a soldier, being a member of Co. C, 19th Regiment O. V. I., and was with Sherman from Atlanta to the Sea. In 1896 he was elected by his party to the office of Probate Judge, and the ability with which he is discharging the duties of his responsible position is commended regardless of party. Many needed reforms have been inaugurated in his office, and his administration will be productive of much benefit to the county.

HENRY G. WEBER was a son of Godfrey and Ersel (Fossler) Weber, and was born in Wapakoneta, May 11, 1864. He attended the schools of this place, and later learned the blacksmith's trade, at which he is yet engaged, his shop being located on Mechanic street. Mr. Weber was married in 1892, to Miss Alsie Kentner, and one child, Adrian, has been born to them. Mr. Weber is one of the industrious young men of the town who is making his way by his own efforts.

JOHN M. WEHNER is a native of Pusheta township, this county, was a son of Joseph and Lizzie Wehner, and was born October 17, 1867. Mr. Wehner is unmarried, is a tinner by trade, and is engaged in the tin and stove business with Joseph M. Foos, at the old Moss stand in Wapakoneta.

SEBASTIAN WEIMERT was born in Wapakoneta, November, 18, 1855, and has resided here all his life, with the exception of three years spent at DeWitt, Iowa. In September, 1878, he was married to Miss Maggie Diedrich, also a native of Auglaize county, and to them have been born eight children: Louisa, Frederick, Clarence, Lenora, Anna, Leo, Urban, and Bernard (deceased). Mr. Weimert is a harness maker by trade, but for several years has successfully engaged in the brickmaking business. He occupies the position of Commissary on the staff of the District Colonel, Knights of St. George.

T. JACOB WERNER, a young man of much business ability, was born at Lichtenau, Baden, Germany, December 3, 1872, and was a son of Karl F. and Mary (Clouse) Werner. He immigrated to this country in 1889, and came to Wapakoneta the year following. Since his arrival here he has been conducting a meat market the greater portion of the time, and is now engaged in that business on East Auglaize street. In 1896 he was married to Miss Vilura Herbst, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alois Herbst, of this place, and one child, Karl F., has has been born to them.

HENRY J. WERST, though a young man, has been signally honored, and in each position, from the country school master, to the head of that great Catholic organization, the Knights of St. John, he has most conscientiously performed every duty devolving upon him, and his ability is recognized in high places. He was born in Pusheta township, three miles southeast of Wapakoneta, August 17th, 1862, and is the son of ex-county commissioner John Werst, and Elizabeth Werst. He attended the schools of the neighborhood where he was reared, and later Notre Dame University. Returning from that institution he taught school in Pusheta and Duchouquet townships until 1889, when, with Mr. J. J. Collins, his present partner, he established a dry goods store in the Dicker and Fisher building, under the firm name of Werst and Collins. The business has grown in a manner that does credit to the management. Mr. Werst has been secretary of the St. Joseph's congregation, president of the local commandary of the Knights of St. John. His interest in this work has brought him into prominence, and in June, 1895, at the international convention of this society, at Evansville, Ind., he was elected Supreme President, with the title of General, his jurisdiction extending over the United States and Canada.

At the annual conventions held at Dayton, Ohio, in 1896, at Erie, Pa., in 1897, and in Detroit, Mich., in 1898, this office as many times was bestowed upon him. It is seldom that a man is thus honored, and certainly it is an unquestionable recognition of his worth. In April, 1888, he was married to Miss Ida T. Dicker, and four bright and promising children: Fredonia, Gerard, Harold, and Horton, have been born to them. The hospitality of their happy home, presided over by his charming and accomplished wife, is well known.

JAMES WILSON, JR., whose portrait appears in this work, as a member of the original Board of Waterworks Trustees of Wapakoneta, is a native of Auglaize county, and a son of James Wilson, who was born in Virginia in 1810, and who settled in St. Marys in 1845. At that place the subject of this biography was born, September 20, 1847. He attended the public schools of the town of his birth until sixteen years of age, when he enlisted at Troy, Ohio, in Co. C, 182d Regiment O. V. I., and served in the army ten months or until the close of hostilities. After his return from the service he entered the office of his father, who had been elected County Auditor, and remained in the capacity of his deputy for six years. Upon relinquishing his position in the Auditor's office, in 1871, he entered the Farmers Bank as its cashier, and served as such for fourteen years, with the same ability that has made his business career a success, and gained for him the high esteem of the people of the entire county, to whom he is as well known as any man within her borders. In 1875, while yet connected with the bank, he, with J. M. Leiter, established the lumber business of which he is now the sole owner. In 1884 he took entire charge of the business, and in 1895 purchased his partner's interest. He has also been interested in many of the most prosperous enterprises of the town of Wapakoneta. He was a member of the Board of Directors of the Wheel Company, is a stockholder and director of the First National Bank, Secretary of the Artificial Gas Co., and for fifteen years has been Secretary of the Wapakoneta Building and Loan Association. For several years he was Treasurer of the Agricultural Society, and in January 1895, when the best business talent of the town was being drafted into public service to expend the appropriation, and to superintend the construction of the water works plant, he was the first to be selected by Mayor Wisener. Immediately upon its organization he was made clerk of the Board of Trustees, and continues in that capacity at this time, having since been twice elected by the people. He was clerk of the village from 1874 to 1880, and a member of the Board of Education from 1881 to 1887, and from 1892 to 1895. Although his has been a busy life he has found time to enjoy many of its pleasures; and socially is a Mason, a member of the G. A. R., the Knights of Pythias, and the Royal Arcanum. In 1869 he was united in marriage with Miss Sara Trimble, daughter of Judge Alexander Trimble, one of the best known of the early citizens of Auglaize county. Six children have been born of their marriage, two of whom, Mrs. Jennie M. Anderson and Alice M., are living.

PROF. CHARLES W. WILLIAMSON, who has superintended the education of many of the prosperous business and professional men of Wapakoneta, was born in Perry county, Ohio, May 12, 1835, and was a son of John W. Williamson, who traced his ancestry in this country to the pilgrims of the "Mayflower," and the heroes of the Revolution. The father was a farmer, and the subject of this biography remained at home until he attained his majority, taking advantage of every opportunity, though very limited they were, to secure the education which has been so beneficial to those whose instructor he has been. The privations of pioneer life, to which his youth and early manhood were subjected, only contributed to his desire to obtain knowledge, and in his twenty-first year he entered Heidelburg College, at Tiffin, Ohio, from which institution he graduated, after several years' arduous labor, being compelled to teach in order that he might defray the collegiate expenses. In the meantime he studied law and graduated from the Cleveland Union Law School. In 1868 he took charge of the Wapakoneta schools, but declined a re-election to the position and devoted his time to civil engineering. In 1880 he accepted the superintendency of the Napoleon, Ohio, schools, but two years later returned to Wapakoneta and purchased a half interest in the "Auglaize County Democrat," which paper he edited for one year. He then accepted the position of Superintendent of the New Bremen schools, but in 1886 resumed his old place at the head of the Wapakoneta schools, of which he is now in charge. Prof. Williamson has been a member of the County Board of Examiners for more than twenty years, and is the dean of the educators of Auglaize county and Northwestern Ohio. He was married in 1870 to Miss Maria L. Timmonds, a native of Mercer county, and one son, Howard, a practicing attorney at Lima, has been born to them.

HON. J. G. WISENER, engaged in mercantile pursuits in Wapakoneta since 1865, is one of the best known and esteemed citizens of the community. He was a son of John G. and Margareta (Nicklas) Wisener, and was born at Butler, Pa., January 25, 1841. He attended school in his native town, and later attended the Iron City College at Pittsburg. After completing his college course he was employed as a clerk in that city for a short time, and at the age of seventeen came to Wapakoneta and secured employment in the store of O. T. Dicker, where he remained five years as a clerk, and one year as a partner. In 1865, he engaged in business for himself, and is one of the oldest merchants in the town. The same year he was united in marriage with Miss Georgina W. Bosche, and to them have been born nine children: John L., Laura, Augustus, Margaretha, Flora, Frederick (deceased), Winfield, George B., Minnie, and Georgiana. In 1894 he was elected Mayor of Wapakoneta, and it can most truthfully be said that the town never had a cleaner or more able administration of its affairs. Honest, courteous, and obliging, his official, like his private life, is above reproach. He was a soldier, serving one year in the 156th Regiment O. V. I. On the morning of August 19, 1898, the people of Wapakoneta were startled by the announcement of Mr. Wisener's death, a stroke of paralysis having brought his useful life to a sudden close.

CRIDERSVILLE.

The town of Cridersville bears the name of its pioneer organizer, Ephraim Crider, who established the location in 1856, in section 35, Duchouquet township. Since its birth, the town has grown materially, and eleven additions have been made. The C. H. & D. railroad divides it almost at its center, and the development of the oil territory extending through the township and into Allen county, has added to the population and wealth of the place in a marked degree. Numerous business places flourish, and it would be almost impossible to imagine the limited facilities and stocks of the first merchants. John Mumau, about the time of the organization of the village, opened a store, and was soon followed by James McMillen with a general store. Among the earlier pioneer business men were also John Weiser and N. A. Murdock. In 1869 the town was incorporated, and its first Mayor was James P. Shaw. The present town council is composed of John Reichelderfer, Wm. Reichelderfer, Edward Stepleton, Seymour Brant, Jno. D. Red, and Thomas Klingensmith, and is presided over by Michael Meyers, Mayor.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

ANDERSON BARTON, a son of William and Nancy Barton, was born in Allen county, Ohio, January 3, 1849, and removed to this county twenty-five years ago. He was married to Miss Susan Bowsher in 1870, and eight children, Harry (deceased), Mildred (deceased), Delila, Daisey, Lulu, Ruca, Ressie, and Ray, have been born to them. Mr. Barton is a contractor and rig builder, is president of the Cridersville School Board, and one of the most highly esteemed citizens of the county.

JACOB BIGLER was born in Allen county, May 20, 1861, and was a son of Englehart and Lydia Bigler. The father was born in Pennsylvania, September 5, 1836, and the mother, in Pickaway county, Ohio, in 1845. In 1887 he was married to Miss Sophia M. Presser, and to them one child, Clara I., was born, September 21, 1888. Mr. Bigler has been engaged in farming all his life, and since March, 1893, has been Superintendent of the County Infirmary, which institution, under the care of himself and Mrs. Bigler, is one of the best conducted infirmaries in Ohio.

W. N. BOWSHER, the subject of this biography, was born in the neighboring county of Allen, a short distance north of the town of Cridersville, August 26, 1857, being a son of Charles and Mary (Stepleton) Bowsher. He was married to Miss Emma Covault in 1878, and two children, Edith, aged eighteen, and Louie, aged fifteen years, have been born to them. Mr. Bowsher's early life was spent upon the farm, but for a number of years he has been engaged as a traveling salesman, and in the insurance business. In 1887 he was elected Justice of the Peace for Duchouquet township, and has held the office continuously for eleven years. He was Mayor of Cridersville six years, and is a member of the School Board.

ENOS FISHER was born on a farm, three miles northeast of Wapakoneta, February 19, 1855, and was one of a large family of children reared by Andrew and Victoria (Ambruster) Fisher. Mr. Fisher remained with his parents on the farm until twenty years of age, when he went to Lima to learn the blacksmith's trade. From there he went to Tiffin, Ohio, and at that place met and married Miss Elizabeth Kirschner, in 1878. Two children, John Edward, and Clara C., have been born to them. Returning to Auglaize county in 1880, he purchased a shop and home at Cridersville, and has since resided here. He continued at his trade until October, 1895, since which time he has been employed in the oil fields. Mr. Fisher is a member of the Board of Township Trustees, and is the first Republican ever elected to this body in this township.

JOHN FREDERICK KOHLER was born in Duchouquet township, this county, and is a son of Andrew and Pauline Kohler. He resides on his father's farm, about two miles north of Wapakoneta, where he is successfully engaged in agriculture. Mr. Kohler is a member of Co. L, 2d Regiment O. N. G.

STILLMAN STANLEY MOREY is a pioneer of Auglaize county, having been born within its present limits, February 12, 1845, three years before its organization. His father, William P. Morey, was born in New York state, in 1814, and coming to Ohio in 1835, married Miss Rebecca Patterson, of Licking county. They were the parents of eight children, six boys and two girls. The father died in 1852, and the mother in 1893. The subject of this sketch was married to Miss Amanda Agnes Hoopengarner, and seven children, Lola (deceased), Clarence, Clara (deceased) Ernst, Carrie, Matilda, and Arthur, have been born to them. Mr. Morey has engaged in agricultural pursuits all his life.

JOSEPH MOSLER, who resides on the old farm, two and a half miles east of Wapakoneta, was born April 10, 1860, and was a son of John and Elizabeth Mosler, well remembered pioneers. He was married in 1882 to Miss Julia Metzger, and six children, Edward W., August J., Anton H., Louie J., Clara T., and Florence R., have been born to them. Mr. Mosler is one of the most prosperous young farmers in this county, and his industry entitles him to this reward.

JACOB PESTER is a native of Crawford county, Ohio, and was born June 15, 1848. He was one of eleven children of Henry and Elizabeth Pester, both of whom were natives of Germany. Mr. Pester has been a resident of this county sixteen years, and six years of that time he has been a member of the Board of Trustees of Duchouquet township. He remained at home until thirty-three years of age, and has always been a farmer. In 1881 he was married to Mary D. Bower, and eight children, Henry C., Lewis Augustus (deceased), Jacob W., Edward C., Frederick, Herman C., Mary M. E., and Anna K., have been born to them.

CHARLES ROMSHE, one of the most enterprising and successful farmers in Auglaize county, was born in Duchouquet township, May 30, 1865, and is a son of George and Mary Romshe. His wife was Miss Anna Kohler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Kohler, of Wapakoneta, and among the best known citizens of the county. Mr. Romshe has resided on a farm all his life.

GEORGE WILLIAM ROMSHE, a son of George and Mary Romshe, was born December 13, 1859, on the farm in Duchouquet township, where he now resides. In 1883 he was married to Miss Alice L. Winget, of Big Rapids, Michigan, and four children have been given them, of whom, Willie E., and Mamie O., are living. Mr. Romshe has been engaged in agricultural pursuits all his life with the exception of three years when he was in the furniture business in Wapakoneta. He became a member of the Lutheran church at the age of seventeen years, and has always taken a deep interest in its welfare. In politics, he is a Democrat.

JUSTUS ROMSHE was born in Auglaize county, September 2, 1852, and was a son of George and Mary Romshe, highly respected pioneers. He was married to Miss Rebecca Shaffer, in 1874, and two children, Mrs. Mollie M. Crawford, and Fernando C., have been born to them. Mr. Romshe has engaged in farming all his life, and has a beautiful home four miles north of Wapakoneta. His farm lies in the oil belt, and the first well was put down on the place in 1887. It was followed by nineteen more, eleven of which are yet good producers, and which have paid thousands of dollars in royalties.

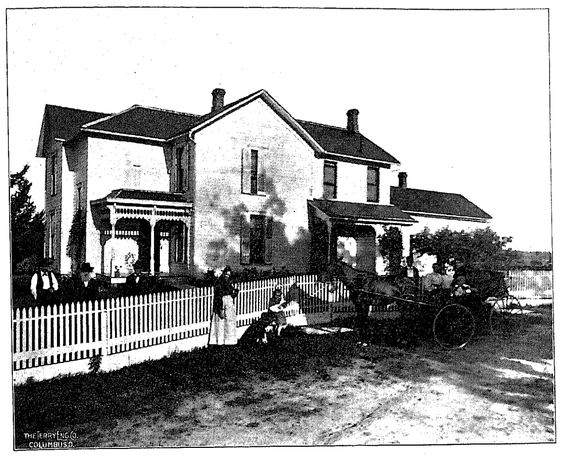
JOHN DAVID RED, one of the most industrious and respected young men of his community, was born in Auglaize county, August 26, 1858, and was a son of John and Catherine Red. He was married to Miss Sarah Burk, daughter of G. W. Burk, in 1884, and two children were born to them, of whom Estella Blanche is living. Mr. Red is a carpenter by trade, but has been employed in the oil fields for several years.

JOHN REICHELDERFER was the second son of William Reichelderfer, who settled in what was then Allen county, in 1837, and was born March 31, 1841, on the old homestead. Like those of all the farmer boys of that period, his educational advantages were few, and the greater portion of his time was employed in assisting his father on the farm. He remained at home until he was of age, when, in 1862, he enlisted in the Union Army, in Co. G, 81st Reg. O. V. I. His record as a soldier, like that as a citizen and an official, is one of which any man might well be proud. He participated in the Atlanta campaign, witnessed the fall of the city, and the surrender of Johnston to Sherman. He participated in the grand review at Washington, and was mustered out of the service at Cincinnati, July 20, 1865. Upon returning home he resumed work on the farm, but for several years has resided at Cridersville, where he is engaged in the grain business. He was Township Trustee seven years, Constable two years, and County Commissioner two terms. In 1862 he was married to Miss Susan Crider, and is the father of two children, Mrs. John Denner, and Edward F. Mrs. Reichelderfer died in 1884, and in 1887 he was again married, this time to Miss Sophia Denner.

RUDOLPH SCHNEIDER was born at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, May 3, 1852, and was a son of Peter J. and Louisa Schneider. The subject of this sketch, upon his arrival in Ohio, located at Dayton, but twenty-four years ago came to this county. In 1882 he married Miss Charlotte Egry. She died in 1883, and in 1885 he was married to Miss Mary E. Bauer, and seven children, Adelia (deceased), Adeline, Elnora, Henrietta, Edgar, Walter, and Roland, have been born to them. Mr. Schneider has been very successful as a farmer and gardener.

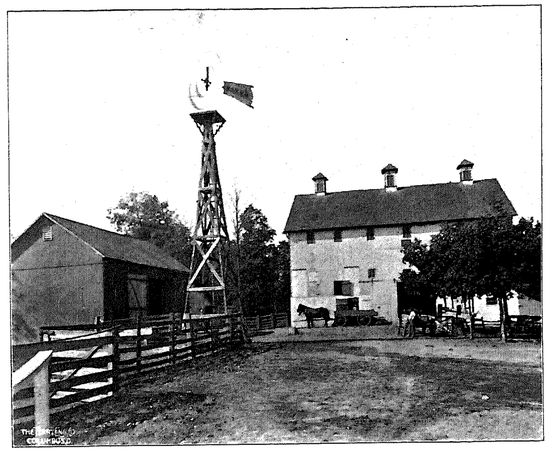
D. U. SHAPPELL is one of those sturdy farmers to whom this county will be indebted for its further development and future greatness. He was born in Fairfield county, Ohio, January 18, 1855, and came with his parents, George and Mary (Riegel) Shappell, to this county when but a young child. His father was born in Burks county, Pennsylvania, and his grandfather, Yarmus Shappell, in Switzerland, from where he came to this country, at the age of eighteen years. His mother, Mary Rigel, was born in Burks county, Pennsylvania. His parents settled in this township on the place where the subject of this sketch now resides, and he received his education in the schools of the neighborhood. In 1879 he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Coon, a native of Allen county, and four children, Zelma, Eldon, Byron, and Howard, have been born to them. The father of Mrs. Shappell was born in Guernsey county, Ohio, in 1809, and the mother, now Mrs. Eliza Whetstone, of this county, was born in Orange county, New York, in 1820. Mr. Shappell is a leading citizen of his township, and takes a keen interest in all affairs that benefit the farmer. He is a breeder of full-blooded Percheron and standard bred horses, and short horn Durham cattle. Last year Mr. Shappell erected a beautiful and modern home, a view of which, together with its surroundings, will be found in this work.

NICHOLAS VEIT is truly a self-made man. A son of Valentine and Catharine Veit, he was born in Clay township, this county, and was reared upon his father's farm. In January, 1873, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary M. Kohler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Kohler, and to them ten children, George A., Susan (deceased), Joseph, Emma, Eddie, Charley, Mary, Katie, Nicholas, and Frederick, have been born. Mr. Veit started in life with few worldly possessions, but by industry and perseverance he was enabled to purchase a farm of seventy-three acres, four years after his marriage. Later, he purchased an adjoining property, and yet another, until he now has a farm of one hundred and sixty-three acres just beyond the north corporation line of Wapakoneta. In 1897 he purchased the Frech Dairy, and is conducting it with the same success that has attended all his ventures.



RESIDENCE.

THOS. E. BOWSHER, LOGAN TOWNSHIP.



FARM VIEW.



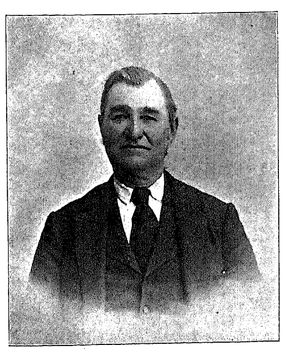
CHAS. H. DIXON.



RESIDENCE, CHAS. H. DIXON.



MRS. C. H. DIXON.



MICHAEL DIETSCH.



MRS. M. DIETSCH.



JOHN LOYER.

CLAY TOWNSHIP.

Established and organized in 1834, after an influx of settlers which largely increased its population, Clay township now ranks among the first in the county in population, wealth, and natural resources. The soil of the township is largely of black loam, except in the immediate vicinity of St. Johns village, where the ridge which crosses the northwest corner reaches its highest point, and where the soil is of heavy clay and gravel. The surface of the township is, however, generally flat, and required an immense amount of drainage to prepare it for cultivation, but the result has fully justified the labor and expense. There are no streams of importance, but branches take their origin here, which, passing through other sections, increase in size and assume names. The Ohio Southern railroad passes through the township, and at the villages located along its line the residents find a market for the products of their farms. The inhabitants are chiefly of English and German origin, and are descendants of emigrants from Virginia and Pennsylvania. Among the first residents, and probably the first white settler, was John Rogers, who came in 1832. He brought his wife and three children from Richland county the following year, and established a permanent home on a portion of the land originally purchased from the government by John Carey, shortly after its session by the Indians. Following him came John Corder, who occupied for a time the old lodge of Chief Blackhoof, a log building 18x20 feet, covered with clapboards, and located on a piece of ground within the present village of St. Johns. During this time, in 1832-3, William Richardson, Charles Lusk, Peter Princehouse, Richard Henry, Benjamin Runyun, James H. Coleman, Edward Williams, and Andrew Perkins arrived. Early in the spring of 1834 Peter Bechdolt and Daniel and William Bitler came. The first election was held at the house of Samuel Bechdolt, December 27, 1834, and eleven votes were cast. John Rogers, David Vonblaricom, and Thomas Beer were elected Trustees: Richard Henry, Clerk; Joel Bayliff, Treasurer; Thomas Beer, Constable; James H. Coleman, Thomas Reed and Thomas Beer, Fence Viewers, and William Copeland and Samuel Bechdolt, Overseers of the Poor. Other settlers continued to come into the township after its organization, and among them were Amos Copeland, Samuel and Henry Bitler, Charles Martin, George Emerick, William Bush, Peter Bennett, and John Hodges. About this time schools were established, and the first amount of money ever expended for school purposes was $24. The first teachers were James H. Coleman and John Corder. Since their time the educational facilities have grown and advanced with the same rapid strides that have marked the progress of other institutions. The roads are almost all piked, and offer an opportunity to the citizens such as were never imagined by those pioneers named. Four towns or trading points are located within its borders, St. Johns and Geyer, mentioned below, and Santa Fe and Gutman, the former on the Logan county line and the latter near the center of the township.

ST. JOHNS VILLAGE.

Historical associations lend interest to the old town of St. Johns, which occupies the site of the Indian village known as Blackhoof, and the home of the famous Shawnee chief of that name. The village was founded by John Rogers and Daniel Bitler, and at that time many of the Indian huts remained and were occupied by settlers coming in until they could erect buildings on their own lands. Daniel Bitler had opened a store in 1834, and in 1835 erected a hotel building. Other enterprises followed, but in the march of progress, with the building of railroads through neighboring towns, St. Johns only held its place as a small village. In 1892 the Ohio Southern railroad was constructed through the town and gave a new impetus to business. Among the early religious organizations the Methodists were the pioneers, and organized their church with twelve members, at the home of Charles Lusk, in 1833. The Christians also had an organization among the first in the territory. The old town comprises lots from one to fifty-six, and a portion is located in Union township. Three additions have been made, No. 1 by Emma Looney, No. 2 John Rogers, and No. 3 Samuel Tobias.

GEYER VILLAGE.

The town of Geyer is located on the Ohio Southern railroad, and originally occupied part of the northwest fractional quarter of section twenty-one. George Geyer, the founder of the village, and in whose honor it was named, entered land in Clay township, in 1840. Upon the advent of the railroad he conceived the idea that the location was such as to reach the trade of that territory, and in 1893 platted and organized it. Since that time he has laid out one addition. Geyer is an enterprising little place of about three hundred inhabitants, and has several manufacturing industries.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

FRANCIS E. BAILEY, farmer and stock raiser, residing in Clay, the township of his birth, is justly conceded a place among the enterprising and influential young men of the county. He was born November 1, 1859, and was a son of Andrew G. and Hannah (Stevenson) Bailey, the former a native of Virginia, and the latter of Ohio. In 1884 he was united in marriage with Miss Carrie M. Runkle, daughter of Jacob Runkle, one of the wealthy and respected farmers of the county. Two children have been given them: Claud C., born June 12, 1885, and Elsie P., January 9, 1888. Politically, Mr. Bailey is a Democrat, and upon that ticket was three times elected treasurer of his township. In connection with farming he is a breeder of fine Holstein cattle.

WILSON L. BAILEY, a native of Mercer county, West Virginia, and a son of John and Jane Bailey, was born March 25, 1831. At an early age he came to Auglaize county, and has ever been a prominent and respected citizen. He has always engaged in agricultural pursuits, and when he completes his present term as Justice of the Peace of Clay township, he will have served in that capacity for twenty-one years. He also served as Coroner during Mathias Mouch's administration as Sheriff. In 1851 he was married to Miss Isabel Arthur, and of this union five children were born, of whom two, Marion Emmit, and Effie J., are living. Mrs. Bailey died February 14, 1876, and on December 24, 1878, he was married to Rachel Berry. Of this marriage three children were born, one of whom, Elisha, is living.

WILLIAM BUSH, one of the best known men in eastern Auglaize county, has been a resident since its organization. Born in Allegheny county, Pennsylvania, January 2, 1822, a son of Joseph and Elizabeth Bush, he came to Ohio in 1824, descending the Ohio river with his parents on a raft made of logs, and landing at Cincinnati, where the family remained but a few weeks, when they took up their residence in Butler county. Mr. Bush remained at home until August 15, 1834, when he came to Pusheta township, then Allen county, and settled on a farm. Some time later he removed to St. Johns, where he has since resided. He was married to Miss Margaret Neil, December 4, 1853, and ten children were born of the marriage, eight of whom are living: Henrietta, Catharine E., Marion S., William E., Charles W., Irena B., Everett E., and Icy M. Mr. Bush served as County Commissioner six years, and has been Justice of the Peace of Clay township for twenty-five years, besides filling many other positions of trust. He has been prominent in all public movements and has made and retained many friends.

JAMES M. COPELAND was born in Clay township, three miles south of his present home, September 12, 1856, and was a son of Madison and Catharine Copeland. In 1878 he married Miss Alice A. Lusk, also a native of this county, and one child, Ethel L., now nineteen years of age, has been born to them. Mr. Copeland has resided in the township of his birth all his life, and was educated in the schools of his neighborhood. He is a farmer and one of the most prosperous in the county. He was elected township treasurer in 1895. Mr. and Mrs. Copeland, and daughter, are members of the Methodist Protestant church.

JOHN M. FINLEY. Among the sons of the Keystone state who have come to Ohio and brought with them that energy and thrift so characteristic of that great commonwealth, none is more worthy of mention than John M. Finley. Born in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, April 19, 1838, a son of James V. and Elizabeth Finley, he came with his parents to Ohio at the age of ten years. The family located near Milford Center, Union county, and there our subject remained until 1860, when he came to Auglaize, and securing a piece of land in Clay township devoted all his energies to clearing, ditching and preparing it for tillage. On November 12, 1862, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Mitchel, and of their union were born six children: Elmer (deceased), E. V. (deceased), Flora M., Minnie E., Mary J., and James W. On October 8, 1889, Mrs. Finley died, and October 23, 1891, he was married to Lenora Chiles. Mr. Finley has a splendid farm, and is surrounded with everything necessary to make farming profitable and agreeable. A view of his place will be found in this work.

JOHN N. GUTMANN, whose portrait, with a view of the place of business and residence of Mrs. Mary E. Gutmann, will be found among these pages, was born at Freyburg, this county, March 31, 1863. He is an energetic business man, and with his brother and two sisters conducts his mother's first-class general store at Gutman, Ohio. The Gutmann Bros. also buy grain, and their new elevator on the line of the Columbus and Northwestern railroad will be a great accommodation to the farmers of the neighborhood. He was appointed Postmaster by President Cleveland, in 1884, and retains the office at this time.

MARY E. GUTMANN, whose portrait may also be found herein, has been a resident of Auglaize county since 1874. She was born in Stongenroth, Kissengen Koenigreich, Baden, Germany, October 24, 1829, and was a daughter of John and Anna Manger, and came with her parents to Shelby county, Ohio, in 1834. In 1849 she was united in marriage with Nicholas Gutmann, in the Catholic church at Cincinnati. They came to Freyburg, where they opened a general mercantile business, and she has been thus engaged the greater part of her married life.

She has resided since 1874 at Gutman, formerly known as Five Points, the place being renamed in honor of the Gutmann family. Her husband died March 17, 1879, at the age of sixty-two years. Mrs. Gutmann is the mother of ten children: George N., Catharine (deceased), Andrew (deceased), Joseph, Mary, Rosa (deceased), John N., Philip J. N., Louise C., and Henrietta C. She has ever been a devout Catholic, and is much loved by her family and friends.

PHILIP J. N. GUTMANN was born at Lima, Ohio, March 20, 1866, and was a son of Nicholas and Mary E. Gutmann, and came to this county with his parents when but eight years of age. He was married in the Catholic church at Freyburg, October 10, 1893, to Miss Matilda, daughter of George and Elizabeth Gerstner, of Pusheta township. Three children, Edna M., Fredonia A. (deceased), and Raymond R. W., have blessed the union. Mr. Gutmann has been assistant Postmaster since 1884, and with his brother and sisters conducts his mother's store at Gutman

WILLIAM SCHLACHTER, a view of whose fine country home, located at the crossing of the Ohio Southern and the new Columbus and Northwestern railroads, in Clay township, appears in this work, is one of the sturdy, honest farmers of Auglaize county who has contributed materially to her development. He was born in Baden, Germany, January 18, 1844, and was a son of M. F. and Gertrude Schlachter. He immigrated to this country with his parents in 1850, and located at Norwalk, Huron county, Ohio. In 1862 he came to Auglaize county, and in 1865 was married to Miss Sophia Geyer. Mrs Schlachter was born February 23, 1843, and was a daughter of George and Catharine Geyer, who entered land in Clay township in 1840. Of this marriage four children, George F., Mrs. Catharine E. Beard, Mrs. Emma D. Bush, and Mrs. Mary G. Emerson, have been born. Mr. Schlachter has devoted his entire life to agricultural pursuits, and has been eminently successful.

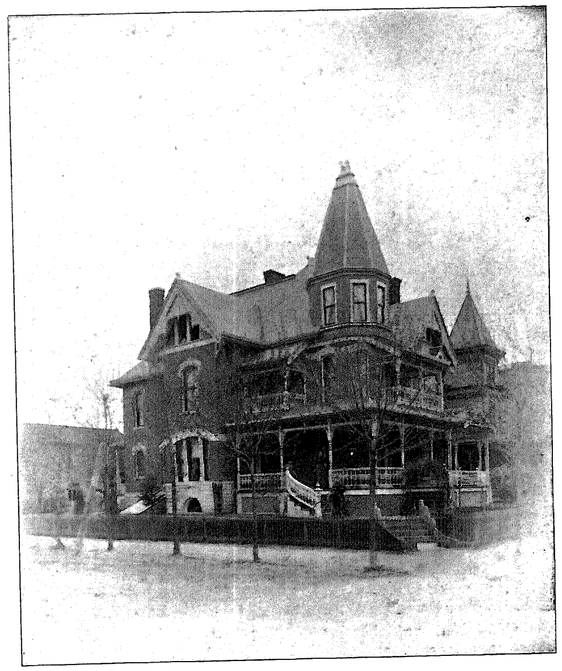
CHRISTIAN WILLIAM SAMMETINGER, prominent among the county's most progressive farmers, was born in Pusheta township, April 9, 1861, and resided in that and Clay townships all his life. He was a son of Lawrence and Rosa Sammetinger, among the best known of the county's pioneers. In 1884 he was married to Miss Julia Regula. They have three children living: Carl F. A., Edward E. W., and Lawrence A. E. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of Clay township, and lives with his family in a beautiful home about one and a half miles south of St. Johns.

JOHN SHOFFSTALL. The farming interests of Clay township are well represented by this gentleman, who is classed among the most substantial citizens of the county. He was a son of David and Hannah Shoffstall, and was born in Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, May 24, 1835. He came to Auglaize county with his parents in 1859, and has resided here since that time. His father removed to Shelby county, Ohio, and died there in 1878, at the age of seventy-two years. On April 19, 1855, Mr. Shoffstall was united in marriage with Miss Leah Kisler, and nine children were born to them: Levi and Malinda, living, Sarah E., Mary E., Francis M., David, Lyman A., Emma E., and Samuel, deceased. He has always engaged in farming, and the result of his labors are as gratifying to his numerous friends as to himself. A view of his place will be found among the engravings in this book.

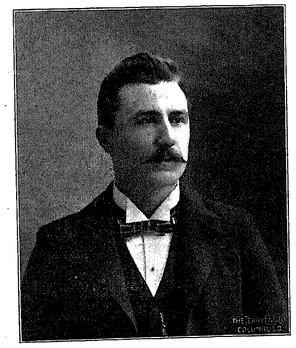
ROSWELL DWIGHT VAN TRESS was born at St. Johns, January 8, 1858, and was a son of Benjamin and Angeline Van Tress. With his parents he removed to Logan county, but returned to Auglaize and settled in the place of his birth in 1880. In 1879 he was married to Miss Ida Lusk, and nine children have been born to them; of whom are living, Zoie, Edson, Bessie, Gussie, Waneta, Ruth, and Huber. Mr. Van Tress is a carpenter by trade, and a very much respected citizen.



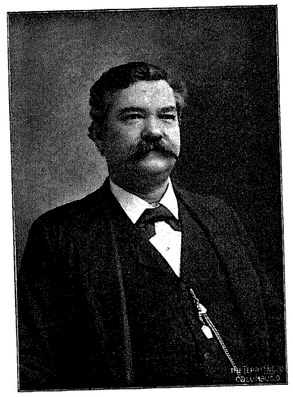
RESIDENCE CHAS. T. KOLTER.



RESIDENCE OF M. BROWN.



F. ANTHONY, M.D.



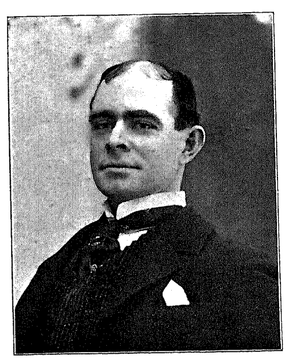
FRED. E. KOLTER.



M. BROWN.



RESIDENCE OF JAS. L. SWINK.



E. A. GATES.



H. C. SETTLAGE.

GERMAN TOWNSHIP.

Formerly occupying all the territory now comprising German and Jackson, this township was originally a part of Darke, but at the time of its settlement belonged to Mercer county. It was divided into north and south precincts by a special legislative act in 1851, and in 1858 the township of Jackson was erected therefrom. The township contains eighteen square miles, the soil is of a rich, sandy loam, and very fertile. The products are chiefly wheat and corn, and much stock is raised, while valuable oil territory has been developed throughout the township. The first settlement was made at the town of New Bremen, in 1832, by a colony of Germans, whose descendants occupy the entire township as now organized. The first record of township affairs dates from March 5, 1838, and shows the following officials: Trustees, Peter Opdyke, Jno. W. Roap, Hamilton Meyer, and J. B. Mesloh; Clerk, H. H. Frazier. The first election was held April 15, 1839, and the officers selected were, J. H. Running, David Catterlin, and Gustavus Darnold, Trustees; Jno. W. Drees, and F. L. Langley, Constables; Wheatley Hatfield, Treasurer; H. H. Frazier, Clerk; J. B. Fredericks, and Parson Henderson, Overseers of the Poor; Peter Opdyke, William Benner, and John Moherer, Fence Viewers; Anthony Lears, J. H. Gosman, B. H. Borgmann, J. D. Allis, S. Catterlin, Jno. H. Niemeyer, J. L. Pohlman, and Henry Dwinger, Supervisors of Roads. About the time of this election, or perhaps a few years prior, land sold for $1.25 per acre, and the erection of an humble hut required the services of all the neighbors within a radius of several miles. Now, however, though one of the smallest townships, it enjoys the distinction of being the third wealthiest in the county, by the appraisement of real and personal property returned to the Auditor. Within the township is the village of New Bremen, mentioned in this volume, and New Paris, or Lock Two, a settlement about one and a half miles northeast of that place.

NEW BREMEN.

The history of this progressive and wealthy town is so closely interwoven with that of German township that it is almost impossible to treat them separately. Here the first settlement of the township was made in 1832, by a company of Germans organized at Cincinnati for the purpose of colonization, and from here the neighborhood extended throughout the territory now belonging to that township organization, as those who came to the county to cultivate the soil arrived. The company, composed of thirty-three members, appointed F. H. Schroeder and A. F. Windeler, agents to visit different parts of Ohio and Indiana, and select a suitable location. They examined much of the territory north of Cincinnati, and journeyed through Indiana, but returned and selected the present site of New Bremen. Ten acres of land, purchased for $1 per acre from the government, was platted, and the town, which they named Bremen, was organized. The original plat consisted of one hundred and two lots, but many additions have been made. Under the plan of this company, each member was entitled to one lot, and those remaining were sold for $25 each. During the summer of 1833, members of the company began to arrive at their new home, after a long and weary journey from Cincinnati, and found erected for their accommodation one log hut, 12x14 feet in dimension. Soon others followed, and later in the same year there came from Bavaria emigrants who were destined to play a conspicuous part in the development of the town and country. During this or the following year Charles Boesel, founder of the Boesel family, and prominent in the early political history of the Northwest, established himself here, and during this time came the Maurer, Paul, and Brawn families. About this time J. H. Mesloh, Barnhart H. Mohrman, Albert Zehnkuhl, John F. Barth, John C. Kuenzel, William Wiemeyer, Dr. William A. Haverman, and J. H. Bosche, came in. All the early arrivals in this particular section being of Protestant faith, in 1833 a building which served the purpose of both church and school was erected, at the cost of $40, which amount no doubt drained the treasury of the community of the public funds there deposited. But with the constant arrival of new inhabitants also came discouragements. For almost every necessity of life it was necessary to travel great distances, and the ravishment of crops by wild game rendered residence and prospects in the little settlement anything but comfortable and hopeful. To gain a livelihood many of the settlers, in 1835, traveled to Indiana and found employment upon the Wabash canal, while the wife and children remained at home to harvest the little crop. It was during this year that the postoffice was established, and the name changed to New Bremen, to distinguish it from another town of the same name in the state. The first business enterprise established in the community was a horse mill, operated by Mr. Kuenning, which commanded the trade for a radius of many miles.

Beyond the felling of the forests, and the tilling of the soil, it was the only employment for labor to be found until the opening of the Miami and Erie canal, in 1838. This work gave an impetus to trade, and launched the town upon its first real solid business basis. In 1840, by legislative enactment, it was incorporated, and on April 13, of that year, the first election was held. Eight votes were polled: Mayor, G. Kleforth, eight votes; Recorder, C. Boesel, eight votes; Councilmen, G. M. Eppersen, F. F. Boshe, and F. Maurer, eight votes, and W. H Long, seven votes. C. Boesel and F. Wehrman were elected Judges of Election. After this election J. H. Knost was appointed Treasurer; W. H. Long, Marshal; and F. Wehrman, Street Commissioner. The same year a warehouse and water mill were established, and the community, laboring for the establishment of homes and the clearing and cultivation of its lands, flourished with exceeding prosperity until 1849, when the cholera almost devastated the settlement by sweeping from existence one hundred and fifty-seven of the settlers. Thus through hardship and disease the hardy pioneers labored with a faith and zeal that now seems almost an inspiration, and to their efforts the present generation owes the greater portion of its prosperity. The continuous growth of the town, and the settlement of all the surrounding territory brought to the attention of the people the necessity of better educational facilities than they had yet enjoyed, and in 1875 German township was organized into a union school district, and a building was erected in 1876, at the cost of $17,000. In 1877 the extension of the Lake Erie and Western railroad through the town, gave an outlet to commerce and material help to every branch of industry. For this improvement the town contributed more than twenty thousand dollars, and its growth has been steady and substantial since that time. Numerous manufacturing establishments have here found a permanent home, and it enjoys the reputation of being as substantial financially, in proportion to population, as any town in the state. The early settlers being largely Lutherans, the St. Paul's Lutheran church was organized in 1832, and the first services conducted in the building mentioned above. As the population increased, the church organization expanded, and a few years later another building was erected. Still later a brick building was built at the cost of several thousand dollars. On January 1, 1897, this was partially destroyed by fire, but has been rebuilt with magnificent furnishings. The congregation now numbers near eight hundred persons. St. Peters Lutheran Church was the second organized, and from it, in 1865, the Evangelical Zion Church was established. This congregation was reorganized and incorporated in 1873, and in 1896 erected a beautiful new building. A Catholic Church was also built here many years ago, but the members attend services at Minster. Within the past few years, among other modern improvements, the town has built an electric light plant, and in 1897 erected a new city hall, for the accommodation of the fire department. The officials at the present time are Gustave Boesel, Mayor; G. A. Kuenning, Clerk; Henry Dierker, Treasurer; Henry Weinberg, Marshal; and Henry Schmidt, Gerhard Watermann, August Dierker, August Neusmeyer, William Uetricht, and Herman Heinfeldt, members of the Council.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

WILLIAM BARTH was born in German township, October 18, 1840, and was a son of John F. and Elizabeth Barth, who came to this country from Germany, in 1834, and settled in this county. On November 3, 1870, the subject of this sketch was married to Miss Louisa Sprain, and nine children, Monetta W., Clara, Emma, Luella, Samuel, Edwin, Francis, Harry (deceased), and Franklin (deceased), were born to them. Mr. Barth has resided all his life in German township, and is a leading citizen of the county, having held many positions of trust. He was township Trustee for ten years, member of the School Board six years, and during his incumbency of this office the beautiful new school house was erected at New Bremen. He was Clerk of the Home Fire Insurance Company ten years, and its Treasurer fourteen years. He was elected County Commissioner in 1889, and served two terms. During his membership of this important body, many substantial improvements were made at the County Infirmary, and the magnificent new Court House was erected.

FREDERICK BEHM was born in Mecklenburg, Germany, October 11, 1844, and came to this country with his parents in 1850. Since that time he has continued to reside in Auglaize county, and in 1866 was married to Miss Malissa Brown. Three children, Mrs. Cora A. Laufersick, Mrs. Henrietta Slater, and J. W. Behm, have been born to them. He was a soldier, having enlisted in Co. I, 1st O. V. V. C. Mr. Behm is now an agent of the Wagner Brewing Company.

FREDERICK W. BEICKMANN is one of those honest, sturdy old Germans to whom Auglaize county is so much indebted for the prosperity she enjoys. He was born in Germany, March 29, 1829, and was a son of Charles and Sophia Beickmann. At the age of twenty-five he immigrated to this country, and after spending one year at Miamisburg, Ohio, located in German township, where he has since resided. Mr. Beickmann was twice married. The first wife was Miss Anna Fincke, who died in 1880. He again married in 1882, this time to Catharine Schleselmann, and is the father of eight children: Charles F. W., John H. W. (deceased), Anna L., Henry F. (deceased), Anna C., Henry A., Frederick H., and Edward C. He has been a farmer all his life, and a most successful one. He takes a deep interest in church affairs, and is President of the Board of Trustees of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, at New Bremen.

ADOLPH BOESEL is one of the rising young business men of the county, and is now Cashier of the Boesel Bank at New Bremen. He was born in that town, August 5, 1867, and is a son of Hon. Jacob and Louise Boesel. He received his education in the public schools of his native place, and in 1883 entered the institution of which he is now an official. In 1891 he was married to Miss Ida Haveman, and the union has been blessed by the birth of two children, Grace, and Reuben. Though a young man, Mr. Boesel's ability is of the right order, and his future is assured.

HON. JACOB BOESEL (deceased) was one of those men whose sterling integrity, ability and kindness live long after them. Born in New Bremen, February 6, 1841, a son of Hon. Charles and Wilhelmena (Maurer) Boesel, he resided there all his life, always interested in the welfare of his town and people, and there he died, August 17, 1896, mourned by all who knew him. His educational advantages in early life were very meager, but later his sturdy efforts were rewarded, and he attended the public schools of New Bremen and St. Marys, and graduated from Bartlett's Commercial College, Cincinnati, in 1860. Previous to this time, however, in 1856, he clerked in a store at St. Marys for two years, and in 1858 began his mercantile career by taking charge of his father's store, which he conducted until 1866, when he formed a partnership with C. H. Kuenning. This partnership was continued until 1893, when he was made President of Boesel's Bank. Politically, Mr. Boesel was a Democrat, and many were the honors bestowed upon him by his party. He was Clerk of German township six years, Mayor of New Bremen six years, and a member of the School Board four years. He was President of the first Building and Loan Association organized in his town, and President of the local Natural Gas Company. In 1889 he was elected to the General Assembly, and here his ability was immediately recognized by placing him upon the most important committee in the House. He was re-elected in 1891. In 1866 he was married to Miss Louisa Wolf, a native of Germany, and six children, Adolph, Ida, Alma, Otto, Walter and Dora (deceased), were born to them. He was a true friend, a loving parent, and left to his family the heritage of an honored name.

JULIUS BOESEL is a thoroughgoing business man whose ability is recognized and appreciated in financial circles. He was born at New Bremen, March 13, 1857, was reared and has resided here all his life. He was a son of Hon. Charles and Dorothea Boesel. His early education was received in the public schools of New Bremen, and later he graduated from Wilt's Commercial College, at Dayton. His business career was commenced in the Boesel Bank, with his father, in 1874. After the death of his father that institution was reorganized, with Jacob Boesel as President, and the subject of this sketch as Cashier. The former died in 1896, and the latter became the head of the business. In 1878 he was married to Miss Amelia Haveman, daughter of Dr. W. A. Haveman, and of their union eight children have been born: Helen, Maria, Dorothea, Gertrude, Albert G., Robert C., Stephen W., and Richard E. Mr. Boesel, with his family, resides in a beautiful country home, a short distance from New Bremen.

WILLIAM FREDERICK BRINKMEYER is a native of New Bremen, where he now resides, and was born there September 18, 1855. His father and mother were Herman H. and Louisa S. (Witte) Brinkmeyer, both natives of Germany. In 1884 he was united in marriage with Miss Caroline Marie Elizabeth Schwaberow, and three children, Minnie, Theodore, and Bertha, have been born to them. Mr. Brinkmeyer is a carpenter, and is following his trade with success at New Bremen.

JOHN H. ELLERMAN is another of the prosperous farmers of which this township is largely made up. Born within its precincts, April 24, 1843, he has resided in the same neighborhood all his life, and has followed the occupation of farming. He has served as a member of the township School Board for six years, and has been a Director of the St. Paul's church organization. He was married to Anna M. Althoff, and to them four children, Eliza M., John G., William H., and Mary A., have been born.

JOHN GARMHAUSEN. For forty-five years the subject of this sketch has been a resident of Auglaize county, and among its prominent pioneers none have had a more varied experience. Born at Osemberg, Germany, April 29, 1832, he was a son of Bernhardt and Anna (Heinfeldt) Garmhausen. With his parents he came to this county when but four years of age, and lived with them at Cincinnati until 1850. The previous year great gold discoveries in California attracted thousands across the barren prairies, and young Garmhausen decided to seek his fortune in the new El Dorado. He went by overland route, and worked for two years in the mines about Sacramento City, returning and locating in Auglaize county in 1852. Since that time he has been engaged in mercantile pursuits. In 1892 his store and residence were destroyed by fire, but have been rebuilt more substantially than ever. In 1854 he was married to Miss Mary Strasburg, and nine children, Florenz, Edward, Charles, Benjamin, Otto, Anna, Ida, Laura, and Emma, have blessed the union.

HERMAN HEINFELD was born at New Bremen, March 2, 1845, and was a son of Aaron and Mary Heinfeld, old pioneers of this county. In 1868 he was united in marriage with Miss Elsie Buggerman, and to them seven children, of whom are living, Lina, Matilda, Sophia, Lewis, and Edward, were born to them. Mr. Heinfeld is successfully engaged in the planing and saw milling business.

HENRY HELLBUSCH is a native of Auglaize county, and was born in German township, July 1, 1844. He was a son of John B. and Maria Hellbusch, well known and respected pioneers. In 1868 he was married to Miss Maria Nedderman, and to them five children, John F., William E., Sophia L., Edward F., and Minnie L., have been born. Mr. Hellbusch has resided in this county all his life, and has followed the occupation of cultivating the soil of his native township, but in the years that have come and gone has been honored by his friends with many positions of trust. He was elected township Trustee in 1884, and held the position until 1893. Together with this position he was elected Land Appraiser for his township, in 1889. In 1888, when the New Bremen Tri-County Fair Association was organized, he was elected President, and still remains at the head of that successful organization. He was elected Commissioner of Auglaize county, in 1895, and is serving in that capacity with the same ability that has ever made his career a success.

LOUIS HUENKE was the fourth son of Henry and Louisa (Strafer) Huenke, both natives of Germany, and was born in St. Marys township, this county, December 3, 1852. He was reared on his father's farm, and engaged in the same pursuit for himself, purchasing land just outside the west corporation line of New Bremen, and moving thereon in 1881, the year of his marriage to Miss Emma Wulffeck, a native of Cincinnati. Three children, Clifford, Gertie and Howard, have been born to them. Mr. Huenke has a fine farm, a comfortable home, and has extensive oil and creamery interests. In 1892 he opened a wholesale and retail butter store in Cincinnati, which proved a lucrative business. He is extensively engaged in stock raising, and is one of the most enterprising and respected citizens in the county.

HENRY A. JAEGER, the subject of this sketch, was born at New Bremen, March 16, 1859, and was a son of Henry and Marie Jaeger, old residents of that place. In 1882 he was united in marriage with Miss Caroline C. Brockman, and four children, Oscar, Edwin, Vernon, and Edith, have been born to them. Mr. Jaeger is a painter by trade, but at present is very successfully engaged in the cigar and tobacco trade. He is an ardent Democrat, and now represents his township on the County Central Committee of that party.

HENRY F. JUNG. Prominent in business circles, and in the councils of the Democratic party, of which he is an influential member, the subject of this sketch was born in New Bremen, Ohio, April 3, 1856, and has resided here his entire life. He was educated here, and here began the business career that has been productive of splendid results. His parents, F. P. and Anna (Fry) Jung, were old settlers of this county. In 1876 he was married to Miss Minnie Erb. They have three children, Theo. C., Dora A., and Leroy F. Mr. Jung is engaged in the stock business, and is a large shipper.

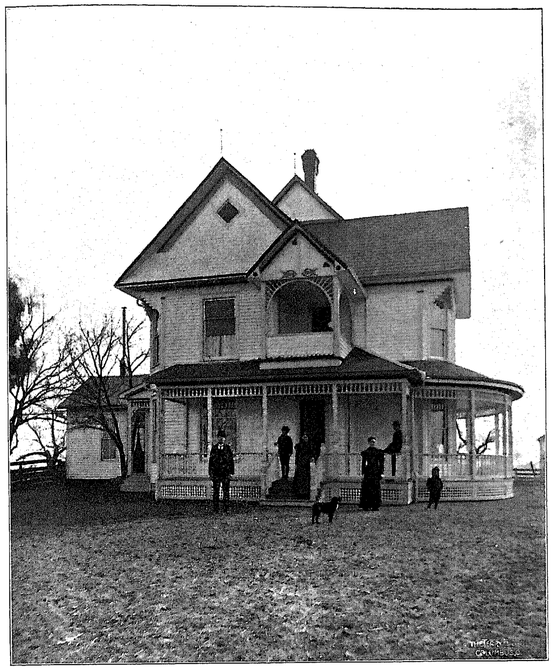
WILLIAM J. KUEST, one of the most successful young farmers in Auglaize county, was born in German township, December 1, 1858, and has resided there all his life. He was married on May 4, 1893, to Miss Louisa Conradi, and has engaged extensively in farming for several years.

HERMAN LAUT, for forty-four years a resident of Auglaize county, and a leader in all the enterprises of progressive New Bremen, the subject of this sketch, was born at Cincinnati, Ohio, September 29, 1849, and was a son of Christian and Catharine (Wiegers) Laut. In 1870 he married Miss Dorothea Purpus, and nine children, Emil, Robert, Franklin, Leona, Hulda, Esther, Louise, Herman (deceased) and Luetta (deceased), were born to them. Mr. Laut became successor to his father in 1868, and has since continued in the grocery and saloon business. He served two terms as Trustee of German township, seven years as Treasurer of the Concordia Building and Loan Association, and is interested in both the Damiana and Advance Oil Companies, which control about one thousand acres of land in the vicinity of New Bremen.

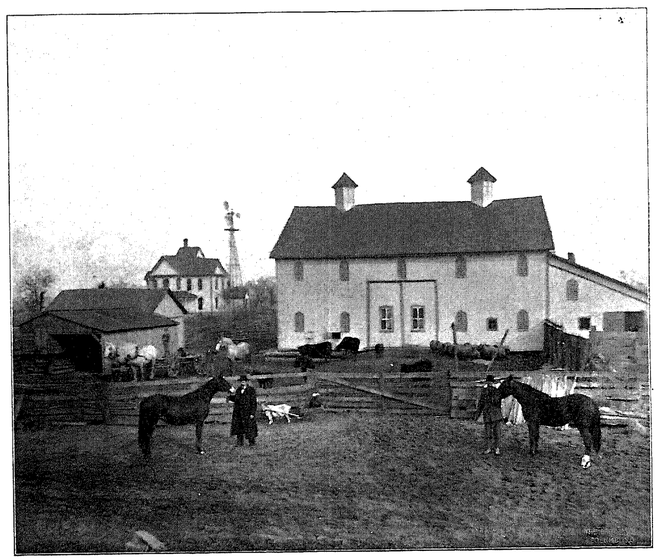
HENRY J. C. LAUT was born in Cincinnati, May 21, 1853, and was a son of Christian and Catharine (Wiegers) Laut. At the age of five years he came with his parents to this county, and his home has been at New Bremen since that time. Here he attended school and learned and worked at his trade, that of a wagon maker, and clerked in a hardware store until he engaged in business for himself. Twenty-five years ago he opened a liquor store, and continued in that business until the erection in 1896, of the new Hotel Central, of which he is proprietor and manager. The house, while not large, is one of the best hotel properties in the state. It is modern in every respect, and is conducted in such a manner as to draw an immense business. Mr. Laut has twice been elected Treasurer of German township, and has been and is one of the most influential members of the Democracy in Western Auglaize. He has been a member of both the central and executive committees of that party for years. In 1874 he was married to Miss Minnie Kuenning, and five children, Adolph, Luella, Harvy, Paula, and Bernice, have been born to them.

HERMAN H. MÖLLER was born in Germany, March 12, 1833, and came to Auglaize county fifty-five years ago. He cleared the farm where he now lives, and by the same industry and frugality which characterizes so many of his people, he has acquired a handsome competence, which has enabled him to materially assist his interesting family. He was married to Miss Lisetta Weihe, and ten children, Ernst H., Minnie, Henry, Christian, Sophia, William, Mary, Court., Martha, and Frederick, have been born to them. He has a fine home and splendid farm near New Bremen.

FERDINAND HENRY LOUIS NIETER is a pioneer of Auglaize county, and truly a self-made man. His life is an example of what a man of energy and integrity can accomplish in this country. He has not only acquired a competence for himself and family, but has earned the respect of all who know him. Born in the Kingdom of Hanover, April 26, 1832, he came to this country in 1834, with his parents, who, when they reached their journey's end at New Bremen, found that they had just $5 upon which to subsist and secure a home. At that time but three houses had been built at that place, then called Bremen, and while wild game of all kind was plentiful, the people had no fire arms, and food was consequently scarce. His father was employed on the Miami and Erie canal, at $12 per month, and was happy to receive so much. It was under these

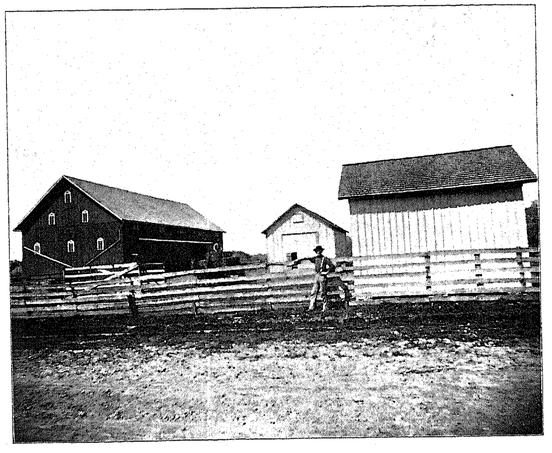


RESIDENCE OF D. U. SHAPPELL, DUCHOUQUET TOWNSHIP.



FARM VIEW OF D. U. SHAPPELL, DUCHOUQUET TOWNSHIP.





RESIDENCE AND FARM VIEW OF AMOS GEARHART, NOBLE TOWNSHIP.

circumstances that Mr. Nieter began life. In 1855 he was united in marriage with Miss Sophia Hellbusch, and eleven children have been born to them; seven of whom, Anna M. M., Henry J. B., William C. D., Clara M. L., Valerius, Ferdinand, and Emma, are living. Mr. Nieter is a cooper by trade, but for years has been in the insurance business, Justice of the Peace for German township, and Notary Public.

EDWARD PURPUS was born in Germany, January 15, 1847, and was a son of Lewis and Louisa Purpus. He received a good education in his native land, and at the age of sixteen years came to this country, landing in New York City, where he spent several months. From there he came west to Huntington, Ind., and in 1865 to New Bremen. In 1868 he began teaching school, and continued that work for several years, during which time he was elected Justice of the Peace of German township. In 1877 he engaged in mercantile pursuits, which he yet continues in connection with the insurance and telephone business. In 1885 he was appointed Postmaster by President Cleveland, and he has been twice elected Mayor of New Bremen. He was married in 1876 to Miss Elizabeth Heil, who died in 1890, leaving him three children, Clara, Dora, and Irma. In 1892 he was again married, this time to Miss Josephine Hais, of Covington, Ky.

THEODORE PURPUS, publisher of the New Bremen Star, one of the representative German citizens of Auglaize county, was born in Bavaria, Germany, November 6, 1844. He attended school until sixteen years of age, and entered the service of the government, where he remained until his departure for this country, in December, 1865. He came direct to New Bremen, secured a position as teacher in the public schools, and continued in that capacity until 1879, when he purchased his newspaper property, which was then located at Minster. The plant was removed to New Bremen immediately, and has been a most successful venture financially and otherwise. Mr. Purpus is a man of enterprise, and has always advocated every improvement that would be in any manner beneficial to his town. He has held the offices of Clerk of German township, Clerk of the Board of Education, and Secretary of the local Building and Loan Association. He was married to Miss Antoinette Vockell, a native of this county, and to them have been born eight children: Louisa, Theodore, Alfred, Adolph, Otto, Leo, and Florentina, and Emma, both deceased.

WILLIAM SCHULENBERG is a pioneer of Auglaize county, having resided within her borders for the past fifty-five years. He was born at Cincinnati, September 7, 1838, and was a son of Heinrich F. and Wilhelmina (Buck) Schulenberg. He was married to Miss Catharine Helwig, in 1865, and three children, Anna, now the wife of Edward Langhorst, Herbert, and Francis, were born to them. Mr. Schulenberg is one of the best known men in the county, and has the distinction of having been elected Sheriff on the Republican ticket, although the county has been largely Democratic from its organization. He was Postmaster of New Bremen for seventeen years, Mayor and Treasurer of the same, and Treasurer and Justice of the Peace of German township. He was a soldier, enlisting in Co. C, 37th Reg. O. V. I., and served three years.

GERHARD HENRY WIEDEMANN. Among the sons of Auglaize county who have spent their life within her borders, none have added more materially to her development than the gentleman above named. He was born in New Bremen, March 17, 1847, and was a son of Fred A. and Anna Marie Wilhelmenia (Schumacker) Wiedemann. In 1869 he was married to Miss Katharina Mary Ellerman, and three children, Gustave, Anna, and Emil, have been born to them. Mr. Wiedemann was employed for some time in the New Bremen Woolen Mills, but twenty-five years ago purchased a farm on the Amsterdam pike, which he cleared, and upon which he now resides. His farm has been thoroughly improved, and he has a beautiful home. He has always been a Democrat in politics, and in 1897 was elected township Trustee on that ticket, by a handsome majority. He and Mrs. Wiedemann are members of the St. Paul's Lutheran church at New Bremen.

WILLIAM WIEHE. Born and reared in German township, this industrious young farmer possesses all the qualifications that make the respected and substantial citizen. Mr. Wiehe resides on the farm where he was born September 6, 1869, and is a son of Henry and Sophia Wiehe, the former a native of Germany, and the latter a native of this county. In 1893 he was married to Miss Elizabeth Schwetter, also a native of this county, and two children, Clara, and Hulda, have been born to them.

C. F. WISSMAN was born in German township, this county, November 14, 1848, and was a son of John F. and Christina Wissman. His wife was formerly Miss Louisa Fostrick, and to them six children have been born: Flora, Emil, Anna (deceased), Clara, Henry, and Grover. During his residence in New Bremen he has been engaged in carpentering and general building work as a contractor, but at present is engaged in the saloon business. He has always been a prominent man in the town, and was Corporation Treasurer for six years. He has been identified with the Concordia Building and Loan Company for several years, is a member of the local fire company, and at present is President of the Northern Fire Company of New Bremen.

JOHN H. R. WUEBBELING, a splendid farmer whose land lies in the center of what is known as the East New Bremen oil field, was born in German township, September 12, 1854, and resided here all his life. His parents, Rudolph and Maggie Wuebbeling, immigrated to this country from Germany many years ago. He was twice married, the first wife being Miss Anna Schwepe, the present, Miss Sophia Ziegenbush. He is the father of seven children: Emma, William, Anna, Eddie (deceased), Lydia (deceased), Harry and Walter. Mr. Wuebbeling has been a farmer all his life, but has been interested in saw milling and threshing machines. The oil pumping station for that field is located on his farm. He held the office of township Trustee for three years.

GOSHEN TOWNSHIP.

Occupied as it is by the great East and West Prairies, Goshen township, which lies in the southeast portion of the county, and which was organized from Wayne township in 1836, is important by reason of the large agricultural interests. It is also the headwaters of two important rivers of the state, the Scioto and Miami. A few years ago almost one fourth of the territory of the township was covered with water and bore the appearance of being entirely lost to cultivation, but the richness of the black soil was the inducement that caused the expenditure of large sums of money for drainage, and the redemption of thousands of acres of land as fertile as any in Ohio. Upon this land great farms, some containing several hundred acres, are cultivated, and produce, annually, enormous quantities of corn, wheat, broom corn and potatoes. The Scioto drains the greater part of East Prairie, while Muchanippi creek, head of the Miami, has been deepened and widened until it resembles a small river, and drains the West Prairie and contingent territory. The balance of the township is of gravelly clay loam and is very productive. It is thoroughly piked and is well provided with schools and churches. Among the first settlers were R. L. G. Means, who located here in 1835, John McLain, who followed in 1837, and Bazil Day, Joseph Cline, John C. Hurley, Alanson Earl, and William and Daniel Black.

NEW HAMPSHIRE VILLAGE.

The pretty little village of New Hampshire, lying on the western border of the great and fertile body of land known as the East Prairie, had its origin almost identical with the organization of Goshen township. It was laid out in 1836 by John Kindle, and occupies the northwest quarter of section four of the above named township, then a portion of Allen county. The original plat contained sixteen acres. But one addition has been made, and that by the original proprietor of the town. Among the first merchants and manufacturers of the place were members of the North family. Hiram North having opened the first store in the town, and Orin North built the first steam mill. While it has not grown largely in population, New Hampshire has year after year improved in many respects, and is a trading center of considerable importance, being surrounded, as it is, by farmers who cultivate the soil on an extensive scale.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

JAMES BARNES, one of the most successful farmers in Auglaize county, was born near Woodley's Mills, England, September, 7, 1843, and immigrated with his parents, William and Christena Barnes, to this country, settling in this county twenty-four years ago. He married Miss Catharine Freeman, and to them were born nine children: S. E., R. J., W. M., F. A., G. N., L. M., N. G., E. O., and B. A. Mr. Barnes has always been a farmer and has acquired much valuable property.

GEORGE WASHINGTON BUFFENBARGER was born at New Hampshire, this county, June 23, 1867. His father, Sampson Buffenbarger, was born in Clark county, Ohio, in 1811, and was married to Diana Stamats in 1836. His wife died in 1854, and he was married again in 1866 to Mary L. Kindle, who was the mother of our subject. Sampson Buffenbarger died in 1894, at the age of eighty-two years, and his wife died in 1896, at the age of fifty-five years. G. W. Buffenbarger was married to Miss Emma Varvel in 1889, and she died November 13, 1896, aged twenty-three years. Four children were the result of this union: Jason E., Lena L., Irma A. (deceased), and Judson O. He is one of the prosperous farmers of Goshen township, where he has always resided.

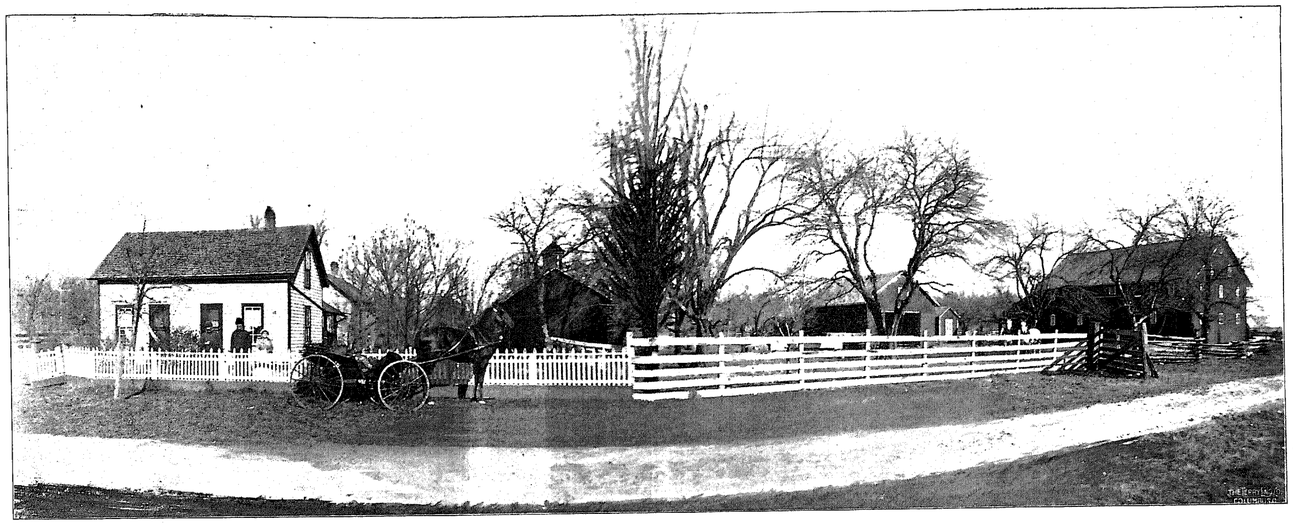
MARTIN V. B. BUFFENBARGER. A biographical history of Auglaize county would be incomplete without mention of the subject of this sketch. He was born in Madison township, Clark county, Ohio, March 29, 1840, being a son of Samuel and Eliza Ann Buffenbarger. On New Year's day, 1867, he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Harpole, and the following month removed to Auglaize county, settling in section 34, Goshen township. From this marriage eleven children have been born: Harpole, Irena, Elihu, Cenetta, Owen, John, Iola (deceased), Merta, Mary, Martin H., and Charley. Mr. Buffenbarger remained where he first settled until 1872, when he built a residence on his farm in section four, same township where he now resides. He has held many positions of trust in his township and in the county, and his high sense of honor and vigorous efforts in behalf of those whom he served has made him a reputation to be desired by any man. He was elected township trustee in 1876, for three years, and re-elected for five successive years. In 1893 he was appointed by the Commissioners a member of the Board of Infirmary Directors, to fill the unexpired term of Asa Martin, Sr., and served one year. He was then elected by the people, and served in that capacity for four years, with the same fidelity and honesty that has characterized his every action, both public and private. Mr. Buffenbarger has always been a most successful farmer and stock raiser. His portrait appears in this work.

HARRY S. CHAPMAN, the subject of this biography, was born at Utica, Licking county, Ohio, January 19, 1864, and was a son of Sidney A. and Eliza Chapman. He attended the schools of his native town until seventeen years of age when he attended the Ohio State University, at Columbus, for one year. Leaving that institution he accepted a position with one of the largest dry goods firms in Columbus and remained with them from 1881 to 1888. He then came to New Hampshire and entered into business with his brother, but in 1892 purchased the latter's interest, and is now conducting one of the best general merchandise stores in the county. In 1888 Mr. Chapman was united in marriage with Miss Albra A. Rollin, at Pierceville, Ind., and three children, of whom, Nellie L., three years old, is living.

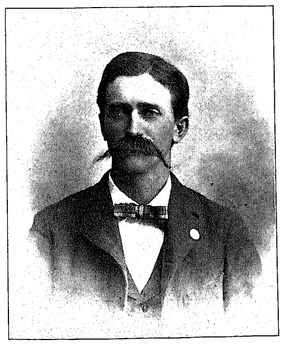
ARTHUR LEON COOMBS, a promising young attorney, was born near New Hampshire, this county, December 6, 1870, and was a son of Joseph L. and Margaret J. Coombs. Mr. Coombs has resided at Spencerville, Lima and Kenton, having studied law in the office of Hon. Henry J. May, at the latter place. He is now residing at New Hampshire, and though quite a young man has succeeded in building up a large business. He was the Republican candidate for Prosecuting Attorney in 1897.

JOHN R. CORDREY, a leading citizen of Goshen township, was born near Port Washington, Tuscarawas County, Ohio, January 30, 1855, and was a son of Riley and Mary (Smetts) Cordrey, both natives of Ohio. Mr. Cordrey was reared upon a farm, and is now engaged in agriculture. He came from the county of his birth to Auglaize, and has resided here twenty-five years. He is a Republican in politics and is prominently identified with the party organization. He is president of the Board of Education of Goshen township, and is a member of the Board of Deputy State Supervisors of Elections. He was married to Miss Sarah J. Cummins in 1879, and one child, Bernard A., was born to them October 7, 1880.

FRANCIS MARION SLOAN has for twenty-five years been a successful farmer in Auglaize county. He was born in Champaign county, Ohio, and was a son of James and Rachael Sloan. He married Miss Lucinda Strasburg in 1872, and five children, Julia A., William G., Anna M., Arthur E., and Pearl F., have been born to them. Mr. Sloan is well and favorably known in his section of the county.



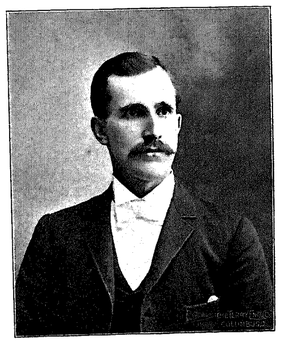
RESIDENCE AND FARM VIEW, JOHN SHOFFSTALL, CLAY TOWNSHIP.



JOHN M. GUTMANN.



BUSINESS PLACE OF MRS. M. E. GUTMANN AND SONS, GUTMAN, OHIO.



PHILIP J. N. GUTMANN.



RESIDENCE AND FARM VIEW OF WM. PFALTZ, PUSHETA TOWNSHIP.



MRS. MARY E. GUTMANN.

JACKSON TOWNSHIP.

The history of Jackson township is almost identical with that of German, from which it was organized in 1858. Like the latter, it was settled by Germans who have, to this day, preserved their nationality, and who, under the plan of colonization, located the town of Minster, and extended their colony, or the cultivation of the surrounding country, from year to year, until lands were occupied and homes established, even beyond the township, which at that time was located in and belonged to Darke county. The first permanent location of these pioneers, as has been stated, was at the town of Minster in 1833, and from that time, for a number of years, the history of town and township was blended almost entirely into one. Just east of Minster the Loramie reservoir extends into the township. The soil is of that black sandy loam from which bounteous crops spring with the regularity of the seasons. Much good oil territory has also been developed within the township.

MINSTER VILLAGE.

The history of Minster and its foundation as a town, the neighborhood being the first location of settlers in that territory, is identical almost with German and Jackson townships, and like New Bremen was organized by a colony of Germans, for whom Francis Joseph Stallo, of Mercer county, Ohio, entered at the Piqua land office on September 8, 1833, after the organization of the stock company, the land upon which it was originally located. Stallo entered the northeast quarter of section 34, the northwest quarter of section 35, the southeast quarter of section 27, and the southwest quarter of section 26, then situated in Darke county. The company met in Cincinnati, in April, 1833, and drew lots for property which Stallo had caused to be platted prior to this time. The estimated cost to each member of the company was about $8.50, and shortly afterward numerous arrivals proceeded to erect houses on their newly acquired lands. As has been observed, the town was originally a settlement of Germans, and it has retained its nationality to a great extent. The town is noted in local history as the birthplace of Catholicism in this territory, and it was here that the first church organization of that religion was established. Professor Horstman, who had located in Putnam county, in 1831, and to whom we have referred to before, came on foot through the country, and after holding services for some time at the home of the Voltke family, succeeded in 1832 in erecting a log church 40x60 feet in dimensions. The next year a school was established, though the cholera almost depopulated the little settlement during that and the latter part of the previous year. While the town was yet in its infancy, struggling for an existence, the opening of the Miami canal in 1838 gave employment to many of the inhabitants and furnished a mode of bringing in supplies that greatly benefited it in a business way. The following years were given up almost entirely to the clearing of lands and improvement of property, and among the first settlers were the Goeke, Steineman and Lang families. The extension to the town of the Lake Erie and Western Railroad created new life and business activity. The brewery which had been built in 1870 was remodeled and greatly enlarged, and several manufacturing establishments contributed to the prosperity of the community. The development in the last few years of what is known as the Minster oil field has also been a source of benefit.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

COLSTON LAWRENCE DINE, M. D. The able and scholarly gentleman who is the subject of this sketch was born near Tiffin, Ohio, February 11, 1858, and was a son of William and Margaret (Kennedy) Dine. When he was four years of age his parents removed to Mercer county, where he obtained his education in the public schools, and where he retained his home until twelve years ago, when he removed to Minster to practice his profession. In 1886 he graduated from the Medical College of Ohio, at Cincinnati, winning honors in two departments. He is a member of the American Medical Association, Ohio State Medical Society, Northwestern Ohio and the Shelby County Medical Societies. He was twice married, the first wife being Miss Elizabeth Harner, his present wife Miss Josephine Herkenhoff. He is the father of six children, Lockie F., Portia A., Mary I., Frank W., Maud E., and Charles E. Dr. Dine is a man of many attainments and has a large and increasing practice.

AUGUST F. ISERN, though a young man, is one of the most prosperous farmers of this township, where prosperity abounds. He was a son of Frederick and Anna M. Isern, natives of Germany, who immigrated to this country and settled in Auglaize county many years ago, and was born in Jackson township, April 18, 1860. In 1892 he was married to Miss Pauline Lehmkuhl. One child, Homer, has blessed the union. Mr. Isern attended the New Bremen High School, and has been a trustee and a member of the Executive Board of St. Paul's German Lutheran church for the past five years.

JOHN FREDERICK KRAMER, a young man, yet prominently identified with the business interests of his town, was born at Minster, February 6, 1865, and is a son of J. B. and Bernadine Kramer. In 1889 he was united in marriage with Miss Caroline, daughter of Frank Herkenhoff, and to them five children, Edna, Andrew, Cora, Herbert, and Ethel, have been born. Mr. Kramer commenced his business career in 1882, as a clerk with Kramer & Haverbeck, and in 1892 succeeded to the ownership of his father's interest in the hardware business, in which he is now engaged. He is a staunch Democrat and was elected clerk of the township in 1890, holding the position four years. He has been a member of the Board of Education six years, five of which he was its clerk. He has also been a member of the county board of Deputy State Supervisors of Elections since 1894.

JOHN LAUFERSWEILER, progressive and prosperous, a good type of that class of men whose indomitable will, honesty and industry make them leaders in any community. Our subject was born in Rhine Province, Germany, April 25, 1844, and was a son of Peter and Anna Marie (Frederich) Laufersweiler. At the age of four years he came with his parents to this country, and they settled between New Bremen and Minster. Like the immortal Garfield he commenced life's battle as a canal boat driver. When sixteen years of age he drove the mail stage between New Bremen and Piqua. Later he learned the tinner's trade, and in 1866 purchased an interest in the business of which he soon became sole proprietor. In 1867 he was married to Miss Agnes Sprehe, who died in 1882. Eight children were born to them: Josephine, Bernadina (deceased), Charles, Joseph, Frank (deceased), Cecilia, Katie, and Lawrence (deceased). In 1885 he was married to Anna Schmucker, and five children, Ida Loretta, Olive, Maurice H., and Normie, have been the result of this union. Mr. Laufersweiler served as Clerk of the village of Minster eight years, Mayor eight years, and Treasurer four years. He is a stockholder in the Minster Bank and in the Jackson Gas and Oil Company. He has also been Secretary of the Minster Loan and Savings Company since 1873, and has one of the best equipped hardware and grocery stores in western Ohio.

PETER ADOLPH MITTLER, one of the substantial and respected citizens of Minster, was born at Frimmersdorf, Germany, February 1, 1841, and was a son of John and Cecilia (Tillenburg) Mittler. He immigrated to this country in 1868, and located in Cincinnati and Newport, Ky., where he was employed in the brewing trade. He has resided in Minster for the past twenty years, and is the brewer for the Star Brewery, in which institution he is a stockholder. He served three years and ten months in the German army. In 1872 he was married to Elizabeth Menkhaus, and ten children, Bertha, Cecilia, Clara, Adolph, Odillia, Francis, Kate, Alvina, and Herbert, were born to them.

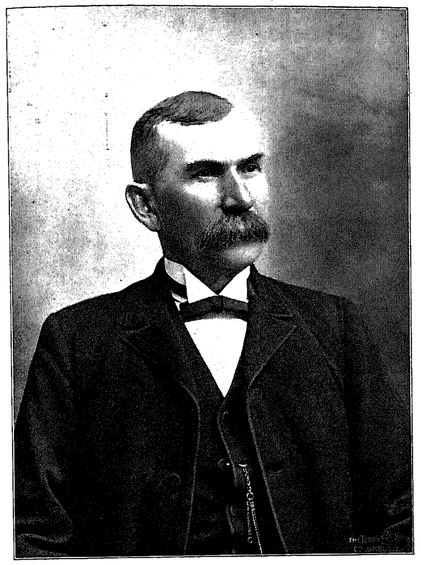
BARNEY NAGEL, a view of whose substantial home appears among the pages of this work, was born in Germany, January 13, 1845, and was a son of Barney H. and Elizabeth Nagel, who arrived in this country with their family when the subject of this sketch was but three years of age. Mr. Nagel's parents came direct to Ohio and settled in Jackson township, where he has ever since resided. He received such an education as was possible to obtain in those early days of toil and hardship, and remained on the farm, laboring to make for himself a home. In 1869 he married Clara Holiday, and six children, William, John B., Elizabeth, Clara J. (deceased), Anna, and Rosa, were born to them. Mrs. Nagel died May 1st, 1886, and in 1887 he was married to Miss Anna Schulte. Four children, Bernard, Charles, Edward, and Ernst have been the result of this union. Mr. Nagel has served two terms as Trustee of his township, six years as Trustee of the Catholic Church organization at Minster, and nine years as Director of the local Children's Home. His farm is in the Minster oil field, and he is one of those sturdy, honest Germans who have contributed so much to the county's welfare, and no man is more highly esteemed than he.

R. A. RULEMAN, M. D., locating at Minster, this county, immediately upon his graduation, this able and successful practitioner rapidly acquired a lucrative business, which he yet retains, and which is constantly increasing. Dr. Ruleman was born in Prussia, January 19, 1860, and was a son of Herman B. and Augusta (Mueller) Ruleman. The father came to this country in 1865 and settled in Indiana. The family came over in 1869, landing in Baltimore, and arriving in Cincinnati July 4th. Before coming to America Dr. Ruleman attended school for a short time in his native land, and later was a pupil in the public schools of both Ohio and Indiana. He was a student at Francis College two years, and deciding to make the medical profession his life work, he commenced the study of that science in 1874. The following year he entered the Ohio Medical College, at Cincinnati, from which he graduated in 1881. The mother having died in 1875, the father took up his residence at Minster, and the young physician decided to locate here also. The same year of his arrival he was united in marriage with Miss Isabel Schmieder, daughter of Senator J. P. Schmieder, and two children, Albert H. and John P. (deceased), were born to them. Mrs. Ruleman died in 1886 and in 1888 he was again married, this time to Miss Josephine Vogelsang. Two children, Clarence and Herbert, have been given them. In connection with his practice Dr. Ruleman conducts a first-class drug store. He is President of the Minster School Board and has held other positions of trust.

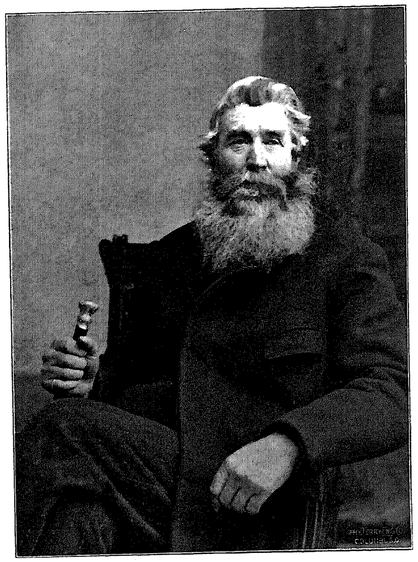
GEORGE VAN OSS, prominent alike in Auglaize county business and political circles, was born in Holland, January 1, 1844, and was a son of Theodore Van Oss, who, with his family, immigrated to this country in 1856, and came direct to Minster, this county. The object of this biography attended the common schools of his native land, and after taking up his residence here attended night school for three years, thus obtaining his English education. At the age of fifteen years he began work at the bricklaying trade, and upon attaining his majority entered into partnership with his father. This partnership existed until 1882, when he was elected Commissioner of Auglaize county. He was elected to that office for a second term, and during his administration many of the most important improvements in the county were made. Since his retirement from office he has been cashier of the Minster Bank. In 1865 he married Miss Bernadina Albers, a native of this county, and they became the parents of one child, Theodore. Mrs. Van Oss died in the spring of 1867, and in the fall of 1868 he was again married, this time to Miss Caroline Bergman, and ten children, Mary, Henry, John, George, Stephen A., Catherine, Rosie, Anthony, Amelia, and Julia, have been born to them.

HON. JOSEPH SCHMIEDER, an excellent portrait of whom appears on page shown by index, was born at Minster, January 17, 1868, and was a son of Dr. J. P. and Sophia Schmieder. Mr. Schmieder's father was one of the best known and most prominent citizens of Auglaize county. He was born in Germany in 1820 and immigrated to this country in 1846. He was conspicuous in all the affairs of the county and was twice elected to the state senate. The subject of this sketch has always resided at the place of his birth and there received his early education. Later he attended the St. Marys Institute, at Dayton, for two years. Mr. Schmieder, though a young man, has received great honors at the hands of his party and the people. He has been elected Justice of the Peace of Jackson township three successive terms, was elected Mayor of Minster in 1896, and in 1897 was nominated by the Democratic party and elected a member of the General Assembly of Ohio. In all these responsible positions he has acquitted himself honorably and to the satisfaction of his constituency. In October, 1892, he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Freidrichs.

BERNARD SHERMAN, publisher of the Minster "Post," and one of the most promising young men of the county, was born at Loramies, Ohio, November 1, 1860, and is a son of John and Bernadine Sherman. Nine years ago he came to this county and has been teaching school the greater part of that time. He also does civil engineering when not otherwise engaged. He purchased the Minster "Post" in 1896, and is printing a newsy German paper. He was educated at the St. Marys Institute, at Dayton, and the National Normal University, at Lebanon, Ohio. He married Miss Elizabeth Gocke in 1889, and six children, Mathias J., Bernadina W., Karl H., Frederick A., Geneva J., and M. Alma, have been born to them.



JOHN A. WERST.



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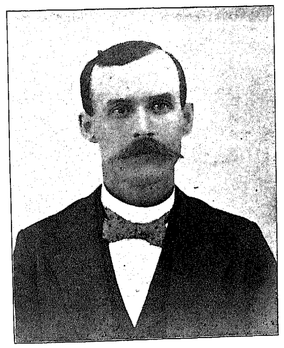

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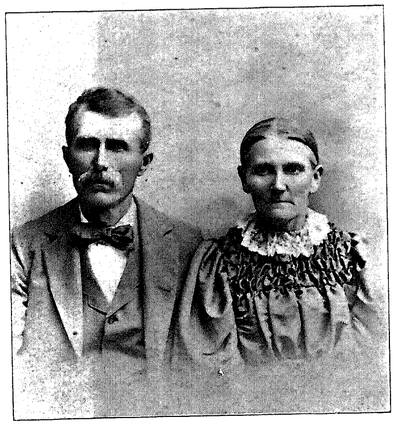
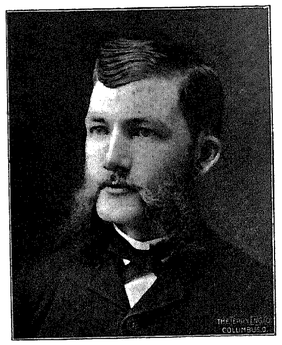


GEORGE GEYER AND WIFE.



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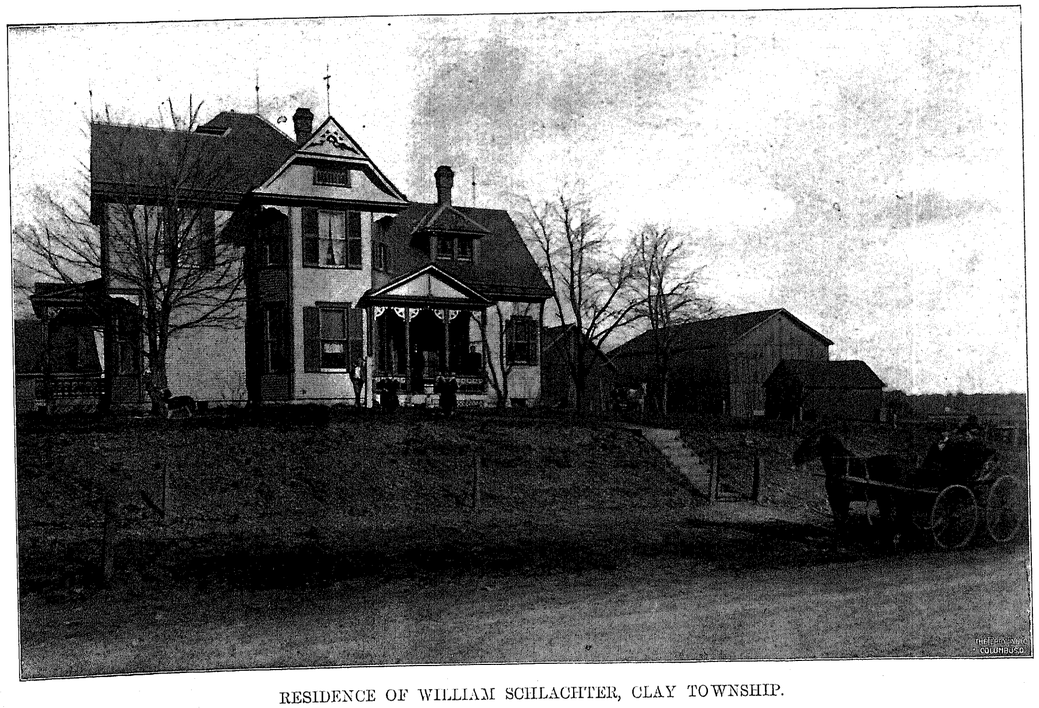


RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM SCHLACHTER, CLAY TOWNSHIP.

LOGAN TOWNSHIP.

Few sections in all the counties of the historic Northwest furnish a more fertile field to the student of local history than the territory embraced in Logan township. Through it passed and repassed the army of General Harrison, during the War of 1812, and here, by his orders in 1813, Col. Pogue built opposite the Ottawa towns, on what is now the Lathrop farm, Ft. Amanda, which was named by the regiment in honor of Col. Pogue's wife. The fort became a store house and base of supplies for the army, in the concentrated advance upon Canada. Here the first religious services were held, when Father J. B. Finley came to preach, in the early days of his missionary labors in the Northwest. Near this point is also located what is yet known as "Logan Section," 640 acres of land granted by the government to Chief Logan, for his fidelity and services to the American cause during this second struggle with Great Britain. The Auglaize river passes through it from south to north, and the stories of the first settlers handed down to the present generation of the abundance of wild game along its banks, the fishes of its waters, of the Indians whose homes were here, and of their own struggles for the commonest necessities of life, would alone make a volume of interest. The first postoffice of the township was established at Ft. Amanda, and Samuel Washburn was the first postmaster. The mail was then carried on horseback from Piqua to Defiance, over the old trail of the army to the North. The first white settlements within the township were made along the river, and in 1823 Andrew Russell, with his wife and five children, moved into the fort. He was followed in 1825 by William Berryman, who with his wife and twelve children settled on the place known as the Russell Berryman farm, now in the possession of J. G. Miller. Then came Elder Simon Whetstone, James Crozier, and William Taylor, who lived to the remarkable age of one hundred and nine years. Soon came Abraham Whetstone, Leonard Place, Daniel Gregory, Jacob Baker, Charles Pernell, and Isaac Terwilliger. During 1848 many others arrived, among whom were the Wheeler and Richardson families, N. C. Edman, S. M. Dixon, the Blackburn and Bodkin families, A. J. Culp, F. M. and M. J. Bowsher, John H. and James H. Gochenour, John Dingledine, and Michael Dietsch. During this year the township was organized and named in honor of Logan, the Indian of noble fame. It had formerly belonged to Amanda and Moulton townships, of Allen county, and a tier of sections from the former, and a tier and a half from the latter were taken for its construction. It is four and a half miles north and south, and six miles east and west, containing twenty-seven square miles.

There is but one town in the township, Buckland, and the Lake Erie and Western railroad crosses the southeast corner. Much valuable oil territory has been developed, and its production has for some years been an industry of importance, furnishing employment to many persons, and bringing to the community considerable wealth. The first officers of the township were Leonard Place, Jacob Baker and William Dennison, Trustees; W. B. Vance, Clerk; Abraham Whetstone, Treasurer; Jacob Baker, Justice of the Peace. The soil of the township is very fertile, and the fine improved farms, the gravel roads and the oil derricks, rearing their skeleton-like forms into the air on every hand, surely make a view far different from anything those early pioneers could possibly have anticipated.

BUCKLAND VILLAGE.

The village of Buckland is located on the Auglaize river and the Lake Erie and Western railroad, and was originally named White Feather, in honor of an Indian Chief of that name, but whose history appears to be something of a mystery. The town was platted and organized by Josiah Clawson and John H. Gochenour, November 27, 1872, upon the advent of the Lake Erie and Western railroad, which had been projected and partially graded almost twenty years before. Upon the building of the road there was a contest by the citizens of the neighborhood as to the location of the station, but the present site was selected by the company, and in a short time the village name was changed by the road and citizens to Buckland, in honor of General Buckland, of Fremont, Ohio, and one of the men interested in the road's construction. The name was not changed officially, however, until 1891, when the citizens petitioned the county Commissioners to change the name from White Feather to Buckland, and also to incorporate the town. The petition, which was granted, says that the town had at that time three hundred inhabitants. At the first election after the incorporation, held in 1892, Hon. W. G. Brorein was elected Mayor; W. U. Lathrop, Clerk; W. N. Dingledine, Treasurer; T. Bodkin, Marshal; and R. W. Sharp, M. D., J. H. Gochenour, D. W. Kiester, Henry Sites, Fred. Ziegenbush, and A. Nuss, members of the council. The old town of White Feather occupied the west half of the northwest quarter of section eleven, and the east half of the northeast quarter of section ten, and the lots numbered from one to thirty. In 1874 the first addition was made by J. H. Gochenour, and was followed by three more by him. An addition was also made by Josiah Clawson. The first store room and residence in the place was erected by Philip Stiles, and is now occupied by Hon. W. G. Brorein. Mr. Stiles also built and operated the elevator. The Christian Union church was the first built in the town, and a new one is now in course of erection by the same denomination. The town has several enterprises of moment, and was important for some years as the headquarters of the employees of the oil companies operating in what is known as the Buckland field.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

LEVI C. BAKER, who lives about a mile northeast of Buckland, is one of those gentlemen whose sterling integrity merits and receives the honest admiration of all his neighbors. Born on the old Baker homestead, near where he now resides, and a part of which he is the owner, January 21, 1847, he was a son of Jacob and Nancy Baker, among the earliest settlers of this section of the county. Mr. Baker was reared on the farm, received his education in the schools of the neighborhood, and has followed the pursuit of the agriculturist all his life. He is a farmer of modern ideas, and his home affords every convenience conducive to comfort. Together with farming Mr. Baker has taken great interest in stock raising, and is a large breeder. In 1871 he was married to Miss Victoria Richardson, a native of this county, and five children, Una F., now the wife of L. L. Loeser, Ella M., Ida, Carrie, and Cyntha, have been born to them.

CHARLES F. BOWSHER is one of the young farmers of Auglaize who is accumulating many of this world's valuables. He is a son of Francis M. and Elizabeth Bowsher, pioneers of this county, and was born June 21, 1869. In 1890 he was married to Miss Amanda C. Brincefield, and two children have been born to them; Clara M., and H. Frederick. Mr. Bowsher has been a farmer all his life, but is largely interested in stock raising. His farm is in the heart of the great Hume oil field, and on it are seven good producing wells. He has a fine home which he is constantly improving.

THOMAS E. BOWSHER is one of those farmers who conducts his affairs in the same methodical manner, and with the same care as that employed by the banker or other business man, and the result is apparent from every point. A young man, just merging into the prime of life, he early recognized the importance of such conduct of his affairs, and the necessity of employing every available modern method to the production and care of such crops as are usually produced in this section of the state. He not only practices all the improved plans which advance the interests of the farmer, but has advocated them in prize contests in some of the best agricultural publications in the country, and has invariably come out the winner. He has also done much work in the Buckland Farmers' Institute, as its Secretary, since its organization. He was the originator of the Buckland Farmer's Club, and organized that interesting body. He has been a member of the County Agricultural Board, and a member of his township's School Board. Mr. Bowsher was born July 25, 1863, and is a son of Francis M. and Elizabeth Bowsher. He resides on what is known as the "Hickory Grove Farm," one mile east of Buckland, and is justly proud of the title of "A Model Farmer." His residence and surroundings are such as permit almost every comfort enjoyed in the city. In December, 1886, he was united in marriage to Miss Jennie Anderson, and two children, Myrtle, and Oscar, have been born to them.

HON. WILLIAM G. BROREIN. From the date of her organization as a county, Auglaize has been represented in official capacities by a long line of able and successful men, who have reflected honor upon her, and none has been more able or worthy of public confidence and the esteem in which he is held than Hon. William G. Brorein, representing the 32d district in the Ohio Senate. Mr. Brorein, though he has been honored with high positions of trust, is yet a young man, and the fact that they have come to him in recognition of his worth alone is a source of much gratification to those friends who have watched his efforts in every position he has occupied. And not only at home is his ability appreciated, but it is recognized by his colleagues in the Ohio Legislature, where in both the House and Senate he has been a leader, and has received from the hands of those in authority unusual honors, and where he has left the imprint of his individuality on most of the important legislation enacted during the past five years. Senator Brorein was born near Marion, Ohio, October 30, 1861, and was a son of Gebhard and Sophia (Gracely) Brorein. When he was five years old his parents came to this county, where they have since resided. As a boy he helped to clear his father's farm and attended during the winter months the schools of the neighborhood. In the spring of 1879 he succeeded in getting together sufficient money to enable him to attend for a short time the Ohio Normal University, at Ada, after which he taught during the winter and attended the summer terms of that school until 1883, when he was elected Superintendent of the Cridersville schools, which position he occupied for three years. During his residence at Cridersville he held his first office, being elected a member of the village council. In 1886 he engaged with W. H. Butcher, in the mercantile business, at Buckland, where he yet has a general store. He was three times elected Clerk of Logan township, and when the village of Buckland was incorporated in 1892, was elected its first Mayor, receiving every vote cast. He was re-elected the following year, but resigned upon being elected to the House of Representatives, having received the nomination by his party without opposition. He was re-elected to the 72d General Assembly, and during both terms served on the finance committee. He was elected to the 73d General Assembly as a Senator from the 32d district. During his service in this body he was chosen by the Democratic caucus as one of the members of the conference committee which negotiated the fusion with the anti-Hanna Republicans. He was made chairman of the Public Works committee, and a member of the finance and other committees. He took an active part in securing the passage of the bill partially abolishing capital punish-

ment, and was the author of the bill enacted into law amending the general township school laws. During his legislative career he has not only taken an active interest in general legislation, but has carefully looked after the interests of his county and district. He was appointed by Governor Bushnell a member of the Board of Ohio Commissioners to the Trans-Mississippi and International Exposition, held at Omaha from June to October, 1898. Senator Brorein was united in marriage in 1882 to Miss Sarah E. Butcher, daughter of Commissioner Butcher, and one child, Edna, has been born to them.

JOHN SILLIN BUTCHER, a representative citizen of Auglaize county, was born in Licking county, Ohio, June 29, 1838. He is of old Virginia stock, both his father and mother, Mason and Elizabeth (Sillin) Butcher, being natives of that state. When but fifteen years of age he started out to make his own way through life, and taking charge of his grandmother's farm worked thereon until nineteen years of age, when he rented land in Knox county, Ohio, and remained there two years. From there he came to Auglaize county, in 1861, and purchased eighty acres of land in Logan township, his present home, and from time to time has added thereto until he now owns as fine a farm as can be found in the county. In 1859 he was united in marriage to Miss Catharine Crottinger, and the union has been blessed by the birth of nine children: William H., Sarah E., Mary, Alice, Amanda E., James M., Clarence B., Cora and Martha. It is with pleasure the biography of men who, by their energy and rugged honesty, have made for themselves a place of honor in their community is written. Mr. Butcher has long and faithfully served the people of his neighborhood and the county in positions of trust. He is a Democrat of the old school, and upon that ticket was elected Justice of the Peace of Logan township, which office he held for twenty-five years. He served as Trustee six years, and has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Agricultural Society for twenty-four years. He was elected County Commissioner in 1894, and re-elected in 1897.

MICHAEL DIETSCH, one of the largest land owners and stock raisers in Auglaize county, was born at Kassawessa, Columbia county, Pennsylvania, August 30, 1831, and came to this county thirty-eight years ago. His father and mother were Michael and Dorothea Dietsch. In 1853 he was married to Miss Lydia A. Beringer, and two children, Sarah, and Mary C., have been born to them. Mr. Dietsch owns a splendid farm, and for years has been adding to his possessions, devoting most of his time to the buying of cattle for market. He is a thorough business man, and enjoys the confidence and esteem of all who know him.

CHARLES H. DIXON was born in Licking county, Ohio, January 29, 1854, and was a son of Elijah and Mary J. Dixon, natives of Ohio and Indiana. In 1876 he was married to Miss Delana J. Werner, who was born July 18, 1851. To Mr. and Mrs. Dixon ten children have been born: Lulu V., born November 24, 1877; Bernard C., July 28, 1879; William L., September 2, 1881; Jesse E., October 28, 1883; Nancy A., April 28, 1885; Frederick E., May 18, 1887; Newton E., April 18, 1889; Esta G., February 19, 1891; Opal C., July 1, 1893; and Charles Bryan, March 18, 1896. Mr. Dixon is a practical farmer, carpenter and bridge builder, and for thirty-five years has been a resident of Auglaize county. He is also a large breeder of Galloway cattle, and has upon his farm some of the finest stock in the county. In 1895 he was elected township Trustee, and is a member of the township School Board. It can be said of Mr. Dixon that no man in Auglaize county more truly represents her industrious citizens than he. Clear in judgment, quick to see and act upon the problems that confront all men in life, he not only secured a competence for himself, but enjoys the esteem of all his neighbors.

JOHN B. EDMAN was born in Logan township, Auglaize county, July 28, 1856, and is a son of Nathan C. and Jane D. Edman, who immigrated to this country in 1851, and entered land in this township. He was married to Miss Martha E. Burnsfield, September 8, 1881, and to them three children, Bert D., Blanche, and Earl F., have been born. Mr. Edman has always followed the occupation of farming. He has been Treasurer of his township one term.

JOHN W. FOX. The subject of this sketch was born in the neighboring county of Allen, October 20, 1856, but has resided in Auglaize county for thirty-one years. He is a son of Frederick W. and Mary C. Fox, well known in both counties. He was married to Christina Zuber, and to them five children, Bertha, Tessey, William (deceased), Jacob, and Edith, have been born. Mr. Fox is a progressive farmer, and his land is situated in the immense oil territory known as the Hume field. Four good producing wells are located but a short distance from his house.

JOHN H. GOCHENOUR was born in Shenandoah county, Virginia, January 13, 1835, and came to this state in 1857, residing in Champaign county a short time, and in this county about forty years. He was married to Miss Sarah C. Weaver, and to them four children, Cora A. (deceased), Laura E. (deceased), Mrs. Alva A. Wheeler, and Mrs. Nettie Luck, have been born. Mr. Gochenour is located near Buckland, and is known as one of the most successful farmers and business men in the county.

JOSEPH J. GRUBBS is a native of Indiana, and was born in Dearborn county, that state, February 18, 1850. He was a son of Otho and Mary (Allen) Grubbs. In February, 1865, when not quite fifteen years of age he enlisted in Co. A, 148th Regiment I. V. I., and carried a musket until the cessation of hostilities. He returned to his home at the close of the war, and remained two years. He then removed to Illinois, where he engaged in farming, and where he met Miss Sarah E. Brenneman, whom he married in 1873. In 1875 he came to Allen county, this state, and the next year to Auglaize, locating on the farm where he now resides. Mr. Grubbs is a progressive farmer, and has a fine home and highly cultivated farm.

JOHN LOYER. Among the men who came to Auglaize county in the early days, and by industry and perseverance made for themselves and family a home, none is more worthy of mention than the subject of this sketch. Born in Baden, Germany, December 3, 1843, he immigrated to this country, and for thirty-five years has been a most respected citizen of this county. In 1872 he was married to Miss Caroline B. Wiesemyer, and five children, Emma E., Ida, Charles, Fred, and Frank, are the result of the union. Mr. Loyer has served ten years as Trustee of his township, and is Treasurer of the Auglaize Mutual Aid Fire Insurance Association. He has been a member of the German Reform church since his youth. Politically, he is a Democrat.

JOHN GEORGE MILLER was born in Champaign county, Ohio, October 28, 1838, and is a son of David and Leana Miller. He received his early education in the schools of his native county, and learned the wagon makers' trade, which he followed for a number of years, and then engaged in farming. He was a soldier and served in Co. B, 66th Regiment O. V. I. In 1865 he was married to Miss Flora Berryman, daughter of Russell Berryman, born July 30, 1848. Mr. Miller resides on the old Berryman homestead, located in Logan township, but a short distance from the site of old Fort Amanda. The place marks the location of the first white settlement in the township, and was entered from the government by Mrs. Miller's grandfather, William Berryman, who removed thereon with his family, which consisted at that time of his wife and eleven children, five girls and six boys, in 1823, the same year that Andrew Russell moved into Fort Amanda. The old house of hewn logs, the first habitation in the township, yet remains on the farm in a fair state of preservation, and in it the children of Russell Berryman, who succeeded his father in the ownership of the place, were born. The house was erected the same year the grandfather entered the land, and he was assisted chiefly by the Indians of the neighborhood. He was a shoemaker by trade, and after the coming of several families to the neighborhood, visited from house to house, spending sufficient time at each to make shoes for the entire family. He was compelled to go to Piqua for flour, salt, and leather, and with his family endured all the hardships of the times. Russell Berryman, after coming into possession of the place, lived in four different counties without moving from his house, the lines being changed, and locating him in as many counties at different times. He was a splendid example of the early pioneer of Ohio, and was not only influential, politically, with his neighbors, but was consulted in almost all their affairs. The house in which Mr. and Mrs. Miller reside, stands on a horseshoe bend of the Auglaize river, and was erected in 1860. They have two children, Mattie A., born February 18, 1867, and Ollie M., born November 7, 1869. The family take much pride in the fact that the historic old place, or no part of it, has ever passed out of their possession.

DAVID W. REED is a native of Ohio, and was born in Licking county, January 21, 1842, a son of John and Sarah Reed. In 1866 he was married to Miss Isabel Smith, and seven children, Iva, Andrew J., Lewy, Harvey, Ella, Theodore, and Maxie, have been born to them. During his residence here Mr. Reed has been engaged in milling and farming. He served his country in the Civil War for three years, having enlisted in Co. K, 66th Regiment Ill. W. S. S. He was elected Justice of the Peace for Logan township in 1895, and was re-elected in 1898.

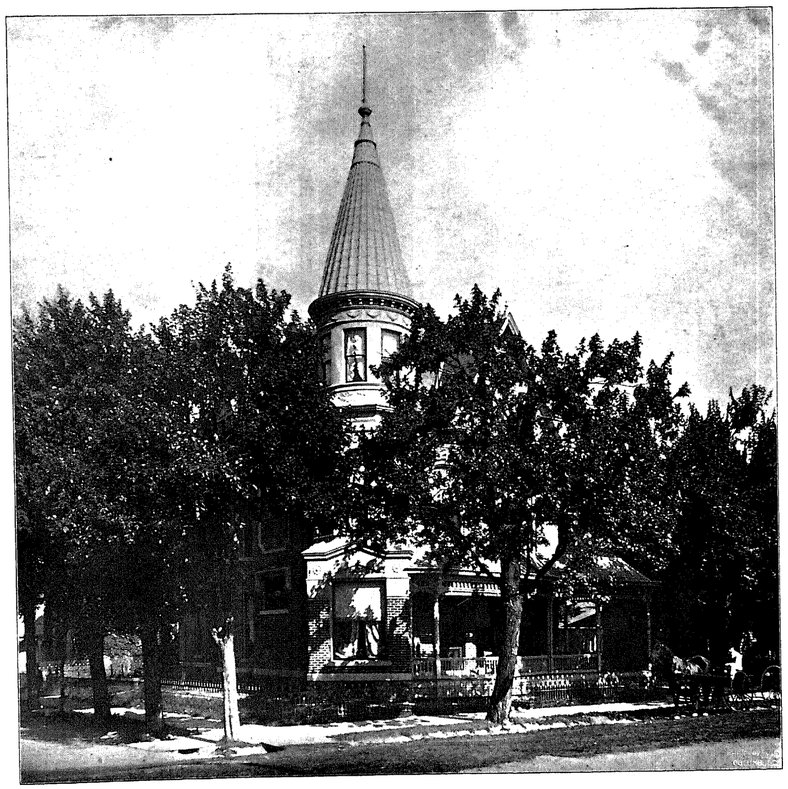
ABRAHAM ZERKEL was born in Logan township, this county, May 9, 1852, and was a son of Lewis and Elizabeth Zerkel, who came here from Champaign county, Ohio, in 1851. He married Miss Mary D. Wiesenmayer, and to them three children, Bertha O., Daisy A., and Caroline F., have been born. Mr. Zerkel has been a farmer all his life, and a very successful one. Starting for himself when a young man, by industry and honesty he has acquired one of the best farms in the county, and has the reputation of being one of its best citizens. He is connected prominently with church work, and is Secretary of the Auglaize County Mutual Aid Insurance Company.



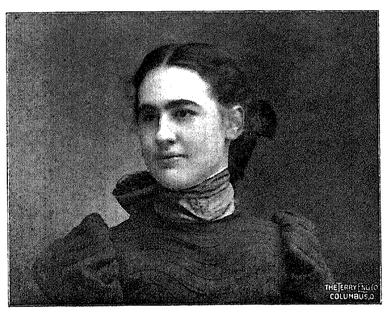
L. N. BLUME.



MRS. L. N. BLUME.



RESIDENCE OF L. N. BLUME, WAPAKONETA, OHIO.



MISS KITTY BLUME.

MOULTON TOWNSHIP.

Situated in its geographical center, Moulton is the only township in the county that does not reach the county line on either border. Originally a part of Allen county, it was organized in 1834, but upon the erection of Auglaize was included in the new county. Nine sections were, however, taken from the north side, and these went to complete the township of Logan, leaving the territory included in Moulton six miles east and west and four and one half miles north and south, containing twenty-seven square miles. The east half of the township formed a part of the Shawnee Reservation and along the Auglaize river, which enters from the southeast and flows to the northwest, some little improvement has been made by the Indians as early as 1832 and 1833, from which time dates the first white settlement of this immediate section. Among the early settlers who bore all the privations of pioneer life, traveled to Sidney and Piqua to mill and for other supplies, of which there was a constant scarcity, were William Julian, Joseph Haskill, Daniel Cutler, Benjamin Nagel, John Waite, Thomas Williams, John McFarland, Samuel Walker, Christopher Bailey, Joseph Bronson, and Cornelius Christy. Many others followed in the ten years elapsing between 1832 and 1842. Later, in the 50's came the family of John Glynn, in whose honor Glynnwood was named; the Cogan family, Thomas and Patrick; the Mussers, Cooks and McGuffs, and Thomas Schoonover, who had been a resident of St. Marys since 1836. Other streams entering the township than the river are Pusheta creek, from the southeast, and Six Mile creek through the west side. The soil is largely a strong clay, with considerable black loam along the river and creek bottoms, and the timber white and burr oak, birch, hickory, sugar, elm, and ash. The Lake Erie and Western railroad passes through the township, and almost every road is now graveled. The population is principally of Irish and German descent, and the community is an agricultural one. During recent years the oil industry has been developed to a considerable extent and has claimed the attention of many of the residents. School houses are conveniently located all over the township, and churches of several denominations have been built.

GLYNNWOOD VILLAGE.

The village of Glynnwood was platted and organized in March, 1876, and was named in honor of John Glynn, who immigrated to this country from Ireland in 1820, and found a home near the site of the town in 1857. It is located at the intersection of the Lake Erie and Western railroad and the west line of section 20 Moulton township.

MOULTON VILLAGE.

Located on the old plank road, now the Wapakoneta and St. Marys pike, Moulton had its birth about the time of the construction of the road. The town is a small trading place for the immediate neighborhood, and has one store, a blacksmith shop and two churches.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

JAMES BUTCHER was born in Licking county, Ohio, May 9, 1842. He was a son of Nathan and Elizabeth (Sillin) Butcher, both of old Virginia families. After their marriage they settled in the above-mentioned county, where the subject of this sketch was reared until twenty years of age, when he came to this county and began life for himself. The struggle for existence and effort to acquire a home was similar to that of many other persons of that period, but by the perseverance and honesty that has made him a highly esteemed citizen, he has succeeded in establishing himself in excellent circumstances. On March 5, 1876, he was united in marriage to Miss Florence N. Hamilton. They have five children living: Fred, Gertrude, Clyde, Harry and Lutie. Mr. Butcher's farm lies within the Buckland oil field, and his wells have produced large quantities of oil.

JOHN D. FRITZ was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, March 2, 1842, and immigrated to this country and Auglaize county with his parents, Frederick and Mary Fritz, in 1846. He was married to Mary Prieser, and to them nine children, John D., Anna I., Etta, Albert J., Louisa, Christina, Charles L., and Albert, were born. Mr. Fritz was a member of Co. C, 37th Reg. O. V. I., and served three years. He has been Trustee of his township six years, Treasurer nine years, and a member of the School Board nine years. He is a highly respected and successful farmer.

GEORGE RILEY JULIAN is a native of Auglaize county, having been born in Moulton township, where he now resides, July 13, 1852, and was a son of Isaac and Camilla Julian. In 1879 he was married to Miss Sarah E. Gilmore, and seven children were born to them, of whom Charley, Anna E., Clara C., and Ivory G., are living. Mr. Julian is a farmer and one of the best citizens of the county. He is a member of the Moulton township board of trustees.

FREDERICK A. MUSSER. Among the many industrious and prosperous citizens of which this county can boast, none stand higher in the regard of his neighbors and the public generally than the subject of this biography. He was born near Rushville, Fairfield county, Ohio, January 17, 1840, and came with his parents, John and Rachel (McCollum) Musser, to this county forty-five years ago. He was married to Miss Julia G. Hamilton, in October, 1867, and nine children have been born to them: Glencora, Robert C., and Arthur B., living, and James, Luta B., John H., Herbert, Alice E., and William K., deceased. He was a soldier, having enlisted in Co. H, 16th Regiment O. V. I., in October, 1861, and was honorably discharged in November, 1864. During his service he was a prisoner of war from December, 1862, to March, 1864. Mr. Musser cast his first vote for Governor Brough and President Lincoln, and while a staunch Republican has been elected to the offices of member of the School Board, Trustee and Justice of the Peace in Moulton township. He is an elder of the Presbyterian church, and he and his family have always been consistent members of that religious organization.

WILLIAM PRENTICE SILLIN, one of the young farmers who is rapidly making his way to the front, was born in Moulton township, October 3, 1863, and is a son of Armenius and Susan Sillin. In 1893 he was married to Miss Ollie A. Mumau, and two children, Giles W. and Doyle R., have been born to them. Mr. Sillin was reared upon the farm and has resided in this county all his life. He taught school several terms, and was for some time employed in the oil fields. He is now engaged in farming and is Clerk of his township.

NOBLE TOWNSHIP.

Bordering on the Black Swamp region of Mercer county, this township, then named Wayne, was a part of that county, and was taken into Auglaize at the date of its organization in 1848. There being a township in the new county named Wayne, it was necessary to change this one, and it was named in honor of Elisha Noble, an honorable pioneer who settled here in 1836. Among other early residents of the township were Israel Johns and Nicholas Brewer. The former was born in 1803 and came to this county in 1828. The latter was born in 1812 and came here in 1830. Descendants of both now reside in the township. The St. Marys river traverses the township, entering about midway on the south line, and crosses the north line near the northeast corner. The canal follows the general course of the river. The timber is of about the same variety as is found elsewhere in the county, and the soil for the most part black loam, with alluvium along the river and light croppings of sand in different localities. The flat surface of the township necessitated much drainage, which has been almost completed, and which has developed the entire territory into fertile farm lands. Together with agricultural pursuits many of the inhabitants are engaged in the production of oil which has been discovered in the township in great quantities. The roads of the township, once impassable, are almost all piked. The residents are generally of German and Irish extraction and are growing in wealth with each succeeding year.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

WILLIS ARMSTRONG was born in Noble township, January 16, 1867, and has resided here all his life. He was a son of Stephen and Martha Armstrong, old residents of the county. In 1887 he was united in marriage to Miss Lillie Brewer, and five children, Muril, Bernice, Guy, Ray, and Grace, have been born to them. Mr. Armstrong is one of the most reliable and enterprising men of Auglaize county.

S. H. BEALE, a native of Juniata county, Pa., was born November 19, 1851, and came to this county with his parents, Jesse and Celestia Beale, when nine years of age. In 1873 he was married to Julia M. Monroe, and seven children were born to them, of whom are living, Myrtle, John, Judge, Lewis, and Elva. Mr. Beale is one of the best farmers in Auglaize county.

CHARLES FREDERICK BRODBECK was born in Auglaize county, September 27, 1853, and was a son of Joseph and Mary Katharine Brodbeck. He was married to Miss Susannah J. Rusler, and four children, Daisy M., Roy R., Ralph C., and Harry A., have been born to them. Mr. Brodbeck has resided in Noble township since his birth and has always engaged in agricultural pursuits.

JOHN BURKHART. Intelligent, progressive and prosperous, the subject of this sketch, a view of whose home and surroundings appears in this book, was born in Auglaize county, in 1846, and was a son of Michael and Margaret Burkhart. He was married to Miss Kate Fisher, and three children, Edward, C. F., and Minnie, have been born to them. Mr. Burkhart has been a farmer all his life and is esteemed as a thoroughly good citizen. He has always resided in St. Marys and Noble townships.

JOHN W. CASPERSON was born at St. Marys, October 11, 1859, and was a son of Hiram B. and Eliza Casperson. He married Miss Nettie Deffenbaugh, in 1886. Of several children born to them but one, Grover D., born April 30, 1888, is living. Mr. Casperson's father was an Ohio man, and his mother a native of Pennsylvania. He has resided in this county all his life with the exception of eight years spent in Illinois. He received his education in the schools of the neighborhood and has followed farming with much success.

LEWIS B. CLARK was born near St. Marys, March 28, 1869, and was a son of A. V. H. and Margaret Clark. In 1891 he was united in marriage with Miss Emma Johns, and the union has been blessed by the birth of one child, Gernard R. Mr. Clark has been a resident of this county all his life and has been engaged in farming and in the oil business.

DAVID L. CROFT was born in Crawford county, Ohio, December 22, 1861, and was a son of Jacob and Mary S. Croft. At the age of four years he came to this county with his parents, and yet resides on the old home farm, having engaged in agricultural pursuits all his life. He was united in marriage to Miss Josephine Wisswasser, and five children, Laura D., Addie, Florence, Elva, and Lillie, have been born to them.

WILLIAM H. CROFT, a prosperous young farmer of Noble township, was born at Bucyrus, Ohio, December 31, 1859, and was a son of Jacob and Saloma Croft. He was united in marriage with Miss Maggie R. Foster, in 1883, and two children, Charles L. (deceased) and Harvey E., have been born to them. He has been prominent in politics in his neighborhood for years, and has held several positions of trust.

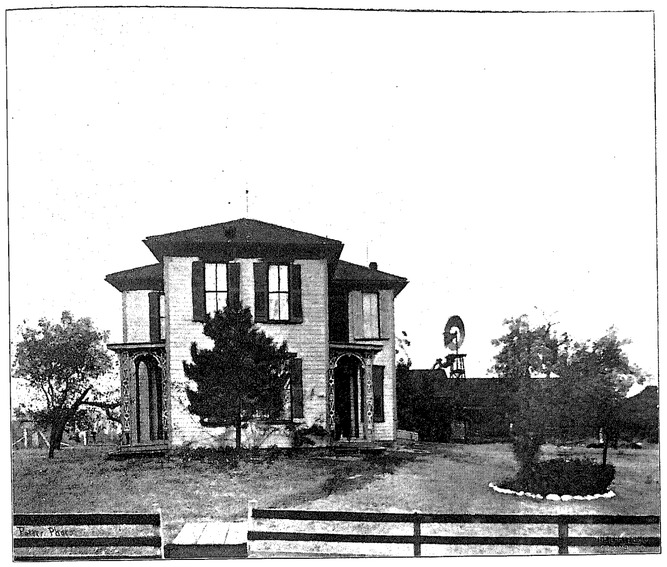
JACOB M. HEBBLE was born in Montgomery county, Ohio, January 22, 1849, and was a son of Christian and Elizabeth Hebble. He also resided in Green county but came to Auglaize thirty-five years ago. He has resided here since that time and has always followed agricultural pursuits. He was married to Jennie N. Doute, and to them have been born three children, Maud, Clarence, and Clyde.

ABRAHAM LEOPOLD LUTZ was born in Crawford county, Ohio, August 15, 1843, and was a son of John L. and Mary (Linn) Lutz. He was married in 1868 to Miss Elizabeth Schwenck, and six children have been born to them: Otillia, Charles, Clara, Sophia, Franklin, and Emma. Mrs. Lutz died in February, 1894, and in March, 1898, he was married to Mrs. Blanche Minter. Mr. Lutz came to this county twenty-one years ago, and being a carpenter has worked occasionally at his trade, but has given the greater part of his attention to farming. He is much respected in his neighborhood and by all who know him.

JOSEPH HENRY MALLORY was a son of Martin and Thursy Ann Mallory, and was born in Carrol county, Virginia, September 20, 1856. He came to this county twenty-four years ago and has successfully engaged in farming during all that time. He was married to Miss Cherile J. Brewer, and four children, Etta J., Anna, Lawrence, and Henry E., have been born to them.

FRANCIS I. ROBY, for thirty-nine years a resident of Auglaize county, and a careful and prosperous farmer, was born in Delaware county, Ohio, September 20, 1839, and was a son of F. M. and Mina Roby, who removed to Logan county when the subject of this sketch was quite young. From there Mr. Roby came to this county and was united in marriage to Miss Susan E. Finton, and to them have been born ten children: Charles, Benjamin, Frank, P. F., Arretta M., John C., George H., E. P., M. M., and Harriet F. Mr. Roby was a soldier, having enlisted in Co. G, 81st Reg. O. V. I., and served three years. He has several producing oil wells on his farm.

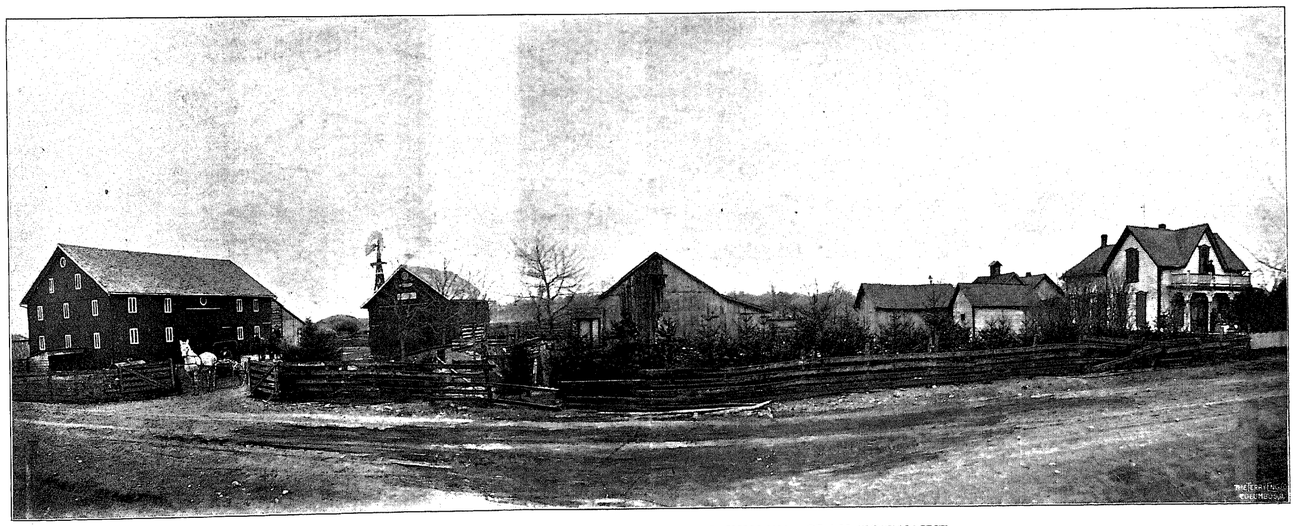
EDWARD W. SLIFE, a son of David and Anna Slife, was born in Fairfield county, Ohio, February 17, 1851, and came to this county when fourteen years of age. He was married to Miss Mary J. Warman, and to them four children, Lulu F., Charles J., Hannah M., and Edna O., have been born. Mr. Slife has engaged in farming all his life, and is one of the best informed agriculturists in the county.



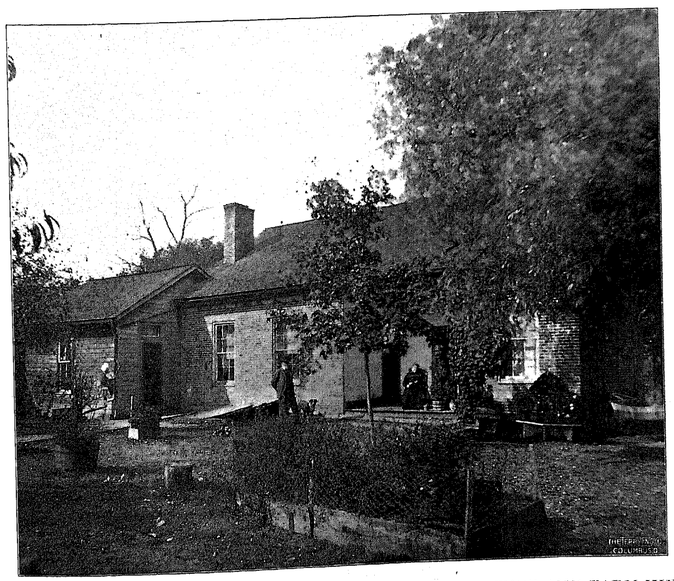
RESIDENCE OF JAMES BUTCHER, MOULTON TOWNSHIP.

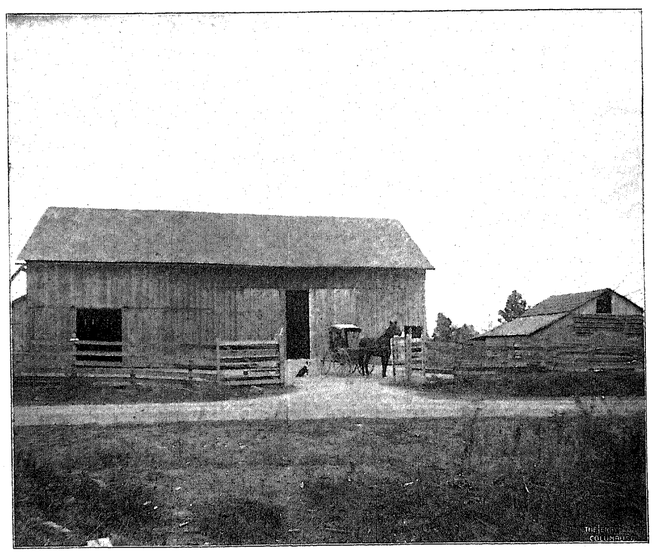


RESIDENCE OF JOHN BURKHART, NOBLE TOWNSHIP.



RESIDENCE AND FARM VIEW OF JNO. M. FINLEY, CLAY TOWNSHIP.





RESIDENCE AND FARM VIEW OF JNO. G. MILLER, LOGAN TOWNSHIP.

PUSHETA TOWNSHIP.

Bearing the name of one of the Indian chiefs who resided in the neighborhood, Pusheta township lies on the south side of Auglaize, and borders on Shelby county. Pusheta creek is the only stream that passes through it. Although the surface is generally level, it is somewhat rolling along this stream. The soil of the township as a whole is very fertile, and the inhabitants, largely of German origin, have, with the energy characteristic of that people in this country, wrought wonderful improvements. Schools and churches have not been neglected. The majority of the citizens hold to the Catholic faith, and many years ago established a church at the village of Freyburg. Gravel roads or pikes are built in every part of the township. Among the first residents were Conrad Schemmel, who came here in 1832, and John Lenox, who came in 1833. C. B. Williams and Lawrence Sammetinger came about 1835.

FREYBURG VILLAGE.

The town of Freyburg was originally surveyed July 1, 1837, and occupies the south part of the northeast quarter of section fifteen. Beal Spurrier was the proprietor or organizer of the town. Peter Wagner has made two additions, and Joseph Flick the third. The village is a trading point for the residents of Pusheta township.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

ERHARD BURK, for fifty years a resident of Auglaize county, is one of the most prosperous citizens of his township. He was born at Wurtemberg, Germany, August 24, 1837, and came to this country when ten years of age. He has always been a farmer, and was a soldier in the 63d Regiment O. V. I.

MARION J. CRAWFORD, one of the most popular and reliable young men of Auglaize county, was born September 25, 1862, on the farm of his parents, William C. and Mary E. Crawford, three and a half miles north of Wapakoneta. He was reared on the farm, but at an early age commenced teaching school, and continued that work for nine years. He married Miss Etta L. Bowsher in 1889, and his family consists of two children, Harry Lee, and Jessie Rue. In the fall of 1893 he moved to his present home, just beyond the south corporation line of Wapakoneta, where, in connection with farming he conducts a first-class dairy. Mr. Crawford was for eight years connected with the County Agricultural Society, two years as a Director, and six years as Secretary.

GEORGE HARTARD was born in Pusheta township, this county, July 26, 1850, and was a son of Stephen and Rachel Hartard. He has resided in Auglaize county all his life, and has always been engaged in agricultural pursuits. He is also a horse dealer, and handles many fine horses. He was married to Miss Elizabeth Steineke in 1877, and four children have been born to them: Joseph, Catharine, Ida, and Albert.

GEORGE WASHINGTON MILLER was a son of Wesley and Mary Ann (Creager) Miller, and was born at Franklin, Warren county, Ohio, April 5, 1844. On December 11, 1866, he was married to Miss Amanda M. Catterlin, who was born March 8, 1848. Nine children have been born to them, six of whom are living, Annetta F., Orah J., Charles F., George G., Barton J., and Harry C. Mr. Miller came here from Warren twenty years ago, and is one of the county's best citizens. He was a soldier, belonging to Co. A, 79th Regiment O. V. I., and served three years.

FREDERICK MEGEL was born at Alsace, Germany, February 2, 1849, and was a son of Peter and Anna Megel. He was united in marriage with Miss Katharine Bierlein, and six children, Edward, Ida, Oscar, Arthur, Leander, and Hulda, have been born to them. He is a carpenter and contractor, has resided in the county forty-seven years, and has been prominent in local politics, having held several positions of trust.

HENRY PFALTZ. One of the most interesting figures remaining in Pusheta township is the subject of this biography. He is one of that class of sturdy pioneers whose energy and early acquired habits of industry do not permit him to cease labor, though past the age at which most men retire from activity. But though his life has been one of industry, he has also enjoyed many of its pleasures. He has always found much pleasure in travel, and has visited many points of interest in this country, while in 1890 he spent some time at his boyhood's home in Germany, and traveled over the greater part of England and the Continent, remaining a considerable time in Switzerland and France. Mr. Pfaltz was born at the town of Orp, Germany, October 4, 1834, and was a son of Conrad and Margaret Pfaltz. He came to this country in 1854, and in June of 1861 was united in marriage with Anna Henskey, of Pusheta township, where he had settled for the purpose of following agricultural pursuits. Of their marriage seven children were born: John (deceased), Mary, Elizabeth, Emma, William, Anna, and Mena (deceased). The wife died in 1879. He was a soldier, and served eleven months in the 37th Regiment O. V. I. Although he continued work about the place Mr. Pfaltz has practically given his farm in charge of his son William, who lives thereon, while he resides in the town of Freyburg. He is one of the most respected citizens of the township.

WILLIAM HENRY PFALTZ was born in the township of Pusheta, where he now resides, September 9, 1871, and is a son of Henry and Anna Pfaltz. He was united in marriage November 4, 1893, to Miss Elizabeth Brockert. Mr. Pfaltz is one of the industrious young farmers of the county who is starting in life fully realizing the importance of individual efforts to attain success.

GEORGE M. SAMMETINGER, one of the numerous farmers of Pusheta township whose prosperity is due to their efforts, was born in that township September 22, 1849, and has resided there all his life. His father and mother were Lawrence and Rosina Sammetinger, old settlers of this county. In 1878 he was married to Caroline Wendling, who was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, March 13, 1855, and four children have been born to them: Maggie L. R., born January 2, 1881; Martha M. C., October 30, 1883; Anna B. S., October 29, 1885; and Asa W. J., February 5, 1896. Mr. Sammetinger was a member of the County Agricultural Society Board of Directors for several years.

JOHN N. SCHNEIDER, a son of Nicholas and Margaret (Nipgen) Schneider, was born in Auglaize county, July 20, 1849. He has been a resident of this county all his life, and for some years has been engaged in the general mercantile business at Freyburg. He was married to Miss Katharine Tracy Brockert, who died November 15, 1897, aged 39 years, 8 months and 3 days. Of their marriage seven children were born: Clara J., Allanora T., Edna M., Laura (deceased), Mary T., Lao H., and Antonnata (deceased).

CHARLES SCHEMMEL was born on the old Schemmel homestead in Pusheta township, where he now resides, July 16, 1854. The place first came into the possession of the family in 1832, through the grandfather, Conrad Schemmel, who was born in Germany, and who was one of the most highly esteemed citizens of the county. He died at the age of seventy-eight years. The parents of the subject of this sketch were George and Mary A. (Flaiz) Schemmel. Mr. Schemmel has been a farmer all his life, and is one of the most prosperous in his township. He was a soldier and served in Co. G, 156th Regiment O. V. I. He was married to Miss Tracy Walter, and six children, Mrs. Ida Veit, Charles M., Mrs. Mary Albright, Mrs. Bertha Miller, Edwin, and Hulda, have been given them.

SAMUEL H. SIBERT, M. D., one of the most successful and able practitioners in Auglaize county, was born at St. Marys, April 13, 1858, and was a son of James F. and Catharine A. M. (Brandenberg) Sibert. The father was a native of Carrol county, his father, Samuel Sibert, a native of Pennsylvania, having settled there in the early days of Ohio's statehood, and married Miss Virginia Airs, a native of Virginia. The mother was a daughter of Henry T. Brandenberg, who was born in Maryland, and who settled in Ohio in 1805, and married Miss Catharine Benner, a native of Montgomery county. Mr. Brandenberg came to St. Marys in 1833. Dr. Sibert attended the public schools of St. Marys and graduated from the Lima High School, and from the Starling Medical College, of Columbus, in 1881. When seven years of age his parents moved to Missouri, where they remained until May, 1870. After his graduation Dr. Sibert practiced his profession in Shelby county one year, and in 1892 removed to Freyburg, where he yet resides, and where he has established a large and lucrative practice. He is a physician of the modern school, and keeps pace with the progress of the science. During his residence in this county he has been a member of his township's School Board, and a Director of the County Agricultural Society Board. He takes great interest in all that pertains to agriculture, and has a fine farm near Freyburg. In October, 1884, he was united in marriage to Miss Flora C. Katterheinrich, a native of this county, and two children, Cleola R. C., and Aldo Vernon, have been born to them.

GUSTAVUS A. WALTER was born in Pusheta township, October 1, 1867, and was a son of Hon. Joseph J. and Catharine Walter. He was reared upon the farm, and continued at that employment for several years. In the spring of 1898 he engaged in the hotel, saloon and feed business at Freyburg, where he does a nice business. On May 31, 1898, he was married to Miss Amanda Metz, also a native of Auglaize county.

JOHN A. WERST. Retired to enjoy the fruits of a life full of industry and perseverance, the pioneer whose biography is here written can look back in recollection over the years that have passed, and view with pardonable pride his part in the development of his native county. He was born about three miles southeast of Wapakoneta, where he now resides, August 19, 1840, and was a son of Andrew and Catharine (Walck) Werst, both natives of Germany. Mr. Werst's educational advantages were such as the common schools of those days afforded, but he succeeded in securing such an education as would be most useful to him in future life. He remained on the farm, and in 1861 was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Wagner, a native of this county, and the union was blessed by the birth of six children: Henry J., George A., Edward W., Amelia M., Ella E., and Orlena C. Mr. Werst continues to reside on his splendid farm, but has retired from active labor. For many years he has been a leading citizen of his community and of the county, his integrity and fairness being recognized by all men. He served his township two terms as Trustee, and three terms as Justice of the Peace. He held the position of Coroner from 1876 to 1880, when he was elected County Commissioner, in which office he served two terms. After his retirement he was again elected Justice of the Peace. He is a member of the County Visiting Board to State Institutions, and is also President of the St. Joseph's Cemetery Board. Politically, Mr. Werst is an uncompromising Democrat, and has followed the fortunes of that party all his life. Both he and Mrs. Werst are members of the Catholic church.

SALEM TOWNSHIP.

This township was established in 1836, and was organized in 1837. It was originally a part of Van Wert and Allen counties, and upon the organization of Auglaize county, in 1848, was included in its territory. The township occupies the extreme northwest portion of the county, and is bounded on the north by Van Wert and Allen counties, and on the west by Mercer county. The surface is generally flat, with the exception of a ridge along the north side, through which the canal makes its "deep cut," and near where the settlement called Deep Cut was laid out. The soil of the township is rich, and though very wet in the early days of the county, the system of drainage established has resulted in bringing the greater portion under cultivation. The St. Marys river winds in an irregular course through the township, from southeast to west, and the Miami canal crosses from south to north. The inhabitants are of English, Irish and German descent, the latter now predominating, and agriculture is the chief pursuit. The township is well supplied with schools and churches, and like other sections of the county is well piked.

KOSSUTH VILLAGE.

The only village in Salem township, Kossuth, occupies the west half of the southwest quarter of section twenty-five, and is located on the Miami canal. It was platted and organized by Samuel Petit, in 1858, and under the usual proceedings in such matters, was enlarged and incorporated April 12, 1897. Thomas J. Barnett was the first Mayor, and the members of the first common council were J. L. Springer, E. O. McCormick, Emanuel Krauss, Gottlieb Baisch, Elijah McPheron, and Thomas McPheron.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

THOMAS J. BARNETT, a resident of Kossuth, its first Mayor, and Justice of the Peace for Salem township, was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, March 7, 1842, a son of Sampson and Mary E. Barnett. September 6, 1866, he married Miss Anna L. Herman at Sulphur Springs, Ohio, and his family consists of five children: Ida R., Anna L., Mabel M., and Clara J. Mr. Barnett is a shoemaker by trade, and has been a resident of Auglaize county for fifteen years. His early life, like that of many other substantial citizens, was a serious struggle for existence. When but ten years of age he went to Pennsylvania, to reside with relatives, but returned to Ohio, where he learned and worked at his trade until July 23, 1862, when he enlisted in Co. A, 118th Reg. O. V. I., at Lima, and faithfully followed the fortunes of his country until July, 1865.

HIRAM BURNET CASPERSON is one of Auglaize county's pioneers, and has resided on the same farm, and in the same house since his arrival here in 1847. He was born in Adams county, Ohio, January 16, 1826, and was a son of Tobias and Mary Casperson. He married Miss Eliza J. Bowersock in 1852, and eleven children, Cynthia, Catharine, Iempsil, John, Samuel, Sabrina, James, Hiram, Jackson, Oliver, and Emma, have been born to them. Eight of these are married, six residing in Ohio and two in Indiana.

DAVID F. CROFT was born in Crawford county, Ohio, December 22, 1861, and was a son of Jacob and Mary S. Croft. At the age of four years he came to this county with his parents, and yet resides on the old home farm, having engaged in agricultural pursuits all his life. He was married in 1888 to Miss Josephine Wisswasser, and five children, Laura D., Addie, Florence, Elva, and Delilah, have been born to them.

CALEB FREDERICK GAYER, one of the most industrious and intelligent farmers in the county, was born at Rosnag, Wurtemberg, Germany, February 13, 1853, and was a son of John G. and Anna M. Gayer. His parents immigrated to this country in 1861, and settled in Marion county, Ohio. In 1863 they came to this county, and the subject of this sketch has resided here since. In 1878 he was united in marriage to Miss Esther R. Kurtz, whose ancestors were pioneers of this section, her grandfather having been employed on the construction of the Miami and Erie canal. Five children, Anna K., A. Wesley, Daniel, Mary M., and Jemina, have been born to them. Mr. Gayer is a prominent Republican, and a member of the county Central Committee of that party.

AMOS J. GIERHART, prominent as a farmer and stock raiser in this county, was born in Fairfield county, Ohio, March 19, 1864, and came with his parents to Auglaize at an early age. In 1888 he married Miss Clara E. Lesh, and two children, Alvey E. (deceased), and Earl D., were born to them. Mr. Gierhart has resided in Salem township for twenty-five years, and together with farming is engaged in raising light and draft horses, thoroughbred Short Horn cattle and Berkshire hogs, of which he annually disposes of large numbers. He has served three years as township Trustee, and was elected Justice of the Peace in 1896. Socially, Mr. Gierhart is a member of the St. Marys Lodge I. O. O. F.

WILLIAM MARLIN HYDAKER was born in Germany, November 12, 1846, and came to this country when but a child. In 1877 he was married to Miss Catharine Mack, and eight children have been born to them: Fairy, Albert, Minnie, William, Ralph, Mabel, George M., and Walter M. Mr. Hydaker has always engaged in farming, and has been most successful.

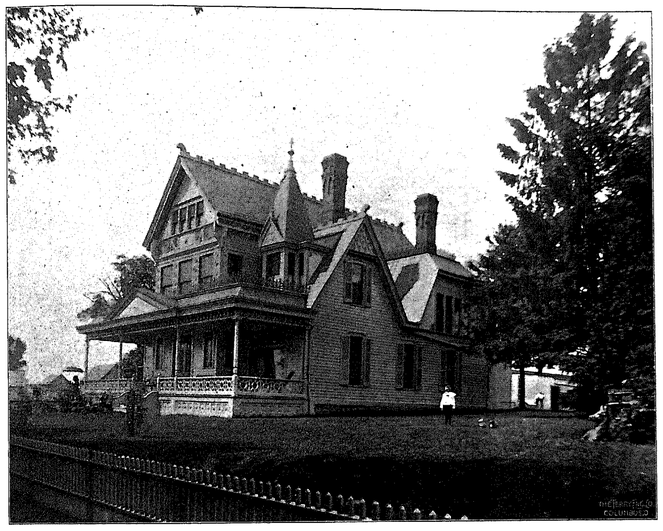
C. F. KELLERMEYER was born in Prussia, Germany, in 1835, and was a son of Henry and Mary Kellermeyer. At the age of ten years he came to this country, and has resided here since. He was employed as a clerk in New Bremen for a time, but for twenty-eight years has engaged in farming. In 1858 he was married to Mary Buehler, and eight children, Mary, Edwin, Leo, Emma, Ewald, Freddie, Augustus, and Lillie, have been born to them.

SHADRACK MILLER was born in Grant county, Ind., October 9, 1858, and came to Auglaize county in 1864. In 1882 he married Miss Emma Miller, daughter of Branson Miller, who was born in Virginia, in 1808, and who was well known in Auglaize county. Two children have been the result of this union: Scott, born in 1883, and Maud, born in 1890. Mr. Miller is a mechanic, but has been a farmer for several years.

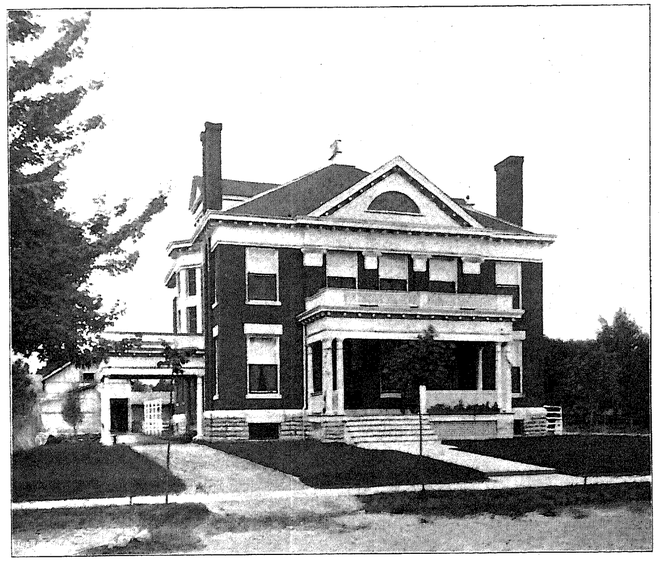
ADAM C. REED was born in Champaign county, Ohio, January 13, 1845, and was a son of Cyrus W. and Phoebe Reed. He was reared upon the farm, and has made agriculture a life work. He was married March 18, 1868, to Margaret J. Body. Mr. and Mrs. Reed have been the parents of a large family, of whom are living, Mrs. Cora O. Haberman, Charles A., Harrison R., Mrs. Phoebe E. Jacobi, Mrs. Augustus Shillinger, Harris W., Hattie A., Samuel C., Nancy, David W., William F., Ira C., Miles B., and James H. Mr. Reed came to Auglaize county sixteen years ago, and settled in Salem township. He has been a member of the board of township trustees since 1893.

HENRY WERNER, a son of the well known pioneers Jacob and Anna Werner, was born August 10, 1867. Mr. Werner has resided all his life on the farm in Salem and Noble townships, and while yet a young man gives promise of much future success. In 1893 he was married to Miss Alice Wisswasser, and one child, now dead, has been born to them.

JACOB WERNER was born at Wurtemberg, Germany, May 4, 1838, and was a son of Michael and Barbara (Bachman) Werner. Mr. Werner immigrated to this country in 1854, locating in Highland county, Ohio, where he remained two years. From there he removed to Fayette county, and in 1866 came to Auglaize. He was twice married, and is the father of ten children: Henry, Mary, Emma, William, Anna, Herman, Ida, and Clara, living. Mr. Werner is one of the most prosperous farmers in the county.



RESIDENCE OF A. ALTHAUSEN.



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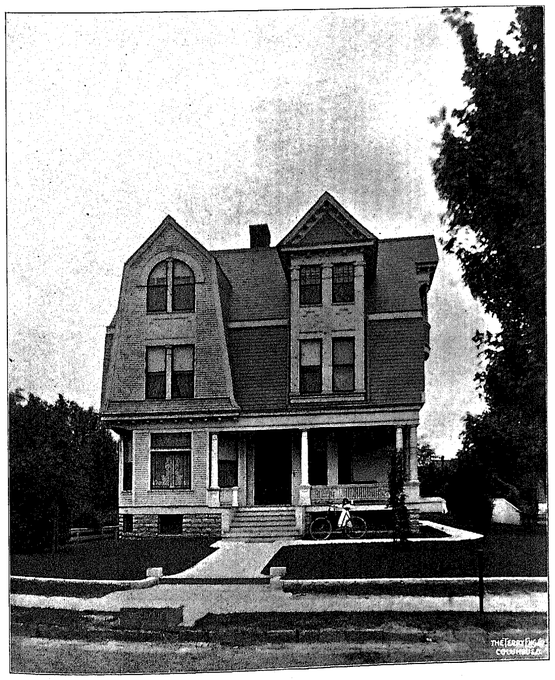


RESIDENCE OF E. M. VEENFLIET.



RESIDENCE OF A. F. HEUSCH.

ST. MARYS TOWNSHIP.

St. Marys township is rich in history that goes to make up the story of the early settlement of the northwest section of Ohio. It was the seat of the first permanent settlement within the limits of the present county organization, but its history is so closely connected with that of the town of St. Marys that much of interest pertaining to it will necessarily be treated in the sketch of the town. A settlement had been made here prior to the War of 1812, but only a few traders and hunters found their way into the neighborhood before 1824, when new settlers gradually came in until the population was sufficiently large that it paid in personal taxes $26.24. Taxes on real estate in the township and town amounted to $26.98. The names of twenty-three persons were returned by Isaac Applegate as property owners, subject to taxation, and Samuel Hanson entered into contract with the treasurer of Mercer county, in which he agreed to collect not only all the taxes in Mercer, but also in Van Wert county, for the sum of $5. The list of owners of taxable property had grown to the number of eighty in 1830, but the amounts collected hardly showed a proportionate increase, indicating that the accumulation of wealth was anything but rapid, and that the territory was being settled but slowly. The surface of this township is generally level, but is broken by the Mercer reservoir, two thousand two hundred and forty acres of which extend into it from the west, and by the St. Marys river, which flows in a westerly and northwesterly course. The Miami canal crosses it in a northerly and northwesterly direction. The soil is of clay and black loam, and the products are generally the same as those of other parts of the county. The township is included in the oil territory, and has been productive of immense quantities of oil and gas. The first oil well drilled in this whole section was located in what is now known as Armstrong's Addition to St. Marys, and was put down as a test well. Numerous good producers have been located within the reservoir and along its banks. Aside from the oil industry the township is an agricultural one.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

CHARLES H. BLOOMHERST, a view of whose residence appears in this work, is one of the most substantial farmers of St. Marys township. He was born in Prussia, Germany, March 27, 1849, and came to this county in 1861. He was a son of William and Louisa Bloomherst. In 1887 he was married to Miss Mary Brumbaugh, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Brumbaugh, of Darke county, Ohio, and to them have been born three children, Dellious J. W., Bertha H., and Walter M., who continue to fill their place at the parental fireside. Mrs. Bloomherst was born March 11, 1852. Mr. Bloomherst has resided in Auglaize county for a period of twenty years, and previous to coming here lived at Troy, Ohio. He has been engaged in agricultural pursuits nearly all his life, and by the frugal management of his life partner, and his own industry, has accumulated a competence, and is in the strictest sense a self-made man. He is at present one of the trustees of St. Marys township, to which office he was elected on the Democratic ticket, he having always belonged to that party. He has held several other positions of trust.

JOHN H. DOHSE was born in Germany, August 5, 1842, and at the age of ten years immigrated with his parents, Johkin and Doretha Dohse, to this country in 1852, settling in Auglaize county. In 1862 he was married to Miss Fredrieka Kellerman, who died February 26, 18—, leaving two children, J. F. and F. C. October 1, 1871, he was married to Miss Anna E. Reiselt, who died August 9, 1875. In 1876 he was married to Fredricka Miller, and to this marriage five children have been born: C. H., Minnie, Lena, Richard, and Anel E. Mr. Dohse was a soldier, belonging to Co. K, 99th Regiment O. V. I., serving three years, and was with Sherman on his memorable march to the sea. He has been a member of the township School Board for nine years, and is a substantial and respected citizen.

WILLIAM L. DOENGES was born in Auglaize county, March 14, 1865, and was a son of Louis and Elizabeth Doenges, among the oldest settlers of this section of the county. In 1889 he was married to Miss Elizabeth Hespe, and three children, Alma, Adlai, and William Jennings, have been born to them. With the exception of two years spent in Nebraska, he has resided here all his life, following the occupation of a farmer.

WILLIAM H. HUENKE was born in German township, this county, September 10, 1849, and was a son of Henry and Louisa Huenke, both of whom immigrated to this country from Germany, many years ago. Mr. Huenke was married to Miss Sophia Frevert, September 5, 1878, and to them two children have been born, Leo, born August 16, 1880, and Flossie, March 20, 1886. He has resided in Auglaize county all his life, and is one of its most prosperous citizens.

EDWIN KELLERMEYER, a view of whose fine home appears on the page shown by index, was born three miles south of St. Marys, March 13, 1862, and is a son of C. F. and M. W. Kellermeyer, old residents of this county. Mr. Kellermeyer received his education in the schools of his neighborhood, and has devoted his entire life to agricultural pursuits. He has a splendid farm, and enjoys the profits that come to those members of the farming class who acquaint themselves with all the modern methods of conducting a farm, and who recognize the fact that success always awaits individual effort. His farm lies in the oil territory, and the production of that precious fluid has been a source of considerable revenue to him. He is recognized as one of the most substantial and trustworthy citizens of the county. In 1885 he was married to Miss Sarah Lenhart, and five children, Henry, Frederick, Leon, Martha, and Clara, have been born to them.

ERNST H. MÖELLER, an enterprising and industrious young farmer as the county can boast, was born in German township, August 9, 1856, and is a son of H. H. and Lisetta Möeller. On April 29, 1880, he was united in marriage with Miss Sophia Dickie, and five children, Lafayette, Edwin, Martha (deceased), and Hilda (deceased), have been born to them. Mr. Möeller has resided in this county all his life, and has an excellent and highly cultivated farm three miles southwest of St. Marys.

AUGUST MEYER is a native of Auglaize county, and was born in Washington township, February 26, 1852, a son of Cord and Margaret Meyers. Mr. Meyers has resided in the county all his life, and his parents were among the oldest pioneers. In 1875 he became a resident of St. Marys township, and is known as one of the best farmers in the county. He was united in marriage with Miss Louisa Rissman, in 1875, and six children have been born to them.

HENRY REISELT. Among those who have contributed much to the development of Auglaize county is Mr. Reiselt, the subject of this sketch. He was born at Palatia, Bavaria, Germany, December 27, 1826, and immigrated to this country in 1843, settling in Franklin county, Ohio, where he resided about fifteen years. He then came to this county and has resided here continuously for the past forty years. He has been twice married, the first wife, Elizabeth Drescher, the second, Catharine A. Breckenridge. Both are dead. By these marriages he became the father of ten children: Anna E. (deceased), Susan (deceased), Jacob (deceased), Frederick, William H., Louis M., Mary H., Matilda W., John H., and Charles J. Mr. Reiselt has served as Infirmary Director of this county for over twelve straight years, being first elected in 1877.

LEWIS HENRY STUEVE, who has been and is one of the most successful farmers of this county, was born in Washington township, June 13, 1845, and was a son of Henry and Eliza Stueve. He was married to Miss Mary Lutterbeck, and eight children, George, William, Henry, Louis, Elizabeth, Mamie, Anna, and Emma, have been born to them. Mr. Stueve is recognized by his neighbors as a man of sterling integrity, and his industry has brought its own reward.

JAMES M. WEADOCK was born in County Wexford, Ireland, March 12, 1843, and immigrated to this country when about seven years old. He has resided in this county for forty-eight years, and has engaged in farming most successfully during the greater part of this time. He was married to Mary C. McFarland, in January, 1868, and twelve children have been born to them, four of whom died in infancy. Those living are Lewis J., Bernard A., George W., John F., Edward W., Henry L., Clara M., and Edith A. Mr. Weadock was a member of the 50th Regiment O. V. I., and served his country three years.

ERNST H. WIEHE, one of the younger generation of German farmers of St. Marys township, who is on the high road to success, was born in German township, and was a son of Henry and Minnie Wiehe, both natives of Germany. In 1887 he was united in marriage with Miss Rosina Miller, and five children, Irwin, Harry, Ferdinand, Arthur, and Louella, have been born to them. Mr. Wiehe has resided on the same farm, three miles southeast of St. Marys, for the past eleven years.

ST. MARYS.

The early history of the town of St. Marys is replete with historical associations. Mention of it is made with the military operations immediately preceding the War of 1812, when upon the assignment of General W. H. Harrison to the command of the forces in the Indian campaigns of that period, St. Marys was selected as a base of rendezvous and supplies, and as the southern extremity of the base line of operations. Generals Wayne and Harmer camped here, the place being known at that time as Gerty Town, from James Gerty, one of four brothers who had been adopted by the Indians.

After the wars with the Indians and subsequent treaties with them, which entailed their removal to the far West, St. Marys assumed the dignity of a town of goodly proportions, and in August, 1823, the original plat, comprising that part of the town bounded by North and South, and Perry and Front streets, was

laid out. A few years subsequently, about 1827, St. Marys became the county seat of Mercer county, and so continued until the year 1840.

Located on the Miami and Erie canal, and the Lake Erie and Western, and the Columbus and Northwestern railroads, surrounded by a country of great agricultural resources, it has kept pace with the tread of progress, until to-day it is one of the most enterprising and substantial towns in Northwestern Ohio. Of recent years the development of the oil and gas business has made it a place of great activity, being in the very heart of this industry. The writer remembers well the discovery of these substances within the corporate limits of the town a few years ago, and the subsequent revival of almost every business in which the town was then engaged, the influx of oil operators and producers, and the sudden transition from poverty to wealth of many who came to try their fortune in this wonderful field.

Apart from the oil industry, which is but transitory in its nature, St. Marys is supplied with several large and substantial manufactories. Among them is the St. Marys Woolen Manufacturing Company. This enterprise was incorporated in 1871, with a capital stock of $50,000 paid in. It now has a surplus of $54,000, and is doing an annual business exceeding $100,000, consuming over 300,000 pounds of wool per year in the exclusive manufacture of fine all wool blankets. The product of the mill has attained such celebrity that it is sold in every important market in this country and Europe. To supply this trade the mill is in constant operation, employing from seventy-five to one hundred people. The stockholders of the company are Albert Althausen, Albert Herzing, E. H. Veenfliet, of St. Marys, and C. W. Timmermeister, of Wapakoneta.

The Reservoir Flour Mills is another of the industries of the town. This establishment is the pioneer in the milling business in this part of Ohio, it having been established in 1847, one year previous to the organization of Auglaize county.

The St. Marys Spoke Works is another of its thriving industries, contributing as much perhaps to the maintenance of the community as any in it. This plant is owned entirely by Crane and McMahon, partners, residents of New York City. At present they furnish employment to one hundred and fifty-three persons, at a yearly expenditure of $60,000.

The St. Marys Straw Board Works is incorporated under the laws of Ohio, and is owned and controlled by foreign capital. It employs continuously about 100 hands, at an annual expenditure of $40,000. The mill pays to the farmers of the vicinity $40,000 per year for straw. The capacity for finished product or daily output is 20 tons. The officers of the company are C. S. Barrett, President, Cleveland; H. Brown, Vice-President, Mansfield; O. S. Jacobs, Treasurer, St. Marys; T. F. Walsh, Cuyahoga Falls. The local office is under the control of Mr. G. C. Coney.

The St. Marys Foundry and Machine Works, established by its present owner, C. Buehler, in 1876, and reorganized by the St. Marys Machine Co., in 1896, is actively engaged in the manufacture of all kinds of milling machinery, gas engines, brass goods, etc.

The Auglaize Machine Works, located in the north central portion of town, is engaged also in the making of milling machinery and oil well supplies.

The St. Marys Chain Works is another enterprise of this progressive town. It is located in the northeastern part of the city, and is engaged in the making of chains.

The Metz Cracker Factory, a recent acquisition to the industries of the community, is an enterprise which from a small beginning gives promise of increased activity.

Besides the above there are other enterprises of less magnitude, but equally important in sustaining a live and active community. The town is also supplied with a first-class system of waterworks and an electric lighting plant, complete in every respect, constructed at a cost of $90,000, and a telephone plant owned and controlled by local capitalists.

St. Marys possesses two handsome school buildings of modern design, both of which are situated on Spring street, and in the east and west parts of the town respectively. The schools are under the superintendency of Prof. J. D. Simkins, who is assisted by an efficient corps of experienced teachers.

It has also two newspapers, viz., the St. Marys Argus and Democrat, and the St. Marys Graphic, representative of opposite politics, both of which are issued weekly. They are ably conducted and contribute much to the entertainment of their numerous subscribers.

The financial interests of the community are well served by the Home Banking Co., and the First National Bank, which together have an aggregate capital and surplus of $116,000.

During the past few years numerous business blocks of a substantial and up-to-date appearance, notably the Home Banking Block, have been built on the principal street; and residences of an elegant and attractive character, as well as churches of each of the prominent denominations, add to the general beauty of the town and complete the adjuncts to the progress, intelligence, and refinement of the inhabitants.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

ALBERT ALTHAUSEN, whose portrait, together with a view of the St. Marys Woolen Mills, and the Home Bank Building, occupies a page in this work, is one of the leading business men of Auglaize county, and one who has ever been prominently identified with her industrial history. Mr. Althausen was born in Wickrath, County Dusseldorf, Germany, January 15, 1835, and was a son of Henry and Gertrude (Roelen) Althausen, who immigrated to this country when the gentleman of whom we write was but twelve years of age. The parents upon their arrival located in Mercer county, Ohio, but in 1853 removed to Piqua. The son had attended school and received the benefit of private instructions in his native land, and when the family settled at Piqua he secured a position in a wholesale liquor establishment. Three years later he came to St. Marys and engaged in the distilling business, and since that time has always resided there. In 1876, he, with E. M. Piper and Frederick Dieker, organized the Bank of St. Marys, and entered the institution as its Cashier. He remained in that capacity until 1887, when he disposed of his interest, and with Albert Herzing, and E. M. Veenfliet, purchased the entire stock of the St. Marys Woolen Mills, and gave to the business for three years the benefit of his ripe business experience. In 1890 the Home Banking Company was organized, and he was elected to the presidency of that corporation, and Willis Kishler its cashier. He then relinquished the active management of the Woolen Mills, though he yet remains the President. The latter institution, which grew rapidly in importance, was totally destroyed in the great fire of July, 1895, but was promptly rebuilt, with a greatly increased capacity, and more substantially than ever, and is one of the principal industries upon which the town depends. The banking institution, too, has been most successful from the very date of its organization, and bears evidence of the master hand which guides its affairs. It is located in what is known as the Home Bank Block, a new building fitted with every convenience, and erected and owned by the St. Marys Woolen Manufacturing Company. During all the years of Mr. Althausen's residence in St. Marys, years crowded with business cares, and with success, he has never lost sight of the interests and welfare of his own town, but has ever been among the first to sacrifice time and means to every project looking to its development. For many years he was a member of the city Council, and for the past fifteen years has been an active member of the Board of Education. During his incumbency of these positions the new school buildings have been erected, and a majority of the substantial improvements of the town made. Always the same, kindly, courteous, considerate of the rights and interests of others, Mr. Althausen is widely esteemed, not alone as one who has made life a success in a financial way, but as a gentleman as well. On September 15, 1859, he was married to Miss Louise Herzing, and to their union have been born five children: Mrs. Minnie Veenfliet, Mrs. Emma Kishler, Mrs. Tasa Timmermeister, Mrs. Julia Stout, and Albert (deceased).

FRANK D. AUSMAN was born at Pomeroy, Ohio, January 28, 1868, and was a son of Frank and Theresa Ausman, the latter now residing at Wapakoneta. Mr. Ausman came to Auglaize county in 1881, and worked at the watchmaking and jeweler's trade at the county seat for fourteen years. In 1893 he was united in marriage with Miss Mayme Wenk, and one child, Harold J., has been born to them. In 1894 he removed his family to St. Marys, where he established one of the finest and most complete jewelry stores in the state. He is located in the Grand Opera House block and does a thriving business.

OTTO BUCHANAN was born in Auglaize county, July 18, 1865, and has resided here all his life. He was a son of J. H. and E. J. Buchanan, old residents of the county. In 1888 he was married to Miss Ella Frazier, and four children, Mamie G., Flora E., Lulu M., and Lillie J., have been born to them. Mr. Buchanan is now engaged in farming and is in the livery business at St. Marys, where he is doing excellently.

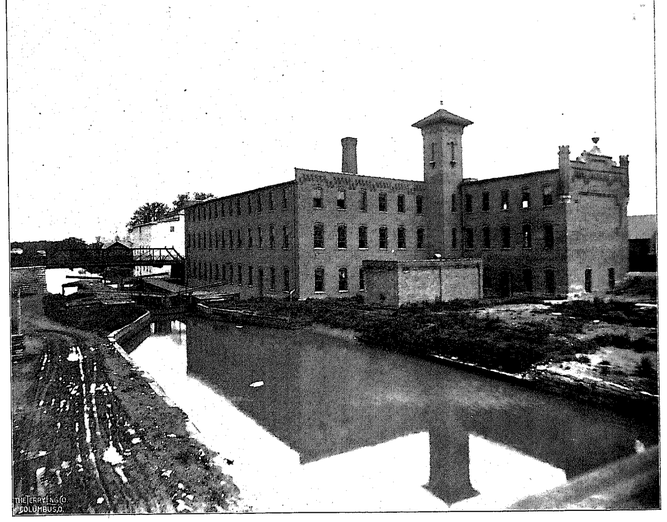
CHARLES FRANCIS BULLOCK, attorney at law, has been located in St. Marys in the practice of his profession since 1878. He was a son of N. I. and Sarah S. Bullock, and was born at Macon, Georgia, January 25, 1841. Colonel Bullock was married twice, his present wife being Margaret V. Balding. He has one child, Mrs. Betty V. Hazzard, daughter by the first marriage. He is a graduate from the law department of the University of Mississippi, and has resided in several southern cities. He was a soldier from 1861 to the close of the war, serving in the 1st Mississippi Valley Regiment C. S. A.

D. A. CLARK, part owner of the "St. Marys Argus and Democrat," and newly elected Treasurer of Auglaize county, was born in the above-mentioned town, March 17, 1861, and was a son of William H. Clark, who has been a resident of the county since 1848. Mr. Clark received his education in the schools of St. Marys, and when sixteen years of age entered the office of the "Free Press," then edited by his brother, R. S. Clark. In 1878 the office was sold and the name changed to the "Argus." He remained in the employ of the new proprietors until 1883, when he purchased the plant. Under his management it has become a power in the county and has lent its influence and strength to every movement beneficial to the community and to the Democratic party, of which party's principles it is a staunch advocate. In 1892 Mr. Clark was elected Mayor of St. Marys, and in 1894 he was appointed Postmaster by President Cleveland. In the fall of 1897 he was elected Treasurer of the county. He was married in 1890 to Miss Amelia Gernett, a native of St. Marys.

FREIDRICH RICHARD FICKEL was born at Lauter, Schwarzenberg, Sachsen, Germany, August 19, 1854, and was a son of Gottlief H. and Catharine J. Fickel. He was married August 10, 1880, to Catharine J. J. Schonfeldt, who was born August 10, 1860. They are the parents of two children: Elsie L., born in 1883, and Carl Richard, born in 1892. Mr. Fickel has resided in this county seventeen years, and is employed at his trade of blacksmithing at St. Marys.

PERRY FISK, from the date of his birth, or fifty years, a resident of Auglaize county, is one of its best known citizens and shrewdest business men. He was a son of Atterson and Catharine Fisk, and was born in St. Marys, April 13, 1846. He engaged for a number of years in farming, but removed to St. Marys in 1886 where he has a beautiful home, and where he has been engaged for the past ten years in the buggy and harness business. In 1887 he was married to Miss Eliza J. Baker, and two children, Orrel and Mary, have been born to them.

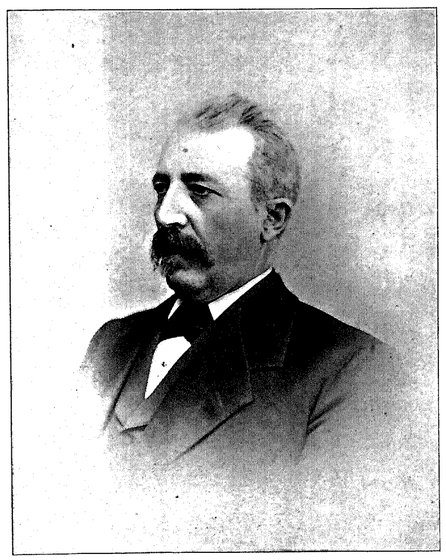
FRANK FOLK. This progressive young man was born in St. Marys township, August 18, 1866, and was a son of Peter and Thresa Folk. He attended the schools of St. Marys and entered upon his business career as a clerk, in which capacity he worked for nine years. He then opened a grocery store for himself and continued in that business for seven years, when he engaged in the implement and buggy business under the firm name of Hauss & Folk. In 1897 another partner was taken into the firm, which is now Gordon, Hauss & Folk, and immense warehouses have been erected near the Gordon mills in St. Marys, where the grain, implement, buggy and bicycle business is conducted on a large scale. Mr. Folk was a member of the city council for four years, and has always been prominent in the



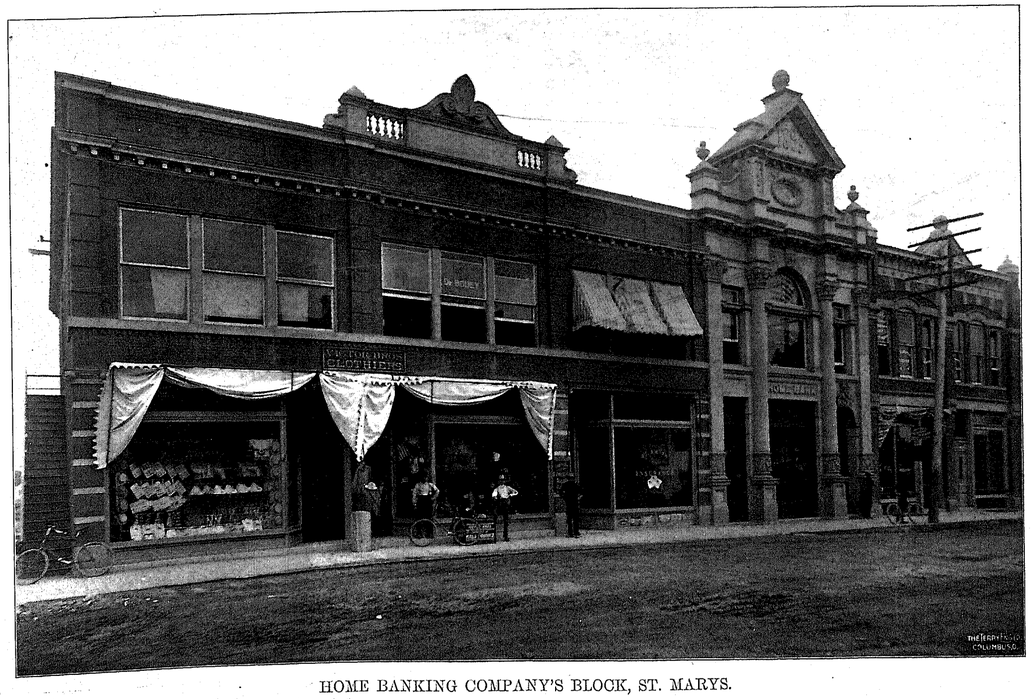
MILL, ST. MARYS.



WOOLEN MANUFACTURING CO.



A. ALTHAUSEN.



HOME BANKING COMPANY'S BLOCK, ST. MARYS.

councils of the Democratic party. In October, 1887, he was married to Miss Henrietta Hauss, and four children, Viola Elwin, Harold, and Lamont, have been born to them.

ERNST FERDINAND GROSS, one of the best and most favorably known citizens of St. Marys, was born at Tiefthal, Prussia, Germany, December 5, 1838, and was a son of George H. and Elizabeth Gross. He came to this country with his parents, and to Auglaize county in 1852. The father was a mason and stone cutter by trade, and the son assisted him whenever possible. He received his education in the schools of St. Marys, which he attended until 1857, when he learned the tinner's trade. In 1861 he established a stove and tinware business for himself. He was married the same year to Miss Caroline D. Dohse, and nine children have blessed the union: Wilhelmenia, Anna, Ferdinand, Carl, Lena, John F., Agnes, Laura, and William. In 1862 he was elected Justice of the Peace and held the position for twenty-seven continuous years. He was Mayor of St. Marys two terms, councilman twelve years, and is now chief of the Fire Department. Although he is growing old he has not retired from active work, and is at the head of the E. F. Gross & Sons Agricultural Sheet Metal Works.

AUGUSTUS FREDERICK HEUSCH is a native of this county, and was born at St. Marys, February 22, 1855, being a son of Lewis Henry and Anna Heusch. On April 4, 1878, he was married to Miss Malinda Schwartz, of Columbus, Ohio, and of their union five children have been born: May, Elbert, Maud, Owen (deceased), and Philip (deceased). Mr. Heusch's life has been one of activity and usefulness. In 1879 he succeeded his father in the grocery business at St. Marys, and continued in that business eighteen years, having sold his stock March 13, 1897. For ten years he has been in the real estate business and has added three additions to the town, disposing of three hundred lots and thirty-seven dwellings. He also owns a half interest in the telephone exchanges at St. Marys and Celina, Ohio, and twenty-two miles of toll line in Mercer county. He is President of the telephone exchanges, and has his real estate and telephone offices in the Grand Opera House block, at this place. He resides in a beautiful new home on the corner of Spring and Wayne streets.

GUY HUFFMAN was born near Beaver Dam, Allen county, Ohio, October 11, 1861, and was a son of Lewis and Anna Huffman. He was reared on a farm, but at the age of fourteen years commenced clerking in a dry goods store and continued in that capacity until of age, when he entered the grocery business for himself. In 1883 he was married to Miss Hattie E. Cox. Two children, LaVere and Bernice, have been born to them. In February, 1887, he removed to St. Marys and engaged in the shoe trade for two years. Since that time he has been interested in the telephone companies of St. Marys and Celina. Mr. Huffman is an energetic business man and has been identified with every movement beneficial to his town.

FRANK KOEHL is among the most widely known pioneers of Auglaize county. For forty-six years he has been a resident of St. Marys, and has been identified with every movement tending to her development and improvement. He was born January 30, 1830, in the Province of Alsace, Germany, and attended the schools of his native land until fourteen years of age, when he learned the shoe-making trade. At the age of seventeen he left his home for this country, and after a voyage of nearly two months landed in New Orleans. From there he came to Cincinnati, and worked at his trade until 1851, when he came to St. Marys, where, in 1853, he established a grocery business that proved more than successful. In 1880 he established the wholesale beer business, in which he is yet engaged. Mr. Koehl's interests have been many and of different character. He has been interested in the production of oil and gas, and is a large real estate owner. He was Mayor of St. Marys for two years, was member of the city council six years, and has held many township offices. In 1882 he was appointed County Treasurer, but declined to serve. In 1851 he was married to Catharine Smith. She died in 1862 and in 1863 he was married to Louisa Schroder. He is the father of nine children: Frank, Emma, Kate, Louis, Maggie, George (deceased), Louisa (deceased), Carl, and Pearl. Mr. Koehl has been a member of the Masonic fraternity since 1855.

JOHN H. KOENIG. The subject of this sketch was born on his father's farm, about three and one half miles west of St. Marys, Ohio, being a son of Jacob and Barbara Koenig. During the earlier years of his life he worked on the farm, and later began to teach school in Noble and surrounding townships. He continued at this occupation for some time and then took up the study of the law, and was finally admitted to the practice by the Supreme Court of Ohio on June 8, 1893.

After his admission in Ohio, he was admitted to the Bar of Michigan, upon the recommendation of the law faculty of the Ann Arbor University, where he had, previous to his admission in Ohio, pursued his studies. He was at this time also admitted to practice in the United States Circuit Court of Appeals and the Circuit Court of the United States. Mr. Koenig has been practicing law since the 23d of December, 1893, and is recognized as an energetic, upright, and conscientious lawyer; possessing the ability to attract and retain his clients, whose patronage is a growing and lucrative one. His close attention to business and strict fidelity to their interests bespeak for him a promising and successful career.

JOHN W. KEUTHAN was born at Lock Two, Auglaize county, October 17, 1851, and was a son of F. H. and M. W. Keuthan. In 1873 he was married to Miss Barbara Machetanz, and three children have been born to them: Ferdinand C., Mrs. Mary W. White, and Caroline. Few men in Auglaize county are better or more favorably known than this clever gentleman, who for years conducted the Dicker House, at St. Marys. He is a printer by trade and worked at the business for some time in many of the larger cities. In April, 1898, Mr. Keuthan purchased the interests of C. W. Terrell in the Fountain House, in this place, and is in charge of the business. Socially, he is prominent in K. of P. circles.

CAPTAIN LOUIS E. LAMBERT is a native of Saarbroock, Prussia, and was born June 12, 1842. In 1848 his parents, Jacob and Henrietta (Roechling) Lambert, immigrated to this country and settled in Cleveland, Ohio. He attended the schools of that city, and later graduated from Langsdorf's Academy. For several years he engaged in mercantile and manufacturing pursuits, and in December, 1888, came to St. Marys, where he is in the real estate and insurance business. In October, 1876, he was married to Miss Bertha Dieker, of St. Marys, and three children have been born to them: Flora E. and Carl F. living, and Fritz X. (deceased). Captain Lambert has an enviable record as soldier. He enlisted as a private in the 37th Vol. Infantry Regiment, in the War of the Rebellion, was promoted in the field to Corporal, Sergeant, First and Second Lieutenant, Adjutant, and Captain of Co. G, 37th Regiment O. V. I. During his four years' service he was wounded four times. Captain Lambert is one of the most esteemed citizens of his town, and in the spring of 1898 was elected its Mayor.

FREDERICK WILLIAM MACKENBACH, a view of whose comfortable home appears among these pages, and a portrait of whom will be found there also, was born in River Rhine Department, Prussia, Germany, March 22, 1826, and was a son of Henry W. and Anna C. Mackenbach. He came to this country in 1854, and settled in St. Marys township immediately upon his arrival. In 1864 he was united in marriage with Miss Julia Wagner, a native of St. Marys township, and of their union have been born five children: Charley (deceased); Matilda, born January 20, 1867; William A., September 8, 1868; Augustus F., November 19, 1876; and Edward, October 26, 1881. In his native land Mr. Mackenbach was a soldier, and served three years and four months in a cavalry regiment. At the expiration of his term of service he embarked, with but small means, for America, determined to win fortune and honor for himself, if sturdy honesty, diligent labor, and economy, would accomplish those results. That he has been successful in a remarkable degree, his possessions attest. He is the owner of several hundred acres of as fine land as the county contains, and is one of its largest tax payers. For some years he engaged in farming, but since 1863 has also been in business in St. Marys. He conducted the old grist mill, that formerly stood on the East fork of the St. Marys river, two miles east of St. Marys, and which was erected in 1831. About his yard are yet remnants of the old mill, and he carefully preserves the stones that annually ground the crop of the pioneer farmer. Just north of his present residence is located the saw mill he established, also historic, the first upright mill in this section. It is now fitted with modern appliances, runs either by water or steam, and is conducted in connection with his lumber yards and planing mill, across the road and north of his residence. Mr. Mackenbach served on the Council of St. Marys many years, and is known not only at home but throughout the entire county as one of her best citizens.

HON. WILLIAM T. MOONEY, Judge of the Common Pleas Court of this district, was born November 14, 1862, at St. Marys, Ohio. His parents were Michael J. and Catherine Mooney. Mr. Mooney was educated in the schools of St. Marys, graduating from them May 23, 1880. He then attended the Northwestern Normal University, at Ada, Ohio, graduating from that institution with the degree of A. B., after a two years' course. In October, 1886, after pursuing the study of the law privately for some time, he entered the Cincinnati Law College, graduating, the recipient of prizes for the highest proficiency, and the degree of LL.B., on May 24, 1888. He was then admitted to the Bar, and on his return home began the practice of law at St. Marys. Shortly afterward he was elected to the office of Village Solicitor, and upon the expiration of his term was re-elected. In 1892 he was elected Common Pleas Judge, filling the unexpired term of Judge Day, of Celina, Ohio. Upon the termination of this period in 1894, he was re-elected, and has continued from that time to the present in that responsible position, popular alike with members of the Bar and litigants. Judge Mooney has believed always that "opportunity knocks unbidden once at every gate," and the fair-haired and capricious goddess, at no time during his career, has been given time to repeat her invitation. The Judge always has been behind the door, and has responded without delay. Thus with the opportunity presented, and the possession of the ability to use it, and a readiness to execute, he has deservedly attained that success which but rarely falls to the lot of any man in such a brief space of time. He is a good Judge, an able lawyer, and his decisions are universally respected both by the legal fraternity and the judiciary of the state.

DANIEL FRANCIS MOONEY, an excellent portrait of whom appears in this book, is one of the ablest young men in northwestern Ohio and has before him a promising future. He is a son of Michael J. and Catharine Mooney, and was born at St. Marys, January 16, 1865. Mr. Mooney attended and graduated from the schools of his native town, at the age of sixteen years. In 1884 he passed the necessary examination and was admitted as a cadet at the United States Military Academy, at West Point, but was later discharged because of defective sight. He was in the civil service of the government under the Cleveland administration. In 1894 he graduated from the law department of the Ohio State University, with the degree of B. L., and coming home to St. Marys entered into a law partnership with Col. C. F. Bullock, which partnership existed until 1897. Since that time he has practiced his profession alone. Mr. Mooney is a Democrat, in politics, but has never been a candidate for office. Socially, he is a member of the B. P. O. E.

NATHAN THOMAS NOBLE, M. D. Among the honored citizens of Auglaize county none stand higher in the estimation of his neighbors than the subject of this sketch. He was born in Auglaize, what was then Mercer county, Ohio, April 28, 1848, and is a son of Henry S. and Cynthia A. (Roberts) Noble, and with the exception of a few years has resided here all his life. He attended the schools of his neighborhood, the Southwestern Normal University, at Lebanon, Ohio, and graduated from the Medical College of Ohio, at Cincinnati. Immediately upon his graduation he began the practice of his profession at Cridersville, this county, and after a time removed to Kossuth, where he remained until his removal to St. Marys, where he has since resided. In 1874-5 he was a surgeon in the Texas Rangers, and served eighteen months on the frontier. Dr. Noble has held many positions of trust. He was Justice of the Peace and Clerk of Noble township, has been a member of the council, and is now a member of the Board of Waterworks Trustees of St. Marys. He has twice been elected Coroner of the county. He is also medical examiner of several life insurance companies. Socially, he is a Mason and an Odd Fellow. He was married in 1894 to Mrs. Doretha (Boesel) Kettler. Dr. Noble was the father, by a former marriage, of one child, Harry, who died in 1876.

ALEXANDER L. SAUM was born at Lima, Ohio, July 24, 1865, and was a son of Andrew and Levina Saum. He came to St. Marys in 1886, and was married to Miss Rosa C. Coon in 1888. To them four children have been born, of whom, Arthur L., Joseph H., and Josie E., are living. Mr. Saum is engaged in the grocery business, and while starting with a small capital, has by industry and business enterprise made more than an ordinary success. Politically, he is a Republican, and has always been prominent in the councils of his party in the county.

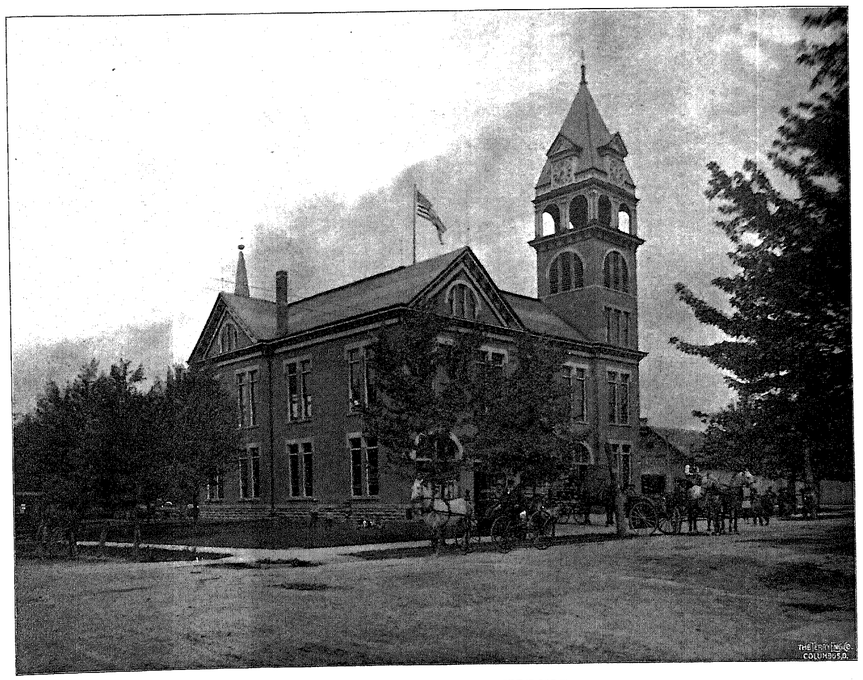
JOHN T. SCHOONOVER was born at St. Marys, November 29, 1855, and is the son of Thomas and Mary A. Schoonover, among the oldest settlers of this county. In 1885 he was united in marriage with Miss Laura E. Gibson, daughter of Richard Gibson, and their union has been blessed by the birth of four children, Gretchen, Thomas, Edwin, and Fannie. Mr. Schoonover graduated from the Cincinnati Law School in 1882, and located at Lima. He remained there three years and removed to Wichita, Kansas, where he resided seven years. He returned from there to St. Marys, where he has practiced his profession most successfully. He is a Democrat in all that the name implies.

JOHN L. SMITH was born in Auglaize county in 1864, and was a son of John and Margaret Smith. In 1894 he was married to Miss Mary B. Green. Mr. Smith is engaged in the insurance business in St. Marys, and his energetic efforts and good business qualifications have made him eminently successful.





WAPAKONETA PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS.



WAPAKONETA CITY BUILDING.



VERNON B. ARNOLD, CITY CLERK.



JNO. G. HEINRICH, MAYOR.



WM. MELCHING, CITY MARSHAL.

UNION TOWNSHIP.

Settled principally by emigrants from Southern Ohio, and from Virginia, Union township was organized in 1836. It is situated in the eastern part of the county, and its surface is more undulating than any other section of the county. Natural springs in every part of the township are the origin of many small streams which flow through it. The Auglaize river also flows across the northwest corner. Gravel roads lead in every direction, and near the middle western part of the township is located the town of Uniopolis, mentioned below. A part of the town of St. Johns is also within its limits. The soil is generally of clay, and is adapted to the production of cereals. The first piece of land entered is in section three, and the first school established in 1836, and was taught by R. C. Layton. In a short time the township was divided into four school districts. The first church built was of logs, and was known as Wesley Chapel. It was erected in 1842, but has been succeeded by a more modern building on the same site. Among the first inhabitants were William and Byrd Richardson, John Lusk, and James C. Lusk, who came in 1832. Lemuel Bacome, William Patterson, John Morris, John Hoffman, James Watt, and William Graham came in 1833. John A. Speece, Benjamin Lusk, Allen Justice, John Carter, John Jacobs, M. Hodges, Aaron Howell, Lewis Y. Perkins, and John Schooler came in 1834. Moses Porter, Jonathan Stiles, and Levi Harrod, in 1835, and Adam and Daniel Focht, Abner Copeland, Levi Mix, John McCormick, H. P. Rinehart, John Hardin, John B. Walton, and Benjamin Faler in 1836-7. At the first election between twenty and thirty votes were cast, and John Morris, who was later a member of the Board of County Commissioners, was elected the first Justice of the Peace. Many have been the improvements since the advent of the men mentioned above, who began the work and endured the hardships, that their posterity might enjoy the comforts of a home.

UNIOPOLIS VILLAGE.

Uniopolis was originally located on the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section seventeen, and was platted and organized by John Hoffman, in September, 1837. Since its organization there has been the following additions: No. 1, Samuel Focht's; No. 2, John W. Howe's; No. 3, Parlett & Stein's; No. 4, George W. Blanks. With the coming of the Ohio Southern railroad, many new enterprises were organized, and the village, with its population of about four hundred, is one of the most flourishing in the county.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

C. N. CHENOWETH, for twenty years a resident of Auglaize, was born in Allen county, Ohio, September 27, 1852, and was a son of James and Nancy (Skilling) Chenoweth. On September 20, 1877, he was united in marriage with Miss Miriam Z. Copeland, and four children, Stanley, Madia A., Edna F., and Nannie J., have been born to them. Mr. Chenoweth engaged in farming, and has a fine home a short distance east of St. Johns. He is one of those men who are a credit to his community and county.

DEFOREST CLINGERMAN was born near Dunkirk, Hardin county, Ohio, July 15, 1862, and was a son of Amos and Almira Clingerman. In 1887 he was married to Miss Sarah A. Monsir, of this county, and to them were born four children, two of whom, Wilbert L. and Lulu, are living. Mr. Clingerman is a farmer, and is making a fine home for his family and a splendid reputation for integrity and fairness. He was elected Justice of the Peace in 1894, and again elected in 1897.

PETER CROUSE. Of all the hardy pioneers who came to Auglaize county and made for themselves a home, and by thrift and industry acquired a competence which would lighten the burden of life in declining years, none have been more successful than Peter Crouse, who, at the ripe old age of seventy-seven years, resides on the farm which he purchased when he arrived here in 1851. He was born in Luzerne county, Pennsylvania, December 4, 1820, and was a son of Frederick and Saloma Crouse. His early life was spent upon the farm in his native state, and while his early educational advantages were few he managed to acquire much valuable knowledge. He was married in 1846 to Miss Matilda Chrest, and eight children were born to them, of whom, Augustus, John, Sarah, Cyntha, Gabriel, and Clara, are living. The two younger yet remain at home to care for the aged father. Mr. Crouse has engaged extensively in public works, and constructed the St. Johns and Lima, the Fairmount and Ashburn pikes, which are among the very best in the county. He has been a devout Christian all his life and is a most respected citizen.

AUGUSTUS LEE FALER was born in Union township, December 23, 1872. Mr. Faler is a teacher and is rapidly advancing in his profession. He is a son of Eli and Rebecca Faler, pioneers, and the parents of seven children: Elizabeth, Ella, Lewis Napoleon, Samantha, Belle, Augustus Lee, and Emmet Allen. The family have always resided in Auglaize county, but one of the daughters, Mrs. Elizabeth Wheelock, is located with her husband at Juneau, Alaska, where she has resided since 1891.

ALLEN FOCHT. The farming interests of Union township are well represented by this progressive gentleman, who was born on the farm where he now resides, March 5, 1853, and was a son of Samuel and Louisa Focht, pioneers of this county. On March 29, 1874, he was united in marriage with Miss Rebecca Blank, who died April 30, 1886. To them were born five children: Etta, Dora, Charles W., Emma, and Eleanor. Mr. Focht was again married on October 13, 1887, this time to Susanna Bitler, and Nova, Hazel, and James D., are the children that have been born to them. Mr. Focht has been a member of the School Board of his township for twelve years, and Trustee for six years. He was three times a member of the Agricultural Board.

ARNOLD P. RINEHART has been a resident of Auglaize county for more than sixty years. He was born in Union township, February 6, 1837, being a son of those well known pioneers, Hugh T. and Julia Rinehart. He was married to Miss Rebecca Harrod, October 25, 1857, and is the father of eleven children, Alice, A. E., H. E., F. L., Otto, Levi, Edgar, Frederick, Martha (deceased), and Ora (deceased). Mr. Rinehart taught school in his neighborhood for several years, but is now engaged in farming, and is one of the most careful and successful agriculturists in the county. He is largely interested in breeding fine stock.

GEORGE H. RONEY was born in Auglaize county, April 1, 1840, and was a son of Charles and Sylvania (Levering) Roney, who came to this county from Philadelphia in 1834, in a covered wagon. In 1885 he was united in marriage with Miss Francis L. Cooley, of Butler county, Ohio. He has resided in Auglaize county all his life, with the exception of a few years spent at Kenton, Ohio, and for forty years followed his trade of blacksmithing. Mr. Roney was a soldier, having enlisted in 1861, and serving until 1865, in the 81st, 156th, and 193d Regiments O. V. I. He is now engaged in the manufacture of tile at Uniopolis. Since the above was written Mr. Roney has departed this life.

CALVIN HENRY SIBERT. This gentleman has been identified with the farming and stock raising interests of the county for years, and through industry has accumulated large landed property. He was born at Piqua Plains, Ohio, January 19, 1847, and came with his parents, Samuel L. and Henrietta (Shanahan) Sibert, to Auglaize county, when but one year of age. He was married May 23, 1872, to Miss Catherine Bitler, a native of this county, and to them three children, Ira, Mrs. Ida Orr, and Samuel H., have been born. Together with attending to his farming and stock raising interests Mr. Sibert engaged in the grain and implement business at Uniopolis for a time, but has lately disposed of that business and removed to a farm in Union township.

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP.

Washington township was originally a part of Shelby county, and as near as can be ascertained was organized in 1835. The first white settler was Shadrack Montgomery, who settled on the border of the old Indian Reserve in 1830, and the association of his family for several years was chiefly with the Indians. He was elected the first Justice of the Peace of the township, and upon the organization of the county was elected a member of the first board of County Commissioners. Among those who came into the township shortly after Mr. Montgomery's arrival were Thomas Chambers, William Spray, Samuel Blakeley, John L. Campbell, and Samuel McCullough. It was not, however, until about 1846 that the great influx of settlers began, when emigrants from Germany, in search of homes, found, though the territory was one vast wilderness, the ideal location for agricultural pursuits, and settled in great numbers. With the sturdy industry of the race they set about to clear the forests, and as little tracts of land came under cultivation the richness of the soil, a sandy black loam, was made manifest, and they were encouraged to send for relatives and friends across the sea, and from the Fatherland came others until the township was populated almost wholly by Germans. Although these men found what certainly appeared an almost impossible task, the work of making homes went steadily on, and the Washington township of to-day, almost every acre of which is under cultivation, is the result of their labors. It ranks among the first in the county in wealth, and its splendid farms with their beautiful and substantial buildings are enduring monuments to the brave spirit of the honest enterprise with which these pioneers were endowed. Oil deposits have been lately developed in the township.

NEW KNOXVILLE VILLAGE.

New Knoxville was originally located in sections 29 and 30, and consisted of 102 lots. James K. Lyttle laid out and organized the town in 1838. Cummins, Mathers and Brown erected the first steam mill and opened the first store. Henry Venneman commenced selling goods in 1840, and Henry Lutterbine was also a pioneer merchant. The town was incorporated on August 3, 1874. The territory which immediately surrounds it is probably the wealthiest in the county, it has several manufacturing establishments, and is of considerable importance as a trading point. In 1897, under the usual mode of procedure in such cases, three hundred and ten acres of adjacent land was annexed to the corporation, and in 1898 a fine two-story brick town hall was built for the accommodation of the officials and the fire department. The German Lutherans of the town and neighborhood have erected here a beautiful house of worship.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

BENJAMINE E. COOK was born at New Knoxville, this county, March 30, 1869, and is a son of Henry and Elizabeth Cook, who were among the first settlers of this section. Mr. Cook is an energetic business man, and is engaged with his father in the conduct of a general store at New Knoxville. Though a young man he has held several positions of trust, and is now Treasurer of the village of New Knoxville, Treasurer of the School Board, and Treasurer of the Pilger Ruhe Cemetery Association. He was married to Anna S. Eversman, May 19, 1892.

ADOLPH ESCHMEYER was born in Washington township, February 13, 1851, his parents, Adolph and Christina Eschmeyer, natives of Germany, from which country they emigrated in 1846. He was married to Elizabeth Fenneman in 1875, and to them two children, Anna and Tilla, have been born. Mr. Eschmeyer has resided here all his life and has been engaged in farming and mercantile pursuits. He lives in a beautiful new home in New Knoxville, and for the past seventeen years has been giving much attention to the manufacture of brick.

H. B. EVERSMAN, the subject of this sketch, was born in Van Buren township, Shelby county, Ohio, September 7, 1871, and was a son of William and Elizabeth Eversman. In 1894 he married Miss Flora Schroer, and three children, Lillian, Doretha and Ruby, have been born to them. Mr. Eversman was elected clerk of the village of New Knoxville in the spring of 1895, and again elected in 1897. He was also elected clerk of Washington township in 1896, and again in 1898. He came to this county three years ago and engaged in teaching, but is now in the furniture and undertaking business.

HENRY C. FRISCHE, a view of whose residence and surroundings appears in this work, was born in Auglaize county, January 15, 1867, and was a son of Henry and Catherine Frische. His parents were old settlers of this part of the county, and the son was reared upon the farm, and learned, by experience, the methods most conducive to the success of the farmer. Though a young man, he is a good example of the intelligence, industry and enterprise which characterizes the great body of the agriculturalists of this county. He is another of those farmers who have faith in the benefits to be derived from the modern conduct of a farm, and his sagacity has been rewarded in the most substantial manner. In 1890 he was married to Miss Mary Clay, and is the father of two children, Irwin and Ada.

JOHN H. FRISCHE, who resides in a newly erected and beautiful home on the Washington pike, was born January 30, 1870, a son of William and Mary Frische, well known citizens of the county for many years. Young in years, the subject of this sketch is old in experience, and is thoroughly conversant with the methods which attain the best results in farming. In 1894 he was married to Miss Amelia J. Prieser, also a native of this county, and one child, Frederick W., has been born to them.

WILLIAM H. FLEDDERJOHANN was born in St. Marys township, September 6, 1869, and is a son of H. W. and Elizabeth Fledderjohann, well known citizens of New Knoxville. He was married to Miss Caroline Katterhenrich, and four children, Flora, Clarence, Ruth and Miriam, have been born to them. He has been in the mercantile business since seventeen years of age, has been Assistant Postmaster, Postmaster under the last Cleveland administration, and a Trustee of the German M. E. church.

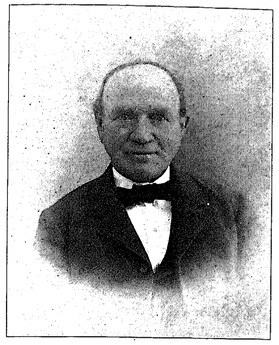
JOHN L. HEADAPOHL, located at New Knoxville, was born in Pusheta township, this county, March 10, 1864, his father and mother, George and Cathrine Headapohl, being among the best known citizens of that part of the county. He was married to Miss Callie M. Dilhman in February, 1888, and to them six children, Nettie, Mamie, Clara, Leona, Raymond and Roy, have been born. For the past four years Mr. Headapohl has been in the hotel and implement business at New Knoxville, and has met with such success as business enterprise merits.

ISAAC J. GILMORE, deceased, was born in Licking county, Ohio, October 14, 1823, and was a son of John and Mary Gilmore. He was married to Miss Eliza J. Tabler, and eight children were born to them: James, Isaac, Clementine, William, David, Sarah, Mary, and Henry. He came to Auglaize county in 1860, enlisted in Co. D, 193d Regiment O. V. I., and died in 1865. His widow has continued to reside in this county since his death.

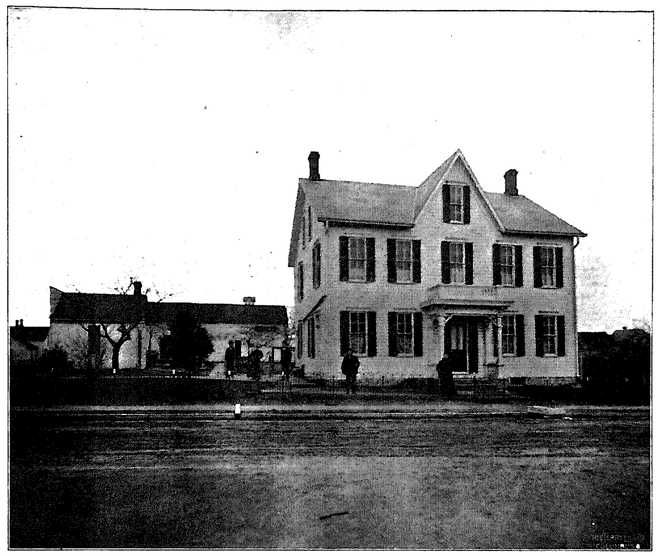
HERMAN H. KUHLMAN, an enterprising young business man of New Knoxville, this county, was born at Vehrte, Osubruck, Germany, December 1, 1857, and with his parents, William and Elizabeth Kuhlman, immigrated to this country in 1873. He was married to Miss Amelia Lutterbein in 1879, and to them eight children, Henry, Alvina, Ida, Meta, Reinhard, Selma, Arthur (deceased), and Clara, have been born. Mr. Kuhlman is extensively engaged in business and conducts a dry goods and boot and shoe store.

JOHN RIEBESELL was born in Germany, December 11, 1858, and was a soldier in the regular army of that country, having served in the 9th Cavalry, at Rendsburg, Schleiswich, Holstein. He was a son of John and Elizabeth Riebesell, and upon his arrival in this country settled for a time in Butler county, Ohio, from where he removed to this county in 1883. He was married to Miss Elizabeth Wierwille, and six children, Lena, Theodore, Hattie, William, Elda, and Clara, have been born to them.

AUGUST H. STIENECKER was born in Van Buren township, Shelby county, Ohio, August 21, 1870, and was a son of Henry A. and Christena H. L. (Bielefeld) Stienecker. In 1892 he came to this county and was united in marriage with Miss Anna M. Schroer. Four children, Ona S., Albin G., Lydia C., and Emma M. (deceased), have been born to them. Mr. Stienecker engaged in teaching school one year in Shelby county, and followed that profession in Auglaize for five years, being employed during this time in Washington township. He is a Notary Public, and has been engaged in the grocery and meat business at New Knoxville for some time. Politically, he is a Democrat, and has served several years on the county central committee of that party.



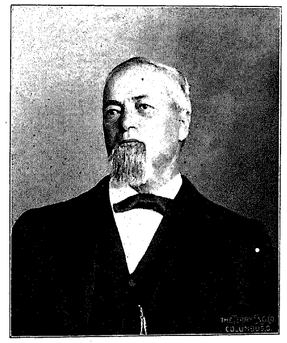
WM. MACKENBACH.



RESIDENCE OF WM. MACKENBACH, ST. MARYS.



MRS. WM. MACKENBACH.



FRANK KOEHL.



DANIEL F. MOONEY.



E. F. GROSS.



RESIDENCE, LEVI C. BAKER, LOGAN TOWNSHIP.



JNO. H. KOENIG, ST. MARYS.

WAYNE TOWNSHIP.

Occupying the northeast corner of the county, and rich in the achievements of its hardy pioneers, Wayne township was organized as a part of Allen county in 1834. It was named in honor of General Anthony Wayne, is four and a half miles north and south, six miles east and west, and has an area of twenty-seven square miles. The surface of the township is undulating, and the soil adapted to the raising of cereals and grass. The East Prairie is divided between this and Goshen township. In section two is the highest land in the state, and the dividing ridge between the waters of the Auglaize and Scioto rivers. The Wallace fork of the latter river rises in the southeast part of the township, and Willow Branch, which empties into the Muchanippi, in Goshen township, rises near its center. Wrestle creek, one of the branches of the Auglaize, also finds its origin here. The first white settlement of which there is any authentic history was in the fall of 1830 or spring of 1831, and the first settlers were William Hiett and John Hurley, who, upon their arrival built cabins on the north side of the Prairie. Following them and until 1834 came Gilbert Hurley, Jacob Williams, Thomas McCall, H. W. Bowdle, Daniel Ellsworth, Samuel Lowman, Henry Whetstone, James Mahan, Joseph and Isaac Dawson, Eli Carson, Simon Mocraft, William Cox, Richard Berry, Moses Ross, Aaron Oram, William Kent, Alex Kent, and Samuel Mocraft, at whose house the first township election was held. Thirteen votes were cast. The second election was held at the house of William Black. James Mahan was elected the first Justice of the Peace, and Richard Berry, Allen Gilmore, and Joseph Dawson, the first Trustees. From 1831 to 1834 many other settlers arrived, and among whom were Lee Turner, Simon Maxon, Benjamin Madden, J. C. Berry, Harris Wells, Samuel Cavender, and Lyman Pratt. The families formed a neighborhood that included about fifteen miles of territory, and in the fall of 1836 built the first school house. The building was of logs, and paper oiled with coon's oil and pasted in the windows, served to admit light, glass being unobtainable. The writing desks were made of puncheons, laid upon pine in the wall, and the seats were of saplings hewn on one side, and with legs fastened into the other. Asa R. Mahan was the first teacher, and he continued during the winters of 1836 and part of 1837, at ten dollars per month. A. D. Berry taught in 1837 and 1838, and William Gilmer in 1838 and 1839. In these early times the inhabitants encountered great difficulties in securing provisions, and were compelled to get them in from Logan and Champaign counties during such seasons as the roads were passable. Grain was taken fifteen miles to mill, and after a sufficient amount was raised that a surplus remained for sale, no market could be reached nearer than Sandusky City and Fremont. All these conditions are now changed. Gravel roads lead through every section of the township, prosperous farmers market great quantities of produce, schools are located conveniently in every part, and almost all traces of the conditions that existed in those primitive days are blotted out forever.

WAYNESFIELD VILLAGE.

Waynesfield originally occupied the southwest quarter of section seventeen, Wayne township, and was laid out and organized by E. G. Atkinson in 1848, about the time of the organization of the county. The original town plat comprised twenty-four lots with adjacent streets and alleys. Since then there has been eight additions to the town, seven of which appear of record, viz: No. 1, Sproul Bros.; No. 2, Earl's; No. 3, Schroyer & Bennett's; No. 4, H. S. Bennett's; No. 5, E. G. Atkinson's; No. 6, J. S. Earl's 2d addition; No. 7, P. J. Cook's; all of which appear on page allotted to Waynesfield. The population in 1880 was 306, and in 1890 numbered 480. Based upon the gain between the years of 1880 and 1890 the town's population would now be about 625. In the fall of 1886 it was incorporated, and on April 5, 1887, the first village election was held, and James S. Earl was elected the first Mayor; G. B. Bennett, Sr., Clerk; E. F. Dawson, Treasurer; J. C. Brener, Marshal. The members of the first Common Council were E. G. Atkinson, A. G. Seaman, John R. Bennett, Benjamin Horn, R. W. Howell, and A. P. Sproul. The town has not only grown in population but numerous business and manufacturing enterprises have been established within the last few years.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

FRANKLIN DAY was born in Logan township, this county, March 13, 1861, being a son of Jesse and Barbara Day. He married Miss Alforetta Carnes in 1888, and three children, Eva, Hazel, and Gladys, have blessed the union. Mr. Day resided in Logan until twenty-six years of age, when he removed to Wayne township. He is one of the model young men of the county and was elected Trustee of his township in 1896.

R. I. KREBS, M. D. For thirty-eight years devoted to the active practice of his profession, Dr. Krebs has now retired to his comfortable country home north of Waynesfield, to spend his declining years and enjoy a well earned rest. His father and mother, Isaac and Esther (Topper) Krebs, were both natives of Virginia, who, after their marriage removed to Pennsylvania, where the subject of this biography was born, in 1832. The family again removed to the Old Dominion, and Dr. Krebs remained at home until he began the study of medicine, in 1850. The three following years he attended the Winchester Medical College and the University of Pennsylvania, graduating from the latter institution in 1853. He first located at Mt. Jackson and then at Westminster, Allen county, until 1858, when he removed to Waynesfield, this county, and built up a fine practice. In 1885 he sold his business and retired to his farm. Dr. Krebs was united in marriage with Miss Lucina Myers, of Licking county, Ohio, and the union resulted in the birth of three children: Laura L., now the wife of J. H. Manchester, Jennie J., wife of Ira Harrod, and Francis B.

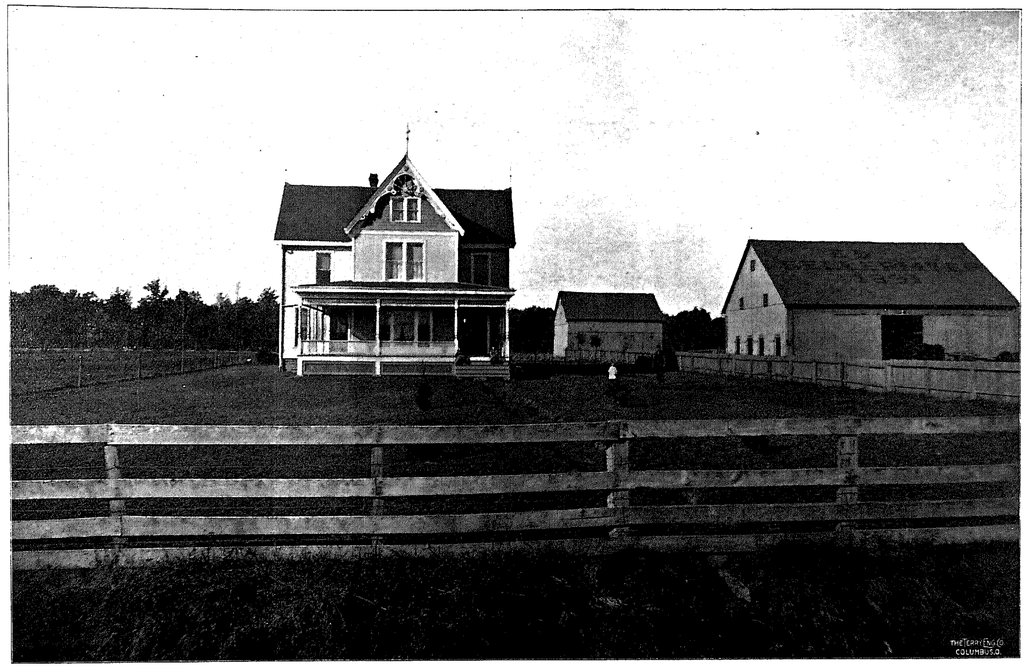
COLBY C. PEPPLE. Among the early settlers of Auglaize county, whose efforts have been crowned with success, and who has been repeatedly honored by his neighbors and the people of the whole county, none are more worthy of mention than the subject of this biography. He was born in Champaign county, Ohio, February 15, 1834, a son of William and Rebecca Pepple, and came to this county fifty-eight years ago, in fact ten years before the county was organized, and when that part where he now resides was included in Allen county. In 1855 he was united in marriage with Miss Catharine Gilroy. Eight children were born to them: Mrs. Mary J. Sanders, A. O., James P., John W., and Mrs. Minnie B. McAdams, living. Mr. Pepple, since coming to this county, has always resided in Wayne township, and has served as both its Clerk and Treasurer. In 1887 he was appointed by the Commissioners Treasurer of the county, was elected to that office the same year, and re-elected in 1889, serving in this responsible position with the same honesty and ability that has characterized all his life's work. He is a director of the First National Bank of Wapakoneta.

JOHN PEPPLE, the subject of this biography, has been a resident of Auglaize county since its organization, and has been one of its best farmers and citizens. He has now retired and lives in a fine home, enjoying the fruits of years of perseverance. Mr. Pepple was born in Champaign county, Ohio, October 16, 1835, and was a son of William and Rebecca Pepple. He married Miss Elizabeth Moyer in 1864, and three children, Emma V., Cora L., and Lulah M., were born to them. He has always resided in Wayne township since coming to the county.

SAMUEL PLUMMER, whose portrait appears in this work, was born in Logan county, Ohio, December 27, 1852, and was a son of William and Elizabeth Plummer, among the earliest settlers of this section. He was married in 1876 to Miss Ella Hutchison, and one child, Maud, was born to them. Mrs. Plummer died in 1879, and in 1881 he was married to Miss Lenora McGinnis, and one child, Otto C., has blessed this union. Mr. Plummer was reared upon a farm, but has been engaged in the stock and mercantile business for many years. In 1896 he was elected a member of the board of County Commissioners, and is filling that position with credit to himself and his constituency.

S. D. STOTLER was born June 23, 1871, near Centerville, Clinton county, Ohio, and was a son of Henry and Mary M. Stotler. At the age of sixteen years he secured his first certificate to teach school, and has been unusually successful from the beginning. He came to Logan county in 1890, taught several terms near the Auglaize county line, and for the past three years has been employed in that capacity in Goshen and Wayne townships. In August, 1898, Mr. Stotler removed to Wapakoneta, where he has entered the law office of Goeke & Hosking.

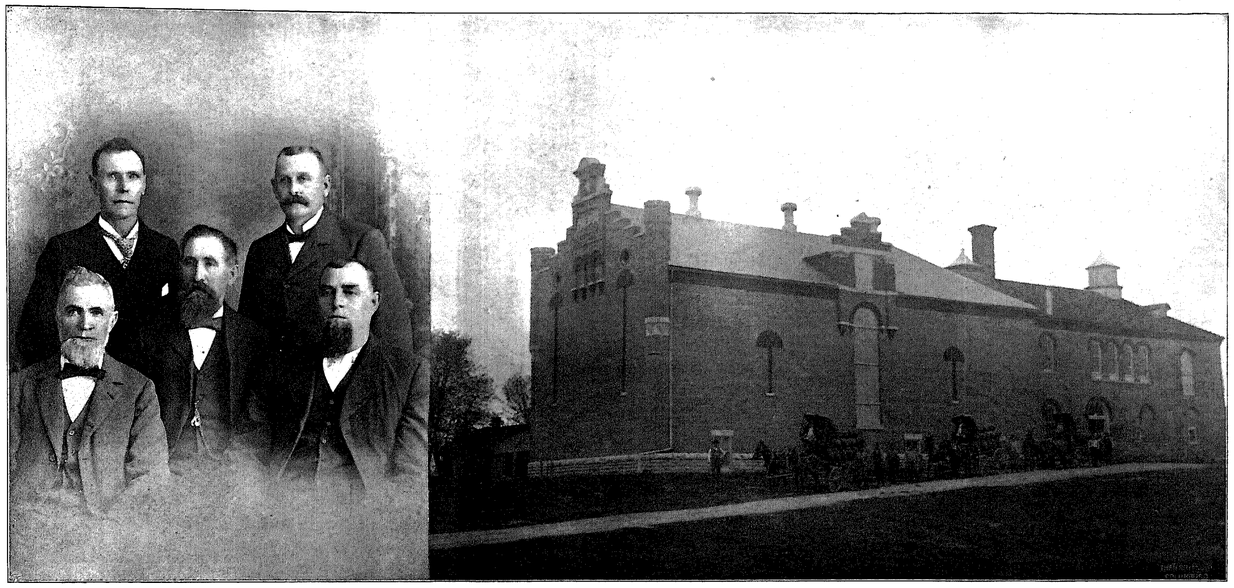
WILLIAM SETH TURNER, M. D., whose portrait will be found in this work, was a son of John D. and Harriet Turner, and was born in Wayne township, this county, January 20, 1861. When about four years of age his father died, and seven years later his mother was married to Joshua Montague. Young Turner remained at home until sixteen years of age, working on the farm and attending the schools of his neighborhood. At seventeen he commenced to fight life's battle for himself and began teaching. Later he finished his literary education at the Northwestern Ohio Normal University at Ada. On the day he attained his majority he selected the medical profession as his calling, and in 1884 graduated from the Eclectic Medical Institute, at Cincinnati. He practiced his profession at Leipsic, Ohio, for one year, when he returned to this county and located at Waynesfield, purchasing the business of Dr. R. I. Krebs. Dr. Turner is one of the ablest members of the profession in this section of Ohio, is a thorough gentleman, and is making a splendid success. He is a member of the School Board at Waynesfield, and is serving as Recording Secretary of the Ohio State Eclectic Medical Association. He is a public-spirited citizen, and in 1897 erected a large business block at Waynesfield, the second story of which is known as Turner's Hall. In 1885 he was married to Miss Mary C. Patterson, of Allen county, and one child, Victor R., has been born to them. Dr. Turner is a Mason and a prominent member of the Baptist church.



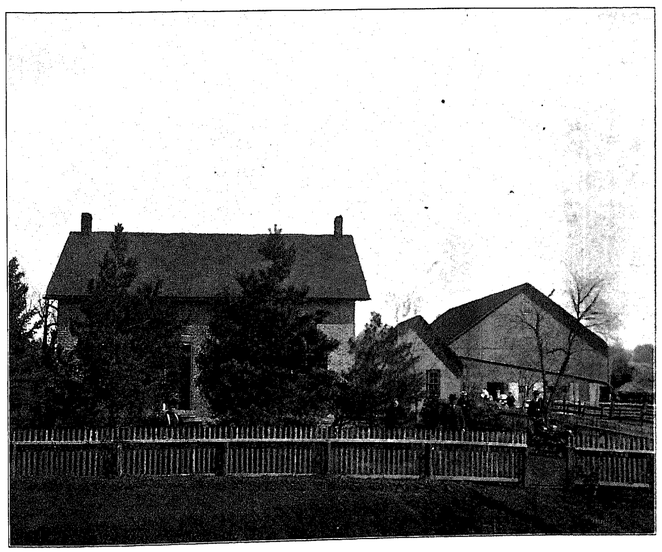
RESIDENCE AND FARM VIEW OF EDW. KELLERMEYER, ST. MARYS TOWNSHIP.



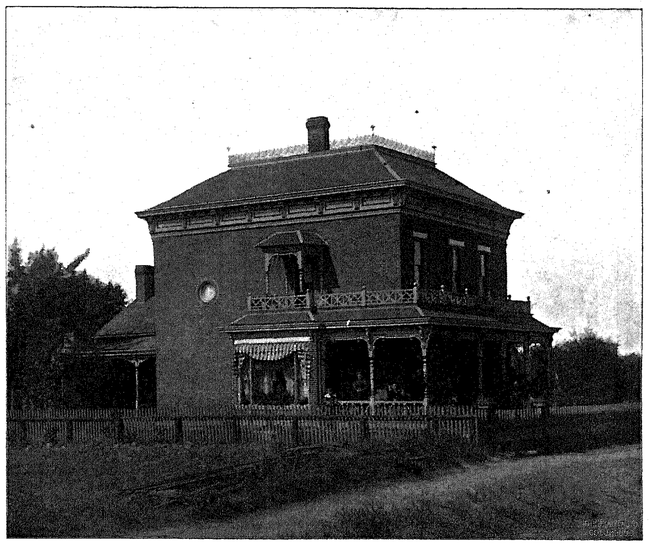
RESIDENCE AND FARM VIEW OF CHAS. H. BLOOMHERST, ST. MARYS TOWNSHIP.



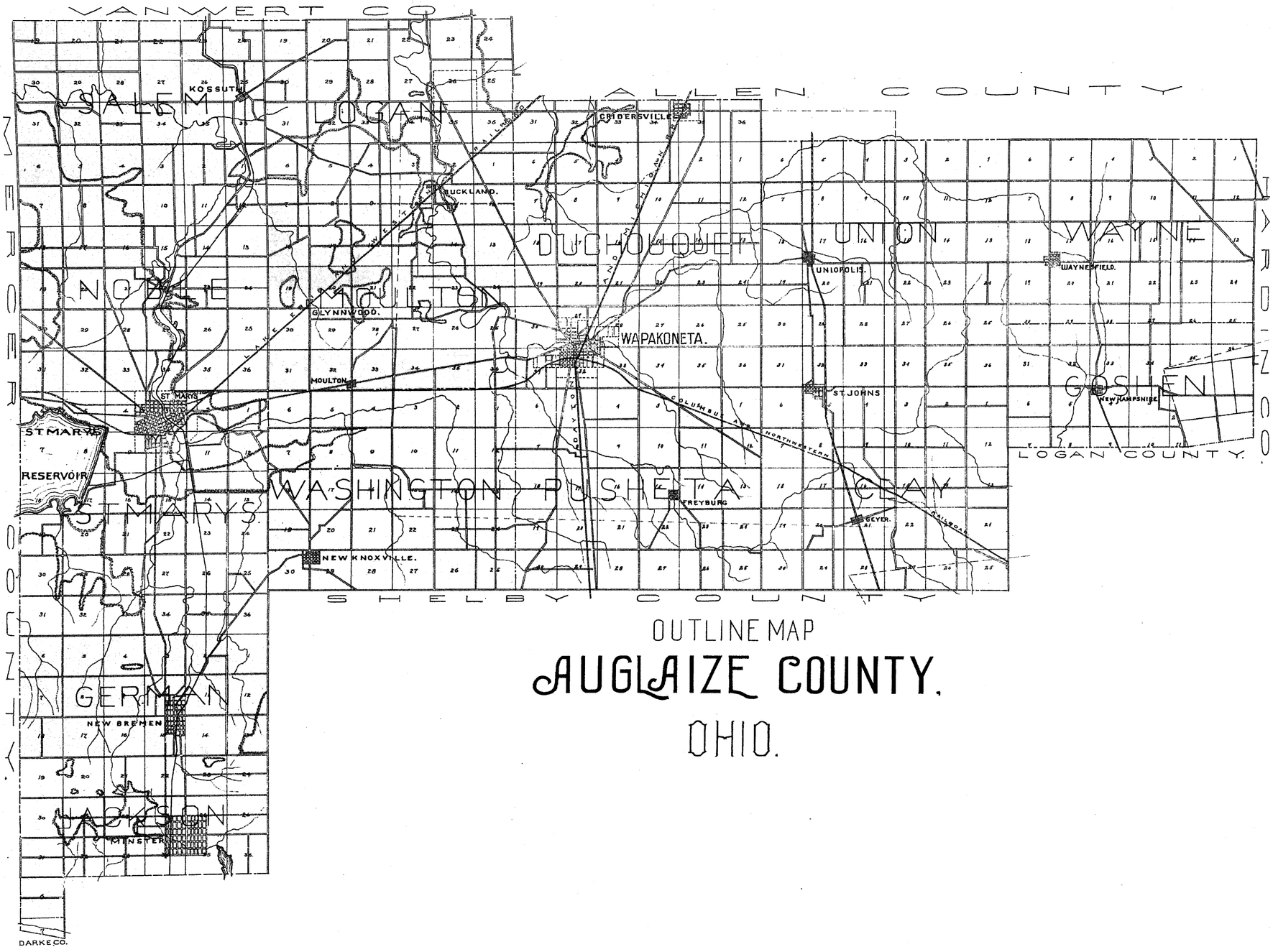
STAR BREWING COMPANY AND BUILDING, MINSTER, OHIO.



RESIDENCE OF BARNEY NAGEL, JACKSON TOWNSHIP.



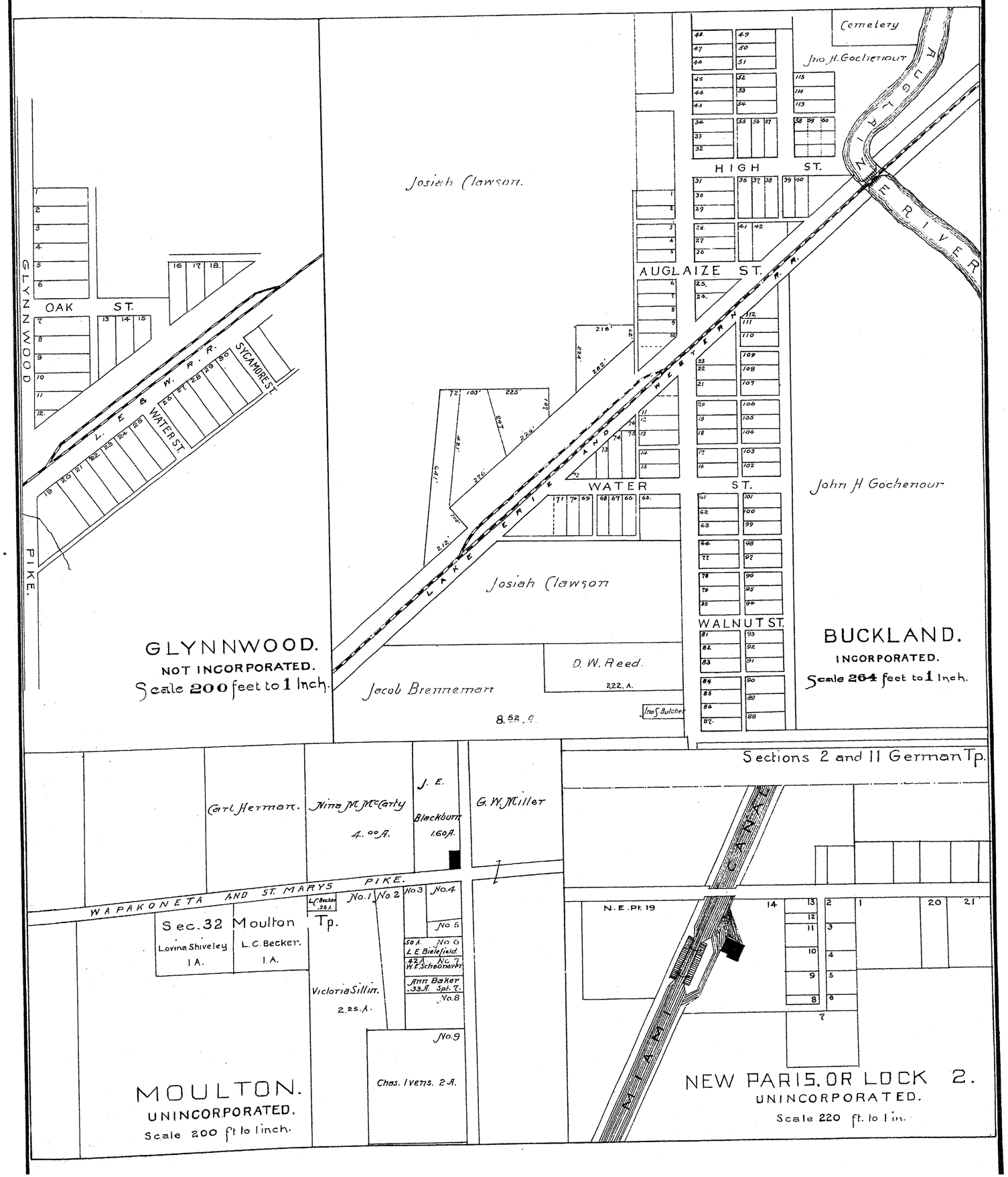
RESIDENCE OF M. GOEKE, JACKSON TOWNSHIP.

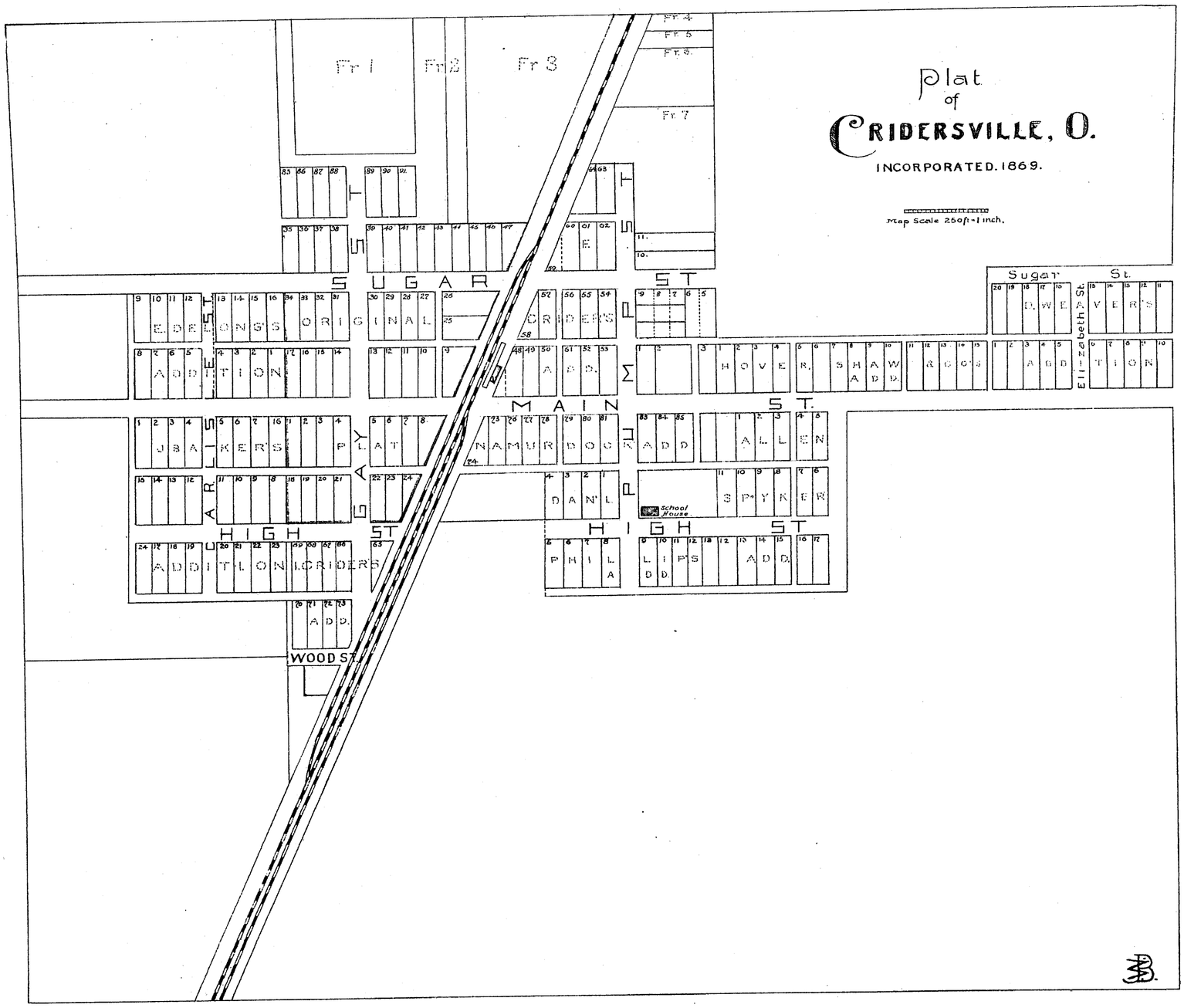


OUTLINE MAP

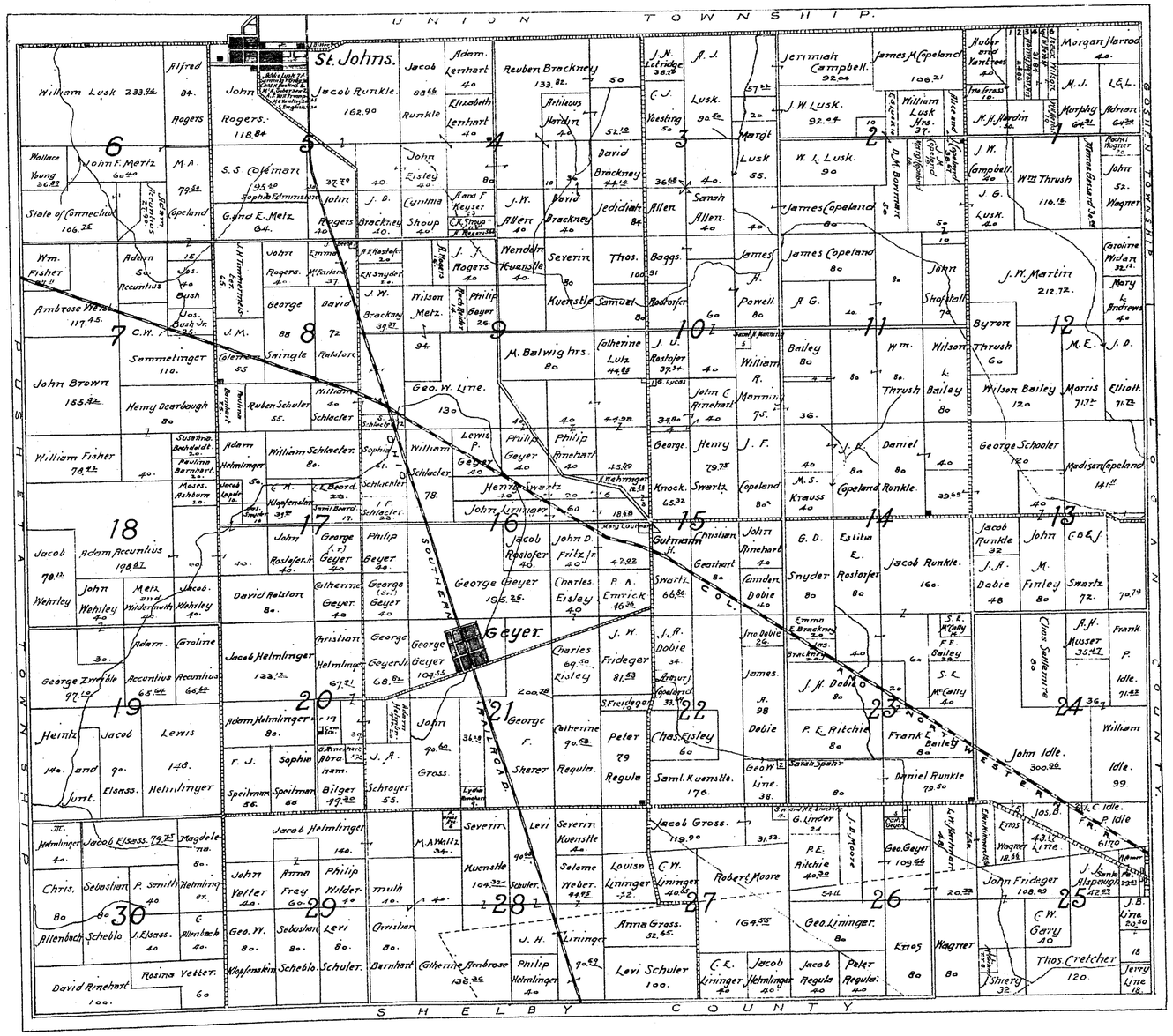
AUGLAIZE COUNTY.

OHIO.

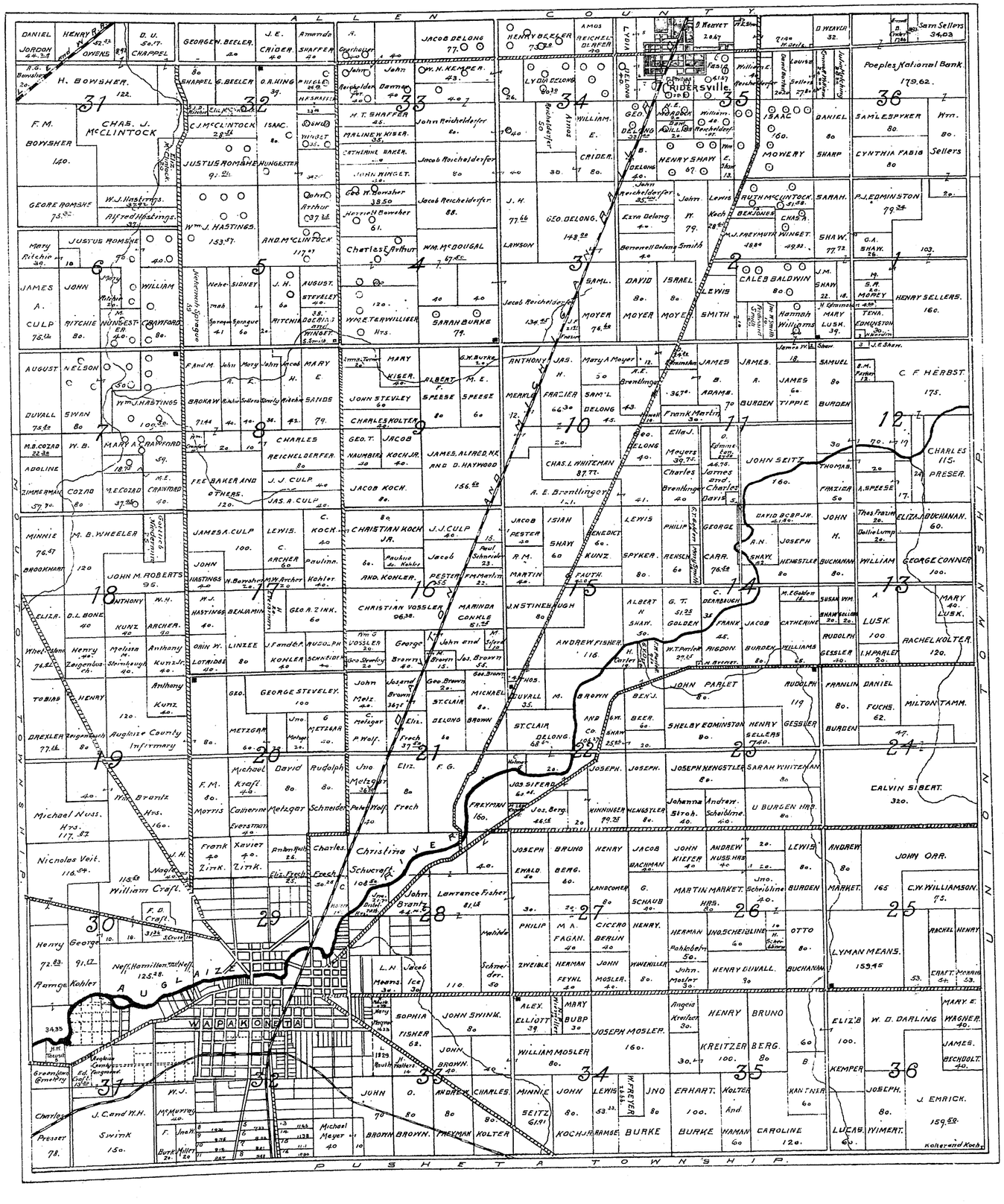

Cemetery
Jno. H. Gochenour
Josiah Clawson.
HIGH ST.
AUGLAIZE ST.
WATER ST.
WALNUT ST.
OAK ST.
GLYNWOOD
PIKE.
L. E. & W. R. R.
WATER ST.
SYCAMORE ST.
MAUMEE RIVER
LAKE ERIE & WESTERN R. R.
John H Gochenour
Josiah Clawson
D. W. Reed
222. A.
Jacob Brenneman
8.52.9
GLYNNWOOD.
NOT INCORPORATED.
Scale 200 feet to 1 Inch.
BUCKLAND.
INCORPORATED.
Scale 264 feet to 1 Inch.
Sections 2 and 11 German Tp.
WAPAKONETA AND ST. MARYS PIKE.
Carl Herman.
Nina M. McCarty
4. 00 A.
J. E. Blackburn
160 A.
G. W. Miller
Sec. 32 Moulton Tp.
Lovina Shiveley
1 A.
L. C. Becker.
1 A.
L. C. Becker .25 A.
No. 1
No. 2
No. 3
No. 4
No. 5
No. 6
50 A.
L. E. Bielefield.
No. 7
42.5
W. F. Schoonover
Ann Baker
.33 A. Spl. T.
No. 8
No. 9
Victoria Sillin.
2.25 A.
Chas. Ivens. 2 A.
MOULTON.
UNINCORPORATED.
Scale 200 ft to 1 inch.
MIAMI CANAL
N. E. Pt. 19
NEW PARIS, OR LOCK 2.
UNINCORPORATED.
Scale 220 ft. to 1 in.


Plat of
CRIDERSVILLE, O.
INCORPORATED. 1869.
Map Scale 250ft=1 inch.
Fr 1
Fr 2
Fr 3
Fr 4
Fr 5
Fr 6
Fr 7
SUGAR ST
MAIN ST.
HIGH ST
CARLISLE ST
GAY ST
PUMP ST
Sugar St.
Elizabeth St.
WOOD ST.
School House
E. DELONG'S ORIGINAL ADDITION
CRIDER'S ADD.
HOVER, SHAW & CO'S ADD.
D. WEAVER'S ADDITION
JBAKER'S PLAT
NAMUR DOCK ADD
ALLEN
DAN'L SPYKER
ADDITION I. CRIDER'S
PHILA LIPS ADD.
ADD.

CLAY TOWNSHIP.



DUCHOUQUET TOWNSHIP.


ALLEN COUNTY
DUCHOUQUET TOWNSHIP
PUSHETA TOWNSHIP
WAPAKONETA
AUGLAIZE
Riderville
Peoples National Bank
Christina Vera
H. BOWSHER
CHAS. J. McCLINTOCK
F. M. BOWSHER
JUSTUS ROMSHE
WM. J. HASTINGS
AND. McCLINTOCK
JAMES A. CULP
JOHN RITCHIE
NUNGESTER
CRAWFORD
AUGUST NELSON
DUVALL
SWAN
MARY A. CRAWFORD
FEE BAKER AND OTHERS
CHARLES REICHELDERFER
J. J. CULP
JAS. A. CULP
JACOB KOCH
CHRISTIAN KOCH JR.
JAMES, ALFRED, NE AND D. HAYWOOD
156.62
JACOB DELONG
77.
W. H. KEMPER
43.
H. T. SHAFFER
45.
MALINE W. KISER
35.
CATHERINE BAKER
JOHN NINGET
John Reichelderfer
80.
Jacob Reichelderfer
50
Jacob Reicheldorfer
88.
Geo. W. Bowsher
3850
Henrietta Bowsher
61.
Charles Arthur
WM. McDOUGAL
67.50
SARAH BURKE
79.
WYNE T. ERWILLIGER
Hrs.
HENRY BEELER
AMOS REICHEL DEARER
LYDIA DELONG
WILLIAM E. CRIDER
GEO. B. DELONG
HENRY SHAW
67
J. H. LAWSON
77.66
GEO. DELONG.
148.00
Ezra Delong
Bennett Delong
Smith
MOYER
76.50
DAVID
80.
ISRAEL
LEWIS
SMITH
CALEB BALDWIN
80
Jacob Reichelderfer
134.50
SAML.
Lewis Koch
28.40
M. J. FREYMUTH
48.00
CHAS. A. WINGET
49.92
SHAW.
77.72
RUTH McCLINTOCK
51.38
BEN JONES
SARAH
J. M. SHAW
22.
18.
Hannah Williams
MARY LUSK.
39.
Jas. M'Millin
Jas. M'Millin
Jas. M'Millin

Scale 264 ft. to 1 inch.

FREYBURG.

NOT INCORPORATED.

ORIGINAL PLAT.

Comprises Lots No. 1 to No. 41 inclusive.

Wagners First Addition Lots, 42-45.,

" Second " " 46-55.,

Flick's " " 56-109.

SCALE 264 TO 1 IN.

KOSSUTH.

INCORPORATED

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

NOT INCORPORATED,

ORIGINAL PLAT

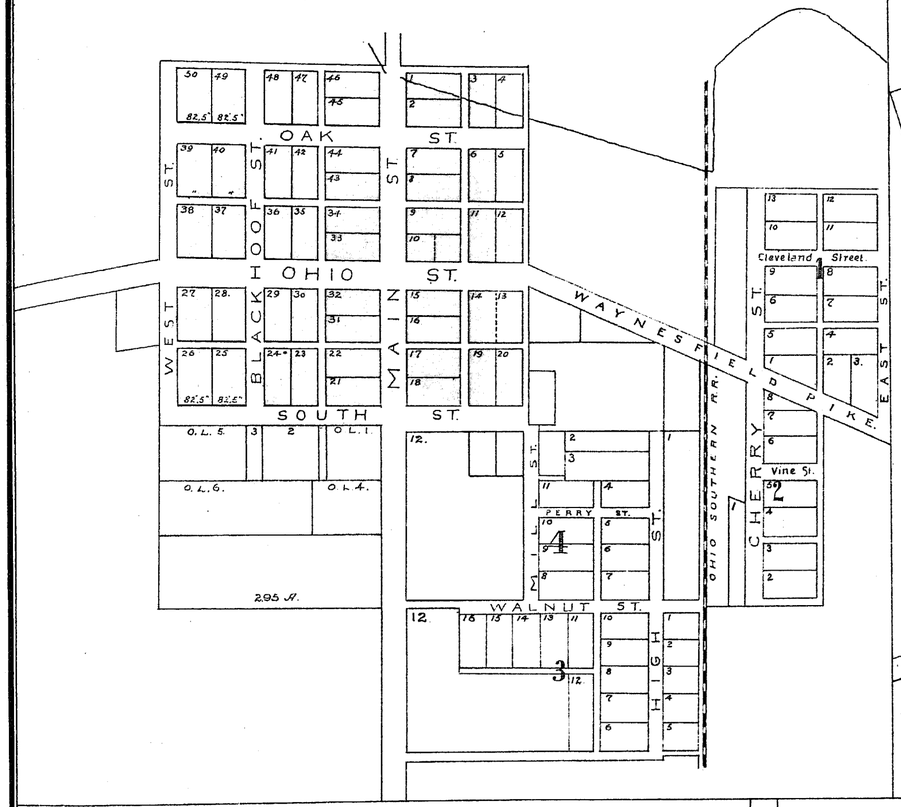
Comprising Lots Numbered from Lot 1. to 48.
with contiguous Streets and alleys.

Wm. Kindle's First Addition.

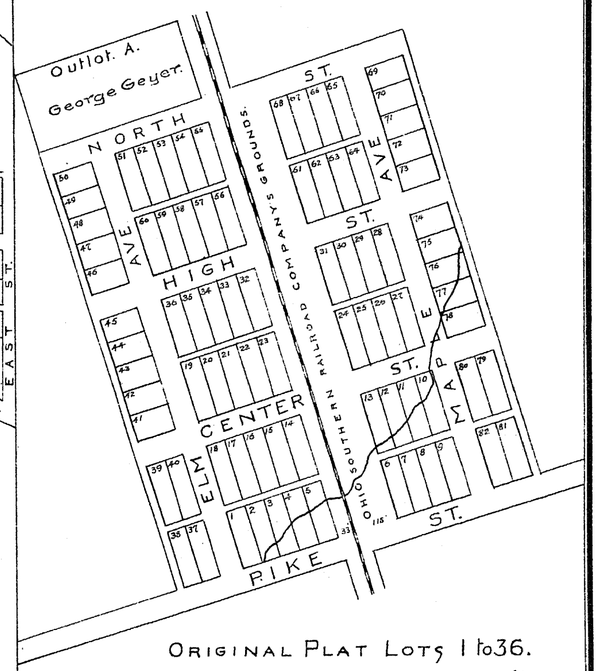
Comprising Lots Numbered from 49 to 68.

SCALE 264 FT. TO 1 IN.

UNIOPOLIS
NOT INCORPORATED.

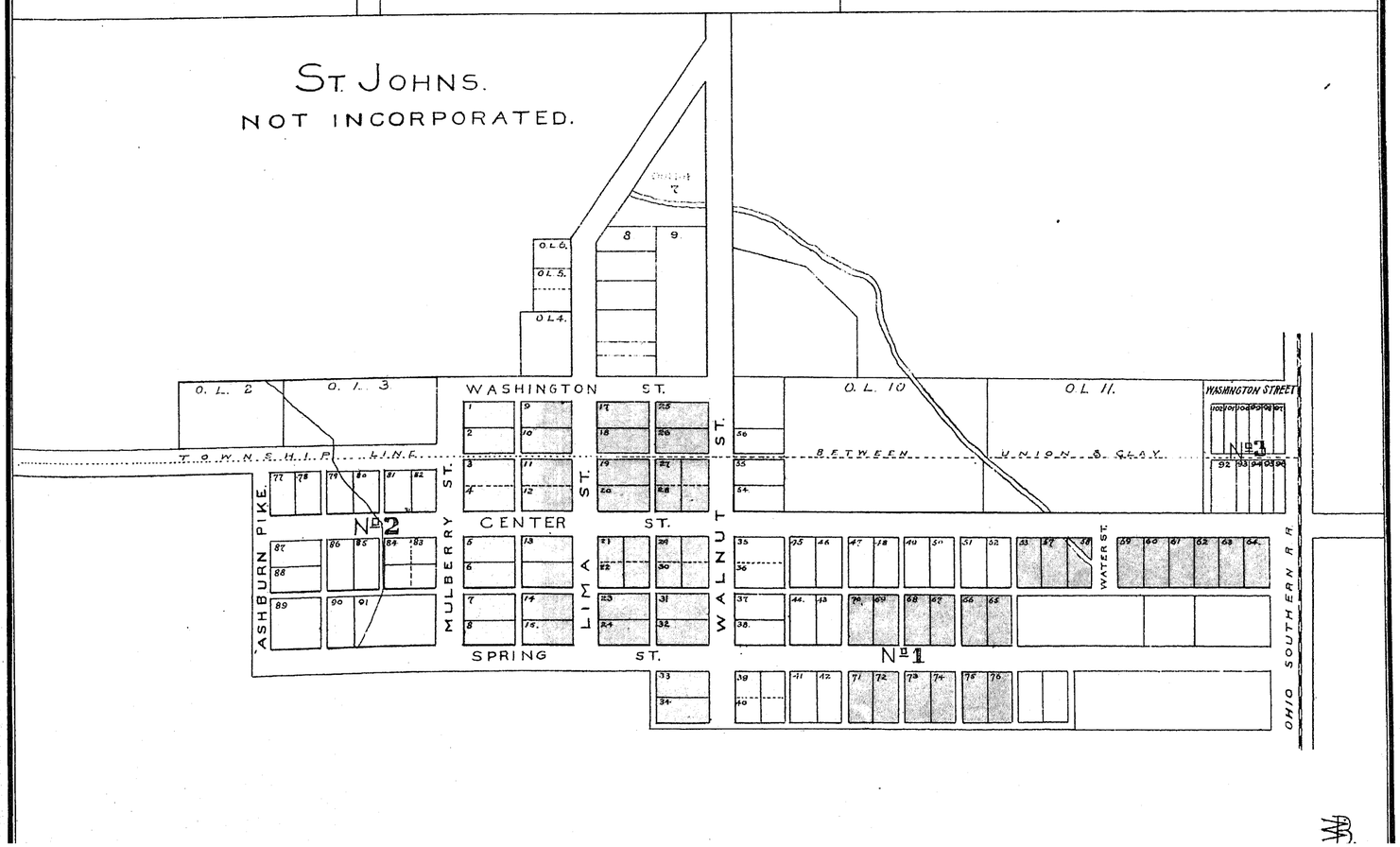


GEYER.
NOT INCORPORATED.

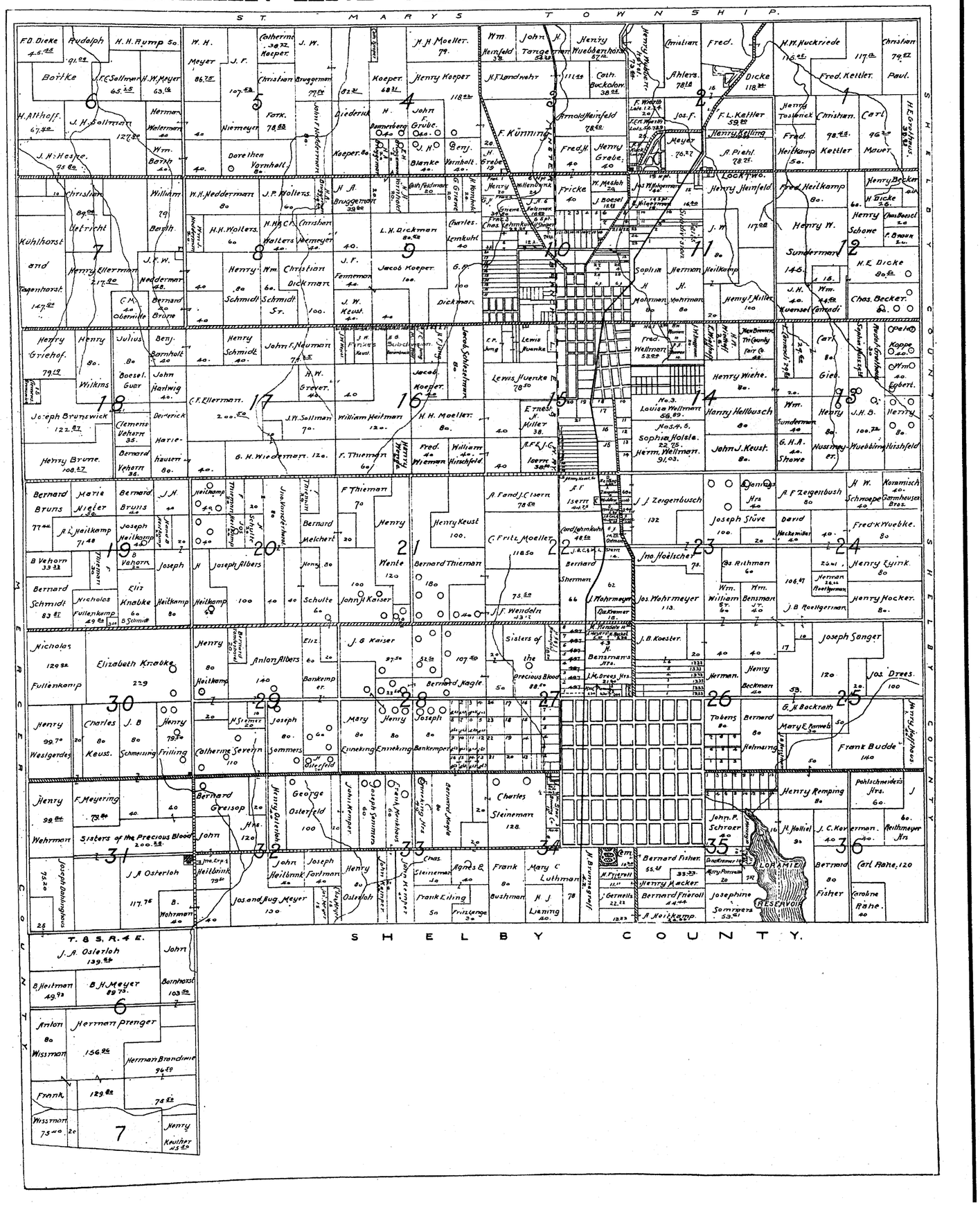


ORIGINAL PLAT LOTS 1 to 36.
George Geyer's First Addition.
Lots 37 to 81, inclusive.

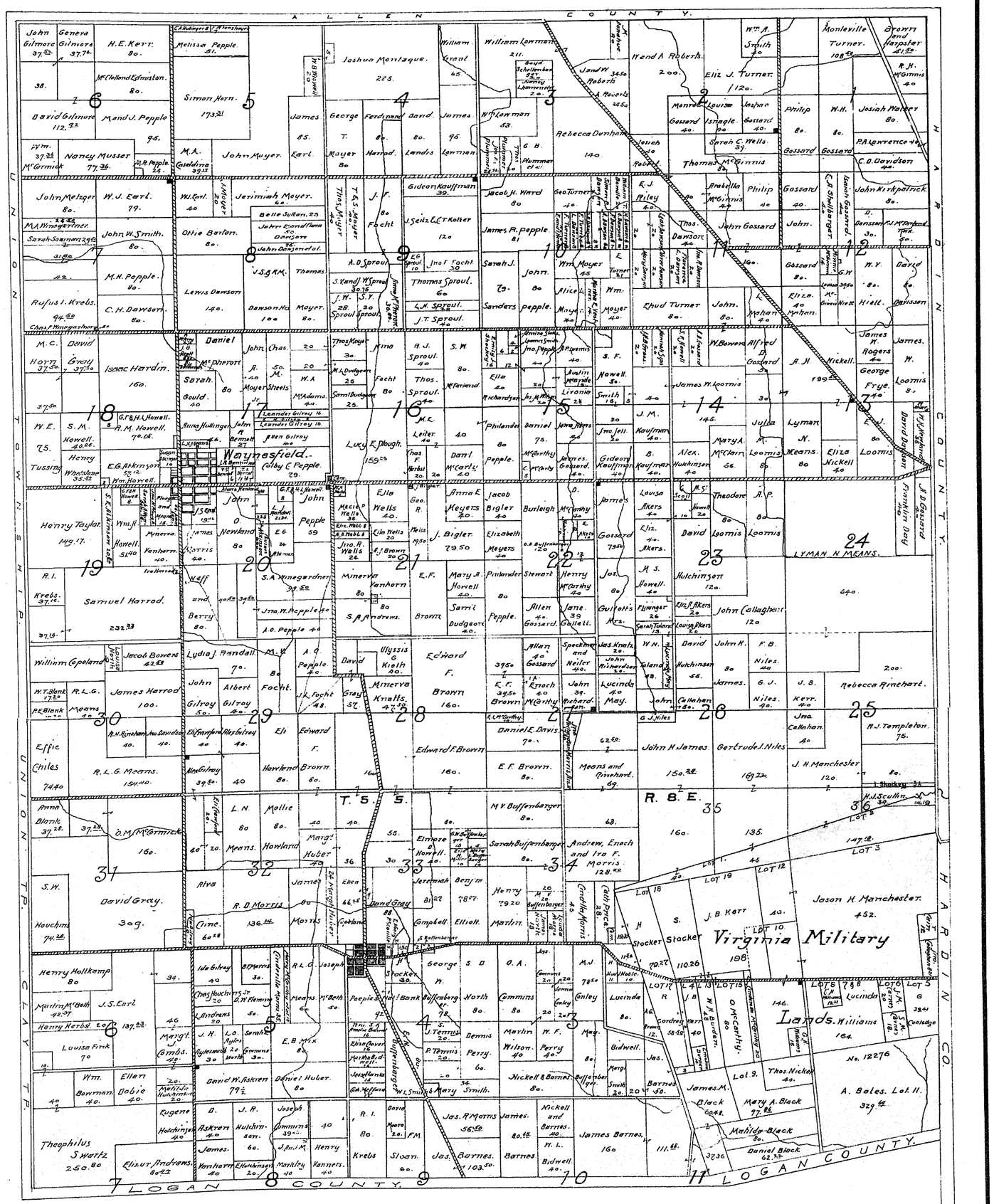
ST. JOHNS.
NOT INCORPORATED.



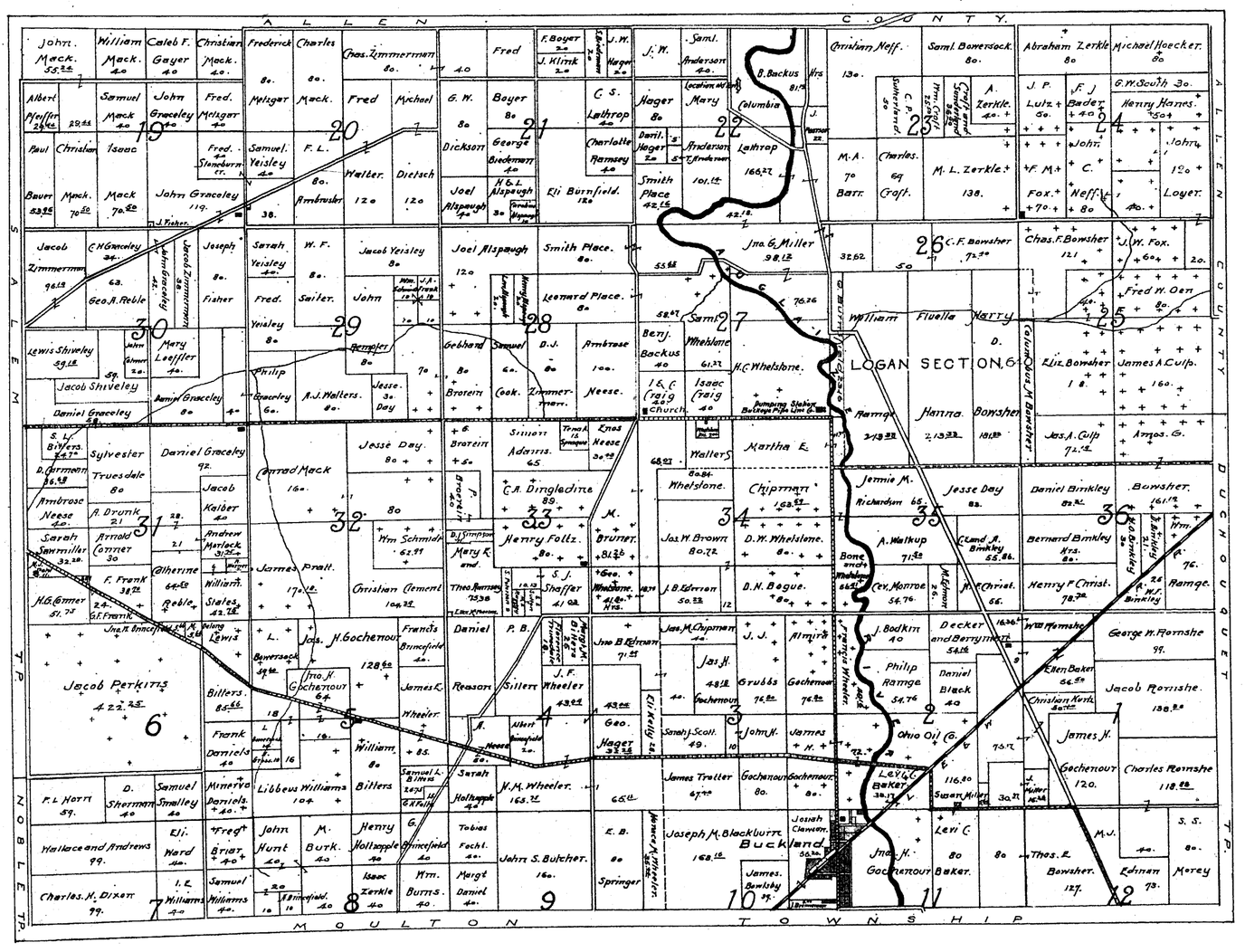
GERMAN AND JACKSON TOWNSHIPS.



GOSHEN AND WAYNE TOWNSHIPS.



LOGAN TOWNSHIP.



Minster, and Contiguous Territory.

CHAS. STEINEMAN
128.50A.

Scale 346 ft. to 1in.

Female Society of the Blood.

Precious

Star Brewing Co. 13 A.

Bernard Luthmann 8 A.

Pond.

Mrs. of Henry Thiemann. 4.60

Mary G. Becker 2.03 A.

Mary Rackel. 2.00 A.

Pl. 3. Elizabeth Goehr 1.46 A

J. H. Steineman Hrs. 4.50 A.

2. Mary G Becker .50

Charles 9.68

Steineman 9.68

J. H. 4.84 Busse

Franz 4.84 Abendhaus

Bernard Welchert.

John H. 4.84 Steinemann

Henry Doerstein. 3.80

John Kemper 1. A.

Theo. Wessel 2.40

Bernard Kaiser 2.40.

J. B. Steineman

Minster Cemetery

L. E. and W. R. R. Company's Grounds

Chas. Steineman

Jno. Eiling

Elizabeth

John

J. B.

Bernard

Frank

Bernard

Elizabeth

Suhrman

Wensing

Tangeman

Lammert

Strotman

Artmers Hrs.

Huninghake

Theo. Kemper

Wiemann

Bros Wiemann

Village of Anna

Agnes Meyer

Henry

Rehling

Hermann

Joseph

Elizabeth

George

Eliz. Schneider

Minster

Hagerman

Schmeider

Schmucker

Kuhlmann

Jerry

Frank

Fred.

John

Drees.

Bernard

Hanford.

Hrs of J. H.

Luchtman

August

Hagerman.

Anton

Margaret

G. H.

Bernard

Hrs. J. H.

Roy

Agnes

Fritz

Henry

Feldman

Meyers

Vogelsang

Bernard

Kelverlage

Steinemann

Hrs of

J. H.

Milling Co.

Laufensweiler

L. Meyer

A Brandewie

Hrs of

Bullman

Frank H.

A. W.

Zumbrogel.

Gerwells

Feldmann

Henry

Fritz

Peter

Catherine

H. Schwenker

Reinhold

John

Peter

Sisters

Precious

Sisters of the Precious Blood

Sherman

Bernard

Philomena

Ley.

Fritz Goeke

Bernard

Hanford.

Luchtman

Hrs of J. H.

August

Hagerman.

Sisters

Precious

J. B Purcell.

Kunkler T. G.

M. Pielage.

Jno. B. Pfening

J. P. Schneider

Sisters

Precious

C. L. Dine

H. Greisop.

C. Enneking

Hrs.

B. Bonhorst

A. Fortmann

F. Goeke.

J. Landwehr

F. Herkenhoff

A. W. Herkenhoff

B. Melcher

J. Landwehr

C. F. Herkenhoff

B. Bonhorst

Jno. B. Pfening

C. Enneking

Hrs.

F. Goeke.

Wm. Lanning

J. Luchtman

Jos. Busse

Mathias Goeke.

J. B. Goeke

J. H. Steineman

W. Wiemann

W. Berling

J. Steineman

Laufensweiler

C. F. Herkenhoff

J. B. Meyer

H. Nipper

Bernhold

J. B. Goeke

Theo. Wessel

J. H. Steineman

Steinemann

J. H.

Theo. Wessel

F. Wiemann

Wiemann

Bros

Wiemann

Hrs of

Laufensweiler

Milling Co.

Bullman

B. Meyer

B. Bornhorst

J. B. Goeke

G. & J. W. Eiling

L. Meyer

A Brandewie

Hrs of

J. H.

Steineman.

Henry

Feldmann

Steinemann

Wiemann

Hrs.

Fred.

John

Drees.

Bernard

Hanford.

Hrs of J. H.

Luchtman

August

Hagerman.

Steinemann

Wiemann

Hrs.

Fred.

John

Drees.

Bernard

Hanford.

Hrs of J. H.

Luchtman

August

Hagerman.

Steinemann

Bushmann

Eliz. Drees

Steinemann

John Busse.

H. Zumbrogel.

Mary Busse.

F. Artmers.

Wilkins

F. & J. Wiemann

B. Hanford.

of H. J. Luchtman

Hrs

A. C. Dumm

Steinemann

Bushmann

Eliz. Drees

Steinemann

John Busse.

H. Zumbrogel.

B. Vanderhorst

Mary Busse.

F. Artmers.

Anton Kruse

T. B & Chas.

H. Brandwie

Frantz

J. Hand T. B.

Rose Meyer

H. Frederick.

M. Lammers

Anton

J. H.

Margaret

G. H.

Bernard

Hrs. J. H.

Roy

Tibbe

Horstm

Handa

Kuckm

Agnes

Fritz

Henry

Feldman

Meyers

Vogelsang

Bernard

Kelverlage

Steinemark.

J. H.

John

Henry

Bernard

Hrs of

J. H.

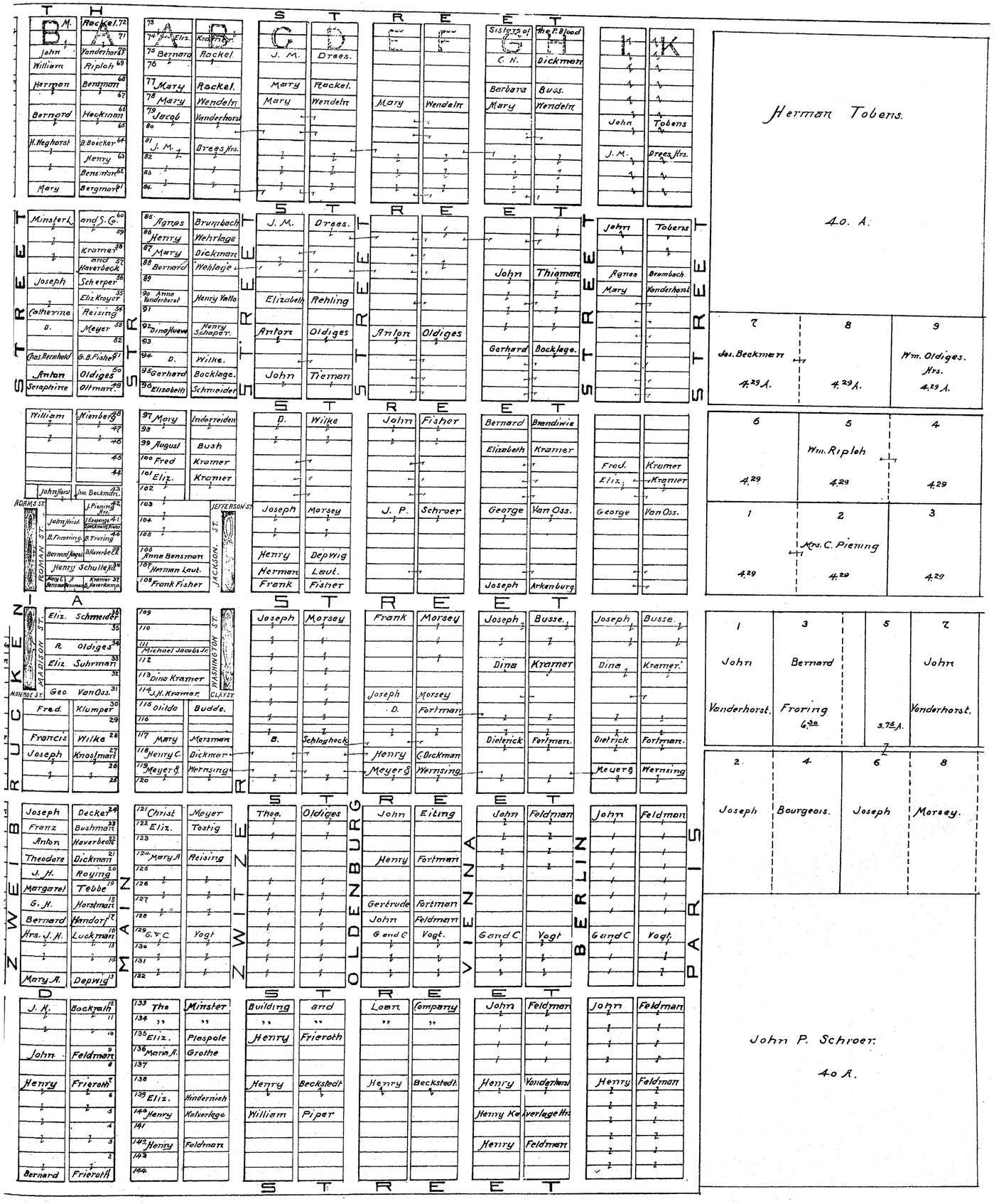
Steinemark.

Bockh

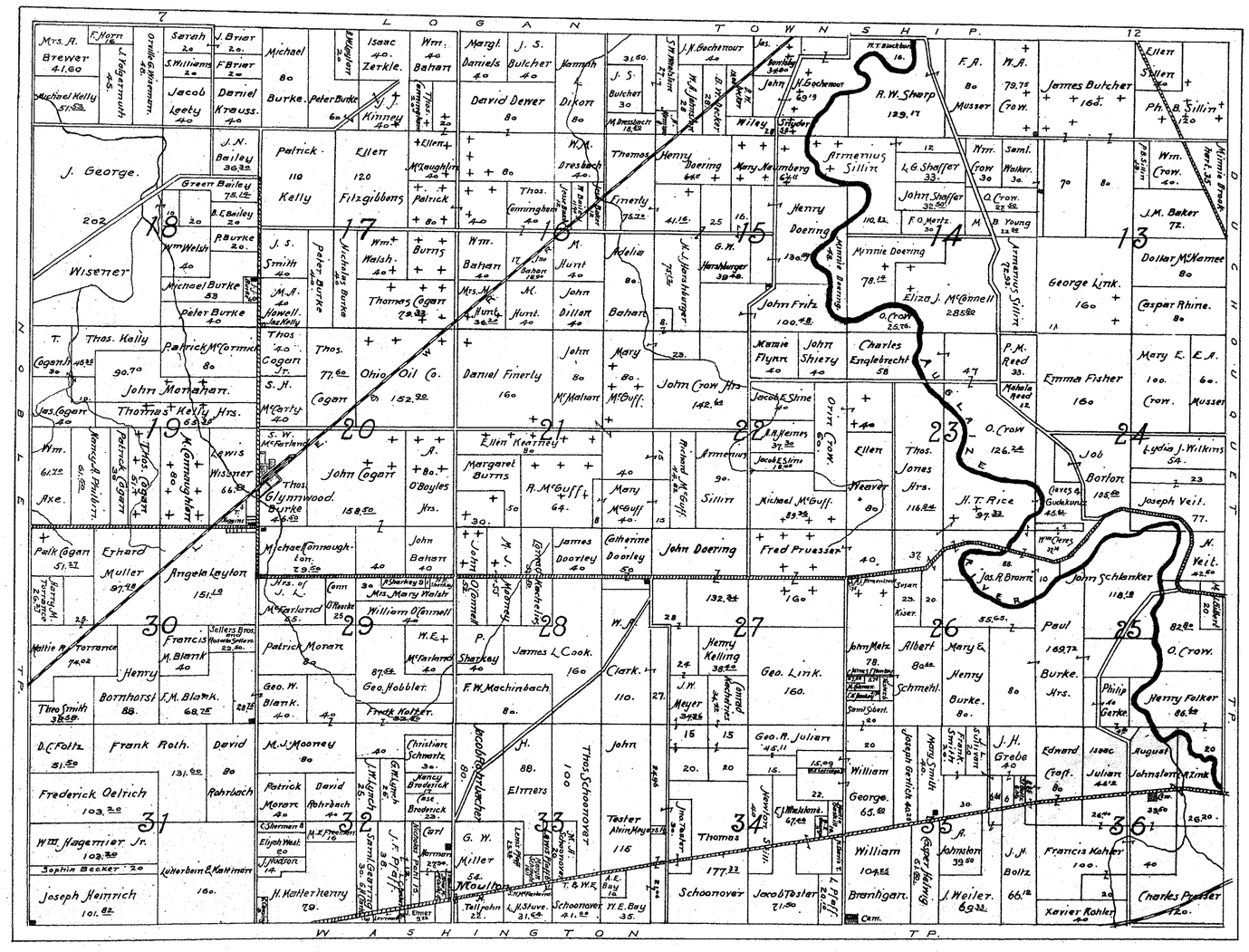
Feldm

Friem

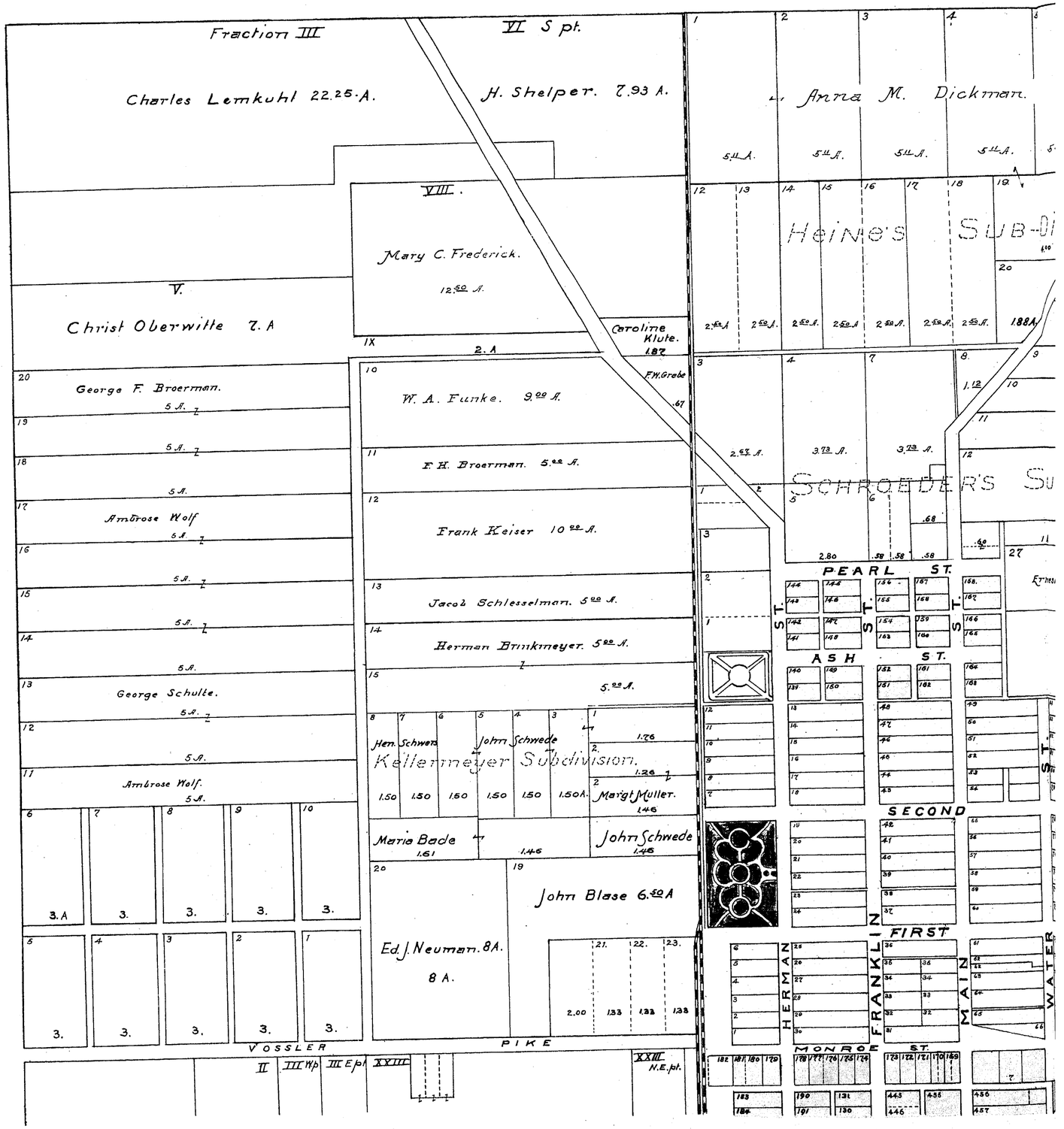
Friem


Herman Tobens.
40. A.
7 Jos. Beckmann 4.29 A.
8 4.29 A.
9 Wm. Oldiges. Hrs. 4.29 A.
6 4.29
5 Wm. Riploh 4.29
4 4.29
1 4.29
2 Mrs. C. Piening 4.29
3 4.29
1 John Vanderhorst.
3 Bernard Froring 6.30
5 3.76 A.
7 John Vanderhorst.
2 Joseph
4 Bourgeois.
6 Joseph
8 Morsey.
John P. Schroer.
40 A.
STREET
ADAMS ST.
ROMAN ST.
MADISON ST.
MONROE ST.
JEFFERSON ST.
JACKSON ST.
WASHINGTON ST.
CLAY ST.
BERLIN
PARIS
VIENNA
OLDENBURG
SWITZERLAND

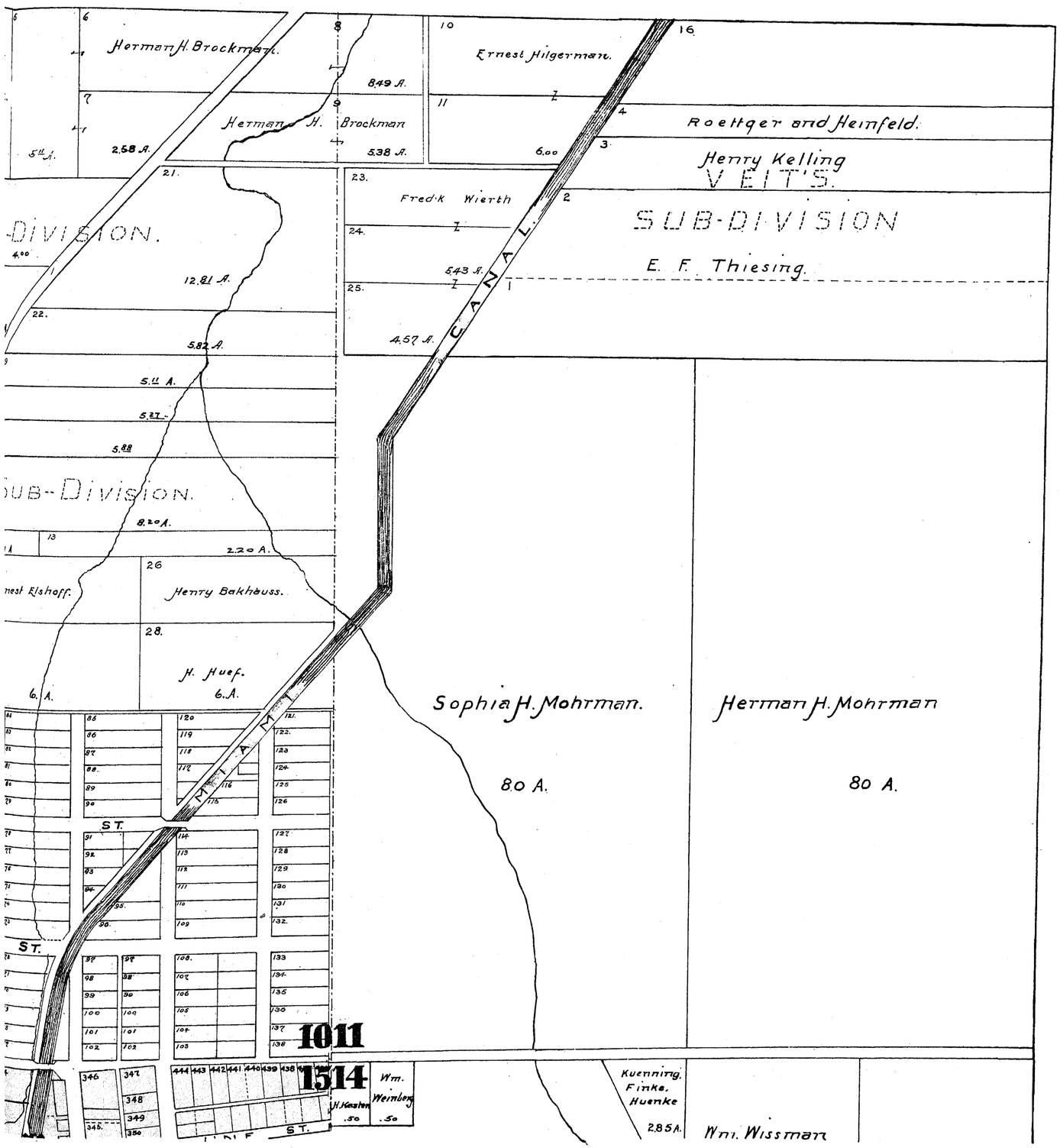
MOULTON TOWNSHIP.


LOGAN TP.
DOUGLAS TP.
DUCHOUQUET TP.
WASHINGTON TP.
Moulton
Wisener
Mrs. A. Brewer 41.60
F. Hagen 18
J. Edgerton 45
Orville G. Whiteman 45
Sarah 20
J. Brier 20.
S. Williams 20
F. Brier 20
Jacob Leety 40
Daniel Krauss 40
Michael Kelly 57.50
Michael 80
Burke
Peter Burke 6a
W. Englert 2a
Isaac 40. Zerkle.
Wm. 40 Bahan
W. J. Kinney 40
Margt. Daniels 40
J. S. Butcher 40
Jamath Dixon 80
David Dewer 80
J. S. Butcher 30
M. Dresbach 18.50
J. N. Bailey 36.25
Green Bailey 75.14
B. E. Bailey 25
P. Burke 20.
Wm. Welsh 40
Michael Burke 53
Peter Burke 40
Patrick 110 Kelly
Ellen 120 Fitzgibbons
J. George. 202
J. S. Smith 40
M. A. Kewell 40
Jas. Kelly
Peter Burke 40
Nicholas Burke 40
Wm. Welsh 40
Burns
Thomas Cogan 79.33
Thos. Kelly
Cogan Jr. 40.25
Cogan 30
90.70
Patrick McCormick 80
John Monahan.
Thomas Kelly Hrs. 63.20
Thos. 40 Cogan Jr.
S. H. McCarty 40
Thos. 77.60 Cogan
Ohio Oil Co. 152.20
Wm. 61.40 Ake.
Patrick & Thos. Cogan
Nancy A. Philbrick 61.80
Lewis Wisener 66.80
Daniel Finerty 160
John 80 M. Mahan
Mary 80 McGuff.
John Crow Hrs. 142.60
S. W. McFarland
Ellen Kennedy 80
Margaret Burns
R. McGuff 64.
Mary McGuff 40
Armenius Sillin 90.
Jacob E. Slone 40
Orrit Crow 60.
J. H. Reimes 37.32
Jacob E. Slone 18.80
Ellen
Reever
Michael McGuff 89.36
Thos. Jones Hrs. 116.24
H. T. Rice 97.32
Job Borton 105.60
Cleves & Guckenheimer 15.84
Wm. Crews 24.48
Lydia J. Wilkins 54.
Joseph Veit. 77.
N. Veit. 42.50
Palk Cogan 51.27
Erhard Muller 97.48
Angela Layton 151.19
Michael Connaughton Lott. 79.50
Mrs. of J. L. McFarland 25.
Comm
Mrs. Mary Walsh
William O'Connell 42
John Bahan 40
John O'Connell 52
James Doorley 40
Catherine Doorley 50
John Doering
Fred Prussser 160
Mattie R. Torrance 74.02
Francis M. Blank 40
Henry Bornhorst 88.
F. M. Blank. 68.75
Patrick Moran 80
Geo. W. Blank. 40.
Geo. Hobbler.
Fredk. Kolter. 32.40
87.60
W. E. McFarland 40
P. Sharkey 40
James L. Cook. 160
F. W. Machinbach 80.
Henry Kelling 38.40
Geo. Link. 160.
Albert Schmehl. 80.40
Mary E. Henry Burke. 80.
Theo Smith 38.50
D. C. Foltz 51.50
Frank Roth. 131.60
David Rohrbach 80
Frederick Oeltrich 103.20
Wm. Hagermier Jr. 103.20
Sophia Becker 20
Joseph Heinrich 101.60
Lutherbein & Kathmann 160.
M. J. Mooney 80
Christian Schmertz 30.
Nancy Broderick 40
Patrick Moran 40
David Rohrbach 40
Sherman 8
Elijah West 20
J. Hooton 14
H. Kotter Henry 79.
Jacob Rohrbacher 50.
H. 88. Elmers
G. W. Miller 54.
Tellyohn 22.
L. H. Stuve 31.64
Schoonover 41.20
Y. E. Bay 35.
Thos. Schoonover 100
John 116
Tester Alvin Mayes 23.76
Schoonover
Jacob Tester 71.30
Brantigam.
Cem.
Henry Doering 64.40
Thomas Henry Doering
Mary Neumberg 62.40
Armenius Sillin
Emerly 75.72
41.16.
Thos. Cunningham 40
Patrick
Wm. Bahan 40
M. Hunt 40
Mrs. M. Hunt 36.20
M. Hunt. 40
John Dillon 40
Adelia 80
Bahan
G. M. Herrshberger 39.48
J. J. Hershberger 79.20
Henry Doering 110.82
Minnie Doering 78.12
Eliza J. McConnell 28.80
O. Crow 25.70
John Fritz 100.48
Minnie Doering
Mamie Flynn 40
John Shiery 40
Charles Englebrecht 58
Thos. Jones Hrs. 116.24
H. T. Rice 97.32
Michael McGuff 89.36
Ellen
Reever
Jacob E. Slone 18.80
Orrit Crow 60.
J. H. Reimes 37.32
Armenius Sillin 90.
Michael McGuff 40.
Mary McGuff 40.
Ellen Kennedy 80
Margaret Burns
R. McGuff 64.
Mary McGuff 40
Jamath Dixon 80
David Dewer 80
J. S. Butcher 30
M. Dresbach 18.50
J. S. Butcher 40
Marg. Daniels 40
Wm. 40 Bahan
Isaac 40. Zerkle.
W. J. Kinney 40
Michael 80
Burke
Peter Burke 6a
W. Englert 2a
Sarah 20
J. Brier 20.
S. Williams 20
F. Brier 20
Jacob Leety 40
Daniel Krauss 40
Michael Kelly 57

NEW BRE


Fraction III
Charles Lemkuhl 22.25 A.
VI S pt.
H. Shelper. 7.93 A.
Anna M. Dickman.
VIII.
Mary C. Frederick.
12.50 A.
V.
Christ Oberwitte 7. A
Caroline Klute.
1.87
F.W. Grebe
George F. Broerman.
W. A. Funke. 9.00 A.
F. H. Broerman. 5.00 A.
Ambrose Wolf
Frank Keiser 10.00 A.
Jacob Schlesselman. 5.00 A.
Herman Brinkmeyer. 5.00 A.
George Schulte.
Ambrose Wolf.
Hen. Schwers
John Schwede
Kellermeyer Subdivision.
Margt Muller.
Maria Bade
John Schwede
John Blase 6.50 A
Ed. J. Neuman. 8 A.
Heine's Sub-Di
Schroeder's Su
PEARL ST.
ASH ST.
SECOND
FIRST
HERMAN
FRANKLIN
MAIN
WATER
MONROE ST.
VOSSLER
PIKE
II
III Wp
III E pt
XXIII
XXIII N.E. pt.

REMEN, O.


Herman H. Brockman.
8.49 A.
Herman H. Brockman
5.38 A.
2.58 A.
5.11 A.
Ernest Hilgerman.
6.00
Roettger and Heinfeld.
Henry Kelling
VEIT'S
SUB-DIVISION
E. F. Thiesing.
Fred'k Wierth
5.43 A.
4.57 A.
CANAL
DIVISION.
4.00
12.81 A.
5.82 A.
5.11 A.
5.27
5.88
SUB-DIVISION.
8.20 A.
2.20 A.
Henry Bakhauss.
H. Huef.
6. A.
6. A.
Sophia H. Mohrman.
80 A.
Herman H. Mohrman
80 A.
MIAMI
ST.
ST.
ST.
1011
1514
Wm. Weinberg
H. Kesten
.50
.50
Kuenning, Finke, Huenke
2.85 A.
Wm. Wissman

Franz P. Jung.

20 A.

9.

IV W pt. | IV E pt.

3. | 3.

Lewis Huenke 31.05 A

W m. Finke. 5.50 A.

New Bremen, O.
and
Adjoining Territory.

Scale. 308 ft - 1 inch.

Herman Moeller 40 A.

Ernest H. Moeller 38 A.

W. Hirschfeld

40. A.

August F. and John C. Isern

38. A.

POPLAR ST.

Union School

VOGELSANG ST.

SYCAMORE ST.

CANAL

20.

Fred'k Vogelsang.

10 A.

Sophia and Katie Fuelling.

10 A.

21.

Fred'k W. Buckloh

8 A.

Wilhelmina Blase. 5 A.

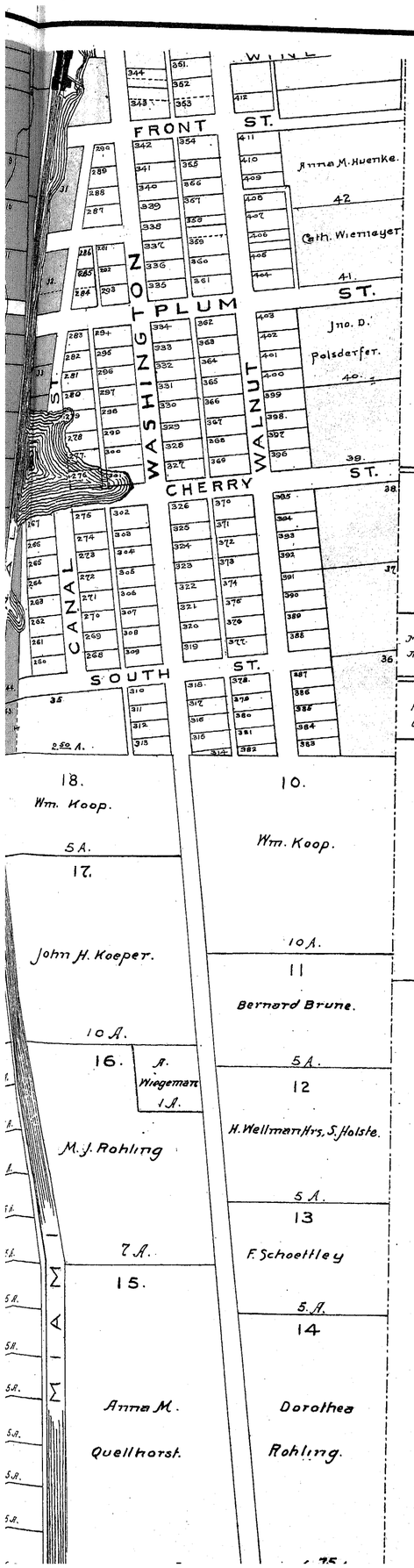
W. F. KOOP'S

Fred Backhauss. 5 A.

Fred Sass.

SUB-DIVISION.

Henry Rabe Hrs.



J. W.

10 A.

Frederick Wellmann. 53.24

Henry A. Thieman 10 A.

Bruggemann. 20 A.

LOT 1 WELLMAN'S ESTATE.

11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
8.97 A. Gottlieb Hermsmeyer.	WM SULTER'S SUB-DIVISION. 5 A.				Albert Sulte		Henry	Wiehe	

1	2	3	4	5	29.	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21
Maria S. Hieter 10 A.	1 A.	Philip Geib 1 A.	1 A.	Peter Geib 1 A.	F. L. M. Schwetter 29.7 A.								

10	9	8	7	6	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38.
Philip Geib 1.25 A.	Anna S. Williams 1 A.	William Rabe 1 A.	William Rabe 1 A.	William Schulte 1 A.	Edward Laufersick 29.7 A.	.69 A.	Speckman		And Hieter.		Henry	Wiehe	

LOT 3 WELLMAN'S ESTATE.

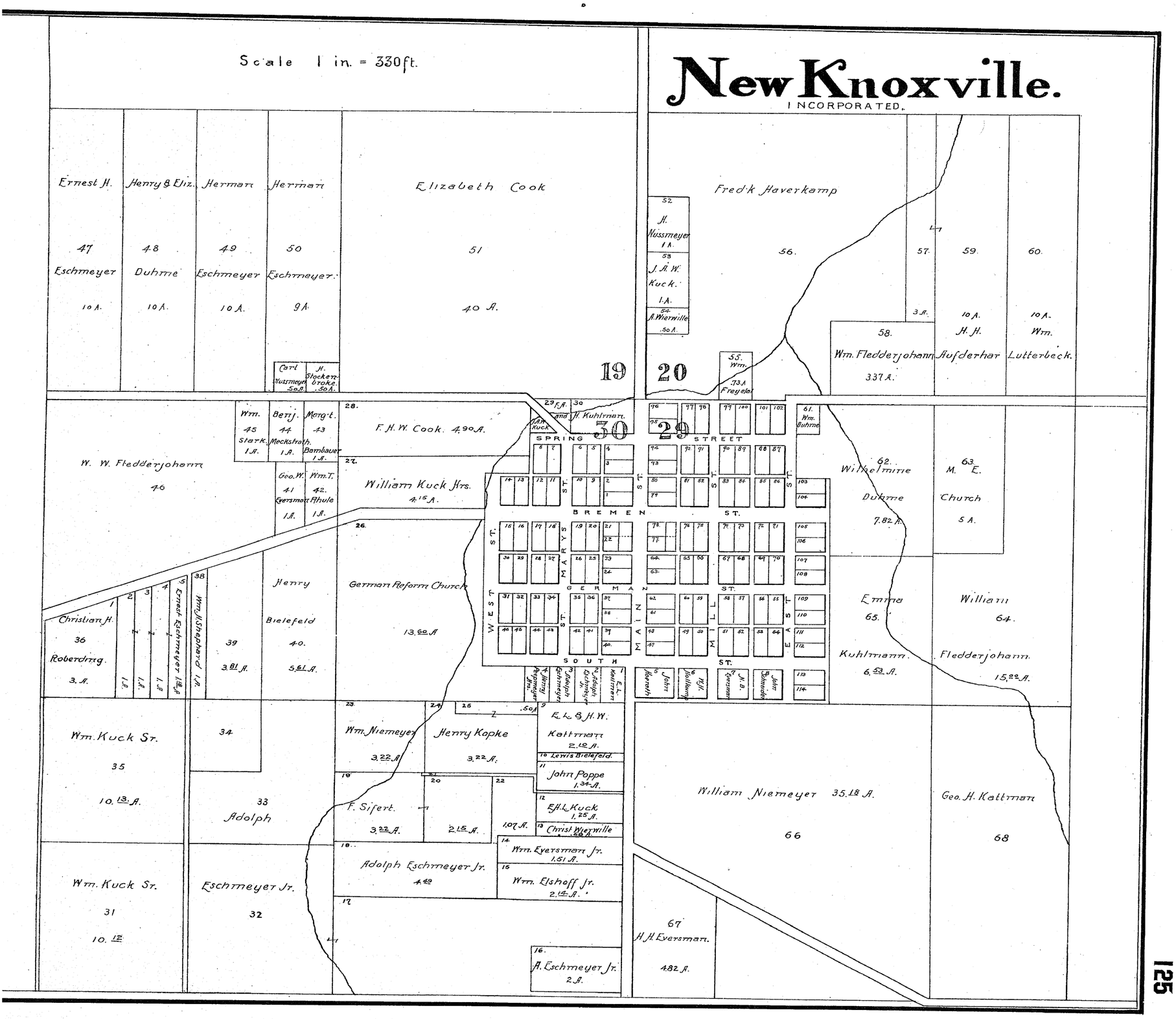
Louisa Wellman.

LOT 4, WELLMAN'S ESTATE.

Sophia Holste. 22.75 A.

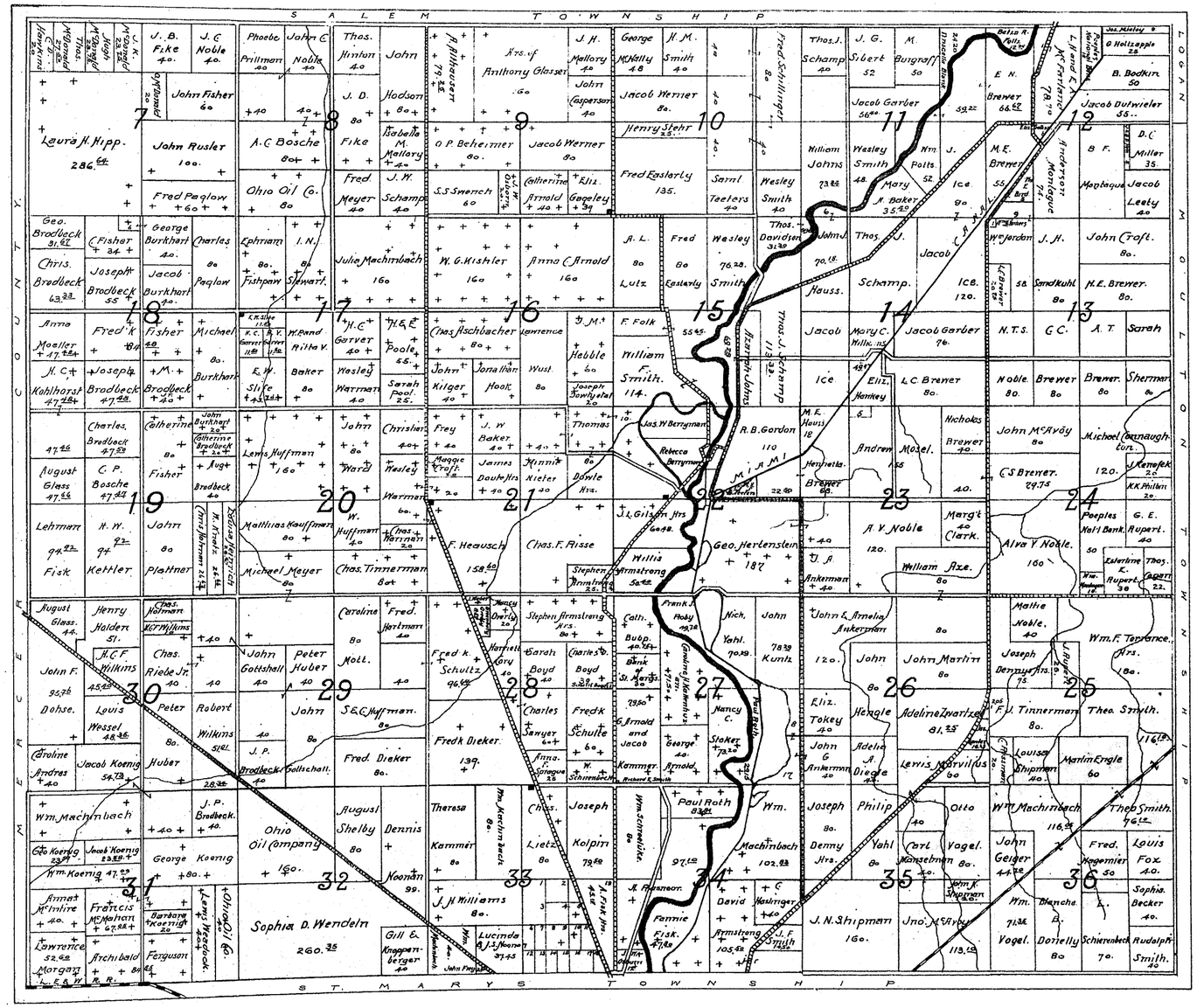
LOT 5. WELLMAN'S ESTATE.

Herman Wellman. 91.03 A.

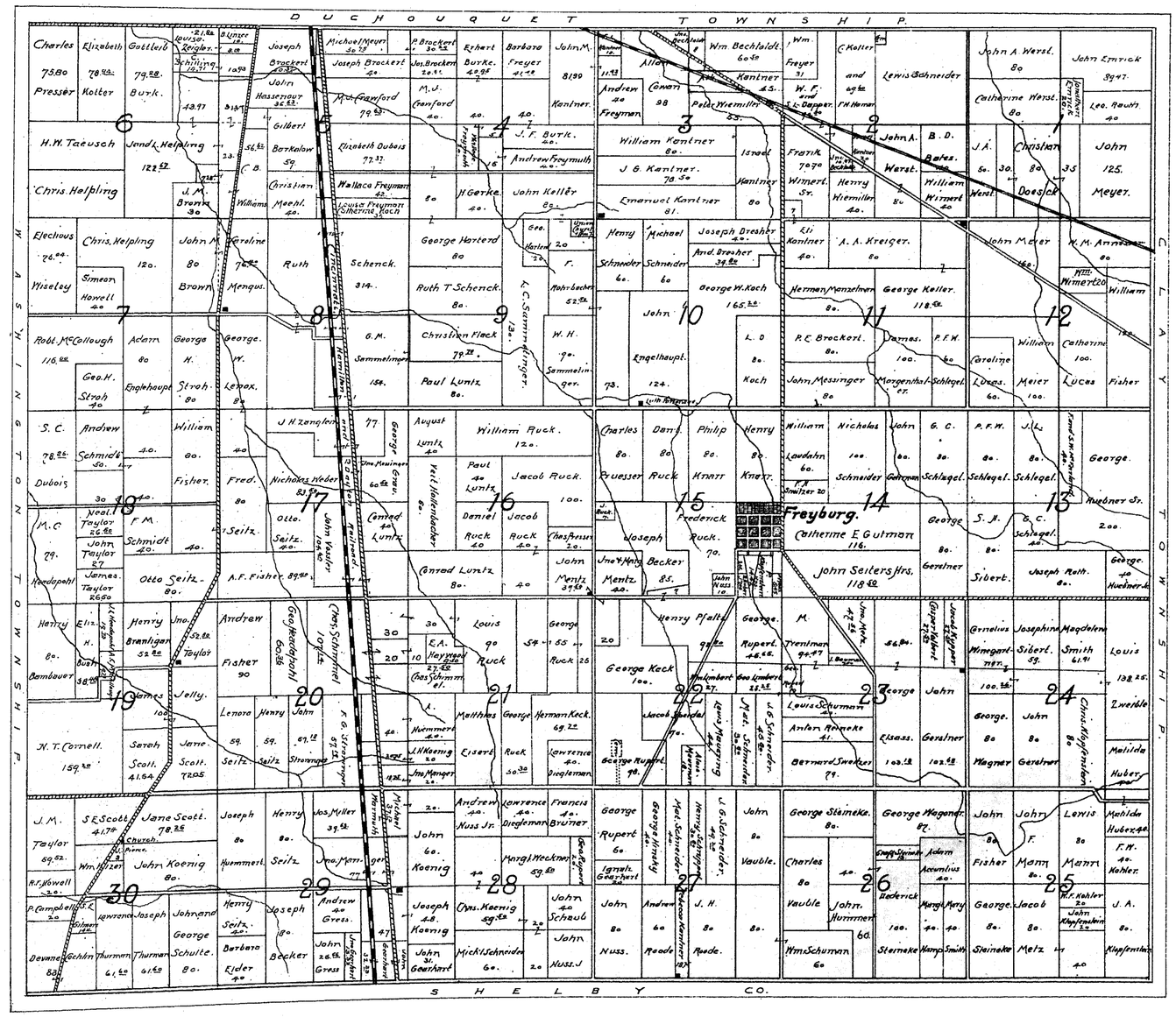


Scale 1 in. = 330 ft.
New Knoxville.
INCORPORATED.
Ernest H.
Henry & Eliz.
Herman
Herman
Elizabeth Cook
Fred'k Haverkamp
47
48
49
50
51
56.
57.
59.
60.
Eschmeyer
Duhme
Eschmeyer
Eschmeyer.
10 A.
10 A.
10 A.
9 A.
40 A.
52
H. Nussmeyer 1 A.
53
J. A. W. Kuck. 1 A.
54
A. Wierwille .50 A.
55.
Wm. .73 A. Freyelal
58.
Wm. Fledderjohann 3.37 A.
3 A.
10 A.
H. H. Aufderhar
10 A.
Wm. Lutterbeck.
Carl Nussmeyer .50 A.
H. Stockenbroke .50 A.
19
20
30
29
Wm. 45 Stark. 1 A.
Benj. 44 Meckstroth. 1 A.
Marg't. 43 Bambauer 1 A.
F. H. W. Cook. 4.90 A.
29 F. A. and H. Kuhlman.
J. A. W. Kuck
61. Wm. Duhme
W. W. Fledderjohann
46
Geo. W. 41 Eversman 1 A.
Wm. T. 42. Rhule 1 A.
William Kuck Hrs. 4.15 A.
SPRING STREET
BREMEN ST.
GERMAN ST.
SOUTH ST.
WEST ST.
MARYS ST.
MAIN ST.
MILL ST.
EAST ST.
62. Wilhelmine Duhme 7.82 A.
63. M. E. Church 5 A.
Christian H. 36 Roberding. 3 A.
Ernest Eschmeyer 1.18 A.
Wm. H. Shephard 1 A.
Henry Bielefeld 40. 5.61 A.
39 3.81 A.
German Reform Church 13.60 A.
Emma 65. Kuhlmann. 6.53 A.
William 64. Fledderjohann. 15.00 A.
Wm. Kuck Sr. 35 10.13 A.
34
Wm. Niemeyer 3.22 A.
Henry Kopke 3.22 A.
E. L. & H. W. Kattman 2.10 A.
Lewis Bielefeld.
John Poppe 1.34 A.
33 Adolph
F. Sifert. 3.22 A.
2.15 A.
1.07 A.
E. H. L. Kuck 1.25 A.
Christ Wierwille .50 A.
William Niemeyer 35.18 A.
66
Geo. H. Kattman
68
Wm. Eversman Jr. 1.51 A.
Adolph Eschmeyer Jr. 4.49
Wm. Elshoff Jr. 2.14 A.
Wm. Kuck Sr. 31 10.12
Eschmeyer Jr. 32
67 H. H. Eversman. 4.82 A.
A. Eschmeyer Jr. 2 A.

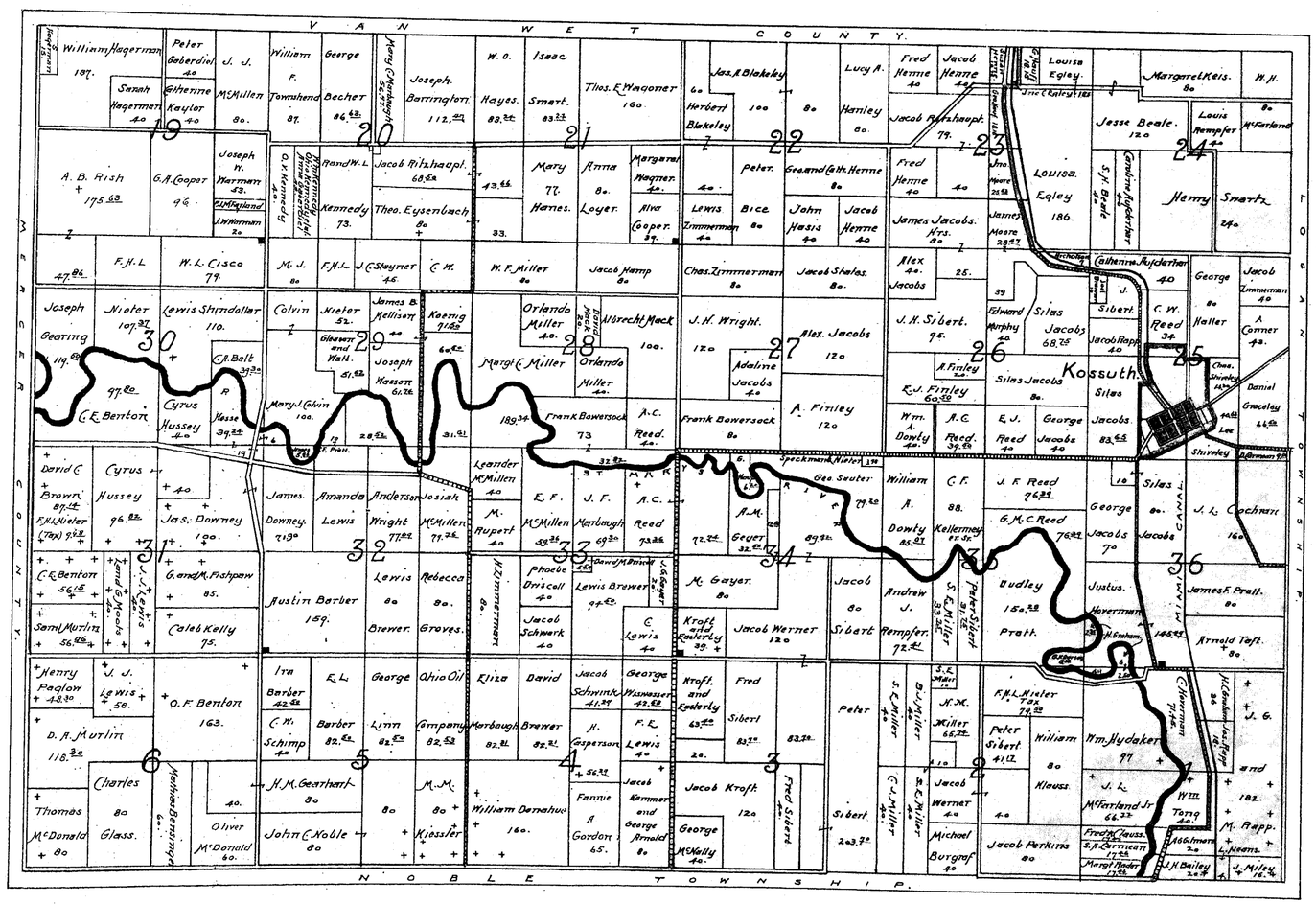
NOBLE TOWNSHIP.


SALEM TOWNSHIP
ST. MARYS TOWNSHIP
MERCER COUNTY
LOGAN COUNTY
MOULTON TOWNSHIP
Laura N. Kipp 286.64
John Rusler 100.
Fred Paglow +60+
Ohio Oil Co. 80
A.C. Bosche 80+
John Fisher 60
J.B. Fike 40.
J.C. Noble 40.
Phoebe Prillman 80
John C. Noble 40
Thos. Hinton 40
John Hodson 80+
J.D. Fike 80
Isabella M. Mallory 40
Fred Meyer 40
J.W. Schamp 40
Hy's of Anthony Glasser 160
J.H. Mallory 40
John Casperson 40
Jacob Werner 80.
Henry Stehr 25.
Fred Easterly 135.
Saml Teelers 40
Wesley Smith 40
Thos. J. Schamp 40
William Johns 73.22
Wesley Smith 48.
Mary 52
N. Baker 35.20
Thos. Davidson 31.20
John J. Hauss. 70.18
Thos. J. Schamp. 14
Jacob 80
Ice 120.
Jacob Garber 56.00
Jacob Garber 76.
Mary C. Milk. 115
Elizabeth R. Falls 24.20
Indiana State
E.N. Brewer 66.52
M.E. Brewer 55
Wm Jordan 58
J.H. 58
Sandkuhl 80
Jacob Dutwieler 55..
B.F. Montague
D.C. Miller 35.
Jacob Leety 40
John Croft 80.
H.E. Brewer 80.
Thos. J. Schamp
Jacob
Ice 58
Ice 120.
N.T.S.
G.C.
A.T.
Sarah
Noble 80.
Brewer 80
Brewer 80
Sherman 80
Nicholas Brewer 40
John McAvoy 80
Michael Connaughton
C.S. Brewer. 29.75
J. Remsek 20
K.K. Milton 20
Margt Clark. 40
Alva Y. Noble. 160
Peoples Nat'l Bank 50
G.E. Rupert. 40
Estherine E. Rupert 50
Thos. Rupert 22.
Wm. Hudgens 12
Wm. F. Terrance, Hrs. 180.
Mattie Noble. 40
Joseph Dennys Hrs. 75
Theo. Smith. 116.00
Louisa Shipman 40
Martin Engle 60
Fred. Hagemier 50
Louis Fox 40.
Sophia Becker 40.
Rudolph Smith. 40
Wm. Blanche B. Donelly 80
Schierenbeck 70.
Vogel.
Wm. 71.32
Jno. McAvoy 113.00
J.N. Shipman 160.
A.V. Noble 120.
William Axe. 80
Geo. Herlenstein 187
D.A. Ankerman 40
Willis Armstrong 56.42
Stephen Armstrong 28.
J.L. Gibson Hrs. 60.48
F. Heausch 158.60
Chas. F. Risse
Chas. Timmerman 80+
Matthias Kauffmans 80
Michael Meyer 80
Lewis Huffman 160
John Warry 80
Christian 40+
Wesley 40
Warrmen 60.
Chas. Warrmen 80+
W. Huffman 40
Chas. Warrmen 20
Frey 40
J.W. Baker 40+
James Daute Hrs 40
Kimmik Nieter 40
Daute Hrs. 80
Thomas 10.
Jas. W. Berryman
Rebecca Berryman
Joseph Bowlby et al 20
Hebble 60
William F. Smith. 114.
F. Folk 55.45
Thos. J. Schamp 13.18
Chas. Aschbacher 80+
Lawrence 80+
John Kilger 40+
Jonathan Hook 80
Wust. 80
Sarah Pool 25.
Poole 55.
H.C. Gerver 40+
Gerver 40+
Wesley Warrmen 40
W. Rand
Rilla V.
Baker 80
K.K. Slife 11.68
K.C. Gerver 11.68
K.V. Gerver 11.68
I.N. 80
Stewart. 80
Ephriam 80.
Fishpaw 80
Julius Machrinbach 160
W.G. Kistler 160
Anna C. Arnold 160
A.L. 80
Lutz 80
Fred Easterly 80
Wesley Smith 76.28
Thos. J. Schamp
Andrew Mosel. 156
Henrietta 18
M.E. Hauss 18
Brewer 60.
Ice 48.
Elizabeth Henkey
L.C. Brewer 80.
R.B. Gordon 110
Miami
Rebecca Berryman
Jas. W. Berryman
Dowle Hrs.
Dowle 80
Kimmik Nieter 40
Baker 40+
Wesley 40
Warrmen 60.
Chas. Warrmen 80+
Christian 40+
Frey 40
Maggie Croft 2.
Daute Hrs 40+
Michael Meyer 80
Chas. Timmerman 80+
Matthias Kauffmans 80 +
Michael Kettler 94.72
H.W. Kettler 94.72
John Plattner 80
Lehmann 94.22
Fisk
Catherine Brodbeck 24
Catherine Burkhart 20
Augt Brodbeck 40
Fisher 80
Charles Brodbeck 47.22
C.P. Bosche 47.44
August Glass 47.46
Michael Burkhart 80.
Jacob Burkhart 40.
Charles 80
Paglow
George Burkhart 40.
Jacob Burkhart
Joseph Brodbeck 55
C. Fisher 34
Geo. Brodbeck 51.62
Chris. Brodbeck 63.38
Michael 80.
Burkhart
Fisher 40
Brodbeck 40
Brodbeck 47.22
Joseph Brodbeck 47.22
Fred K. 48
Anna Moeller 47.44
H.C. Kohlhorst 47.44
Fisher 40
Brodbeck 40
Baker 80
Wesley Warrmen 40
Sarah Pool 25.
Poole 55.
H.C. Gerver 40+
Gerver 40+

PUSHETA TOWNSHIP.



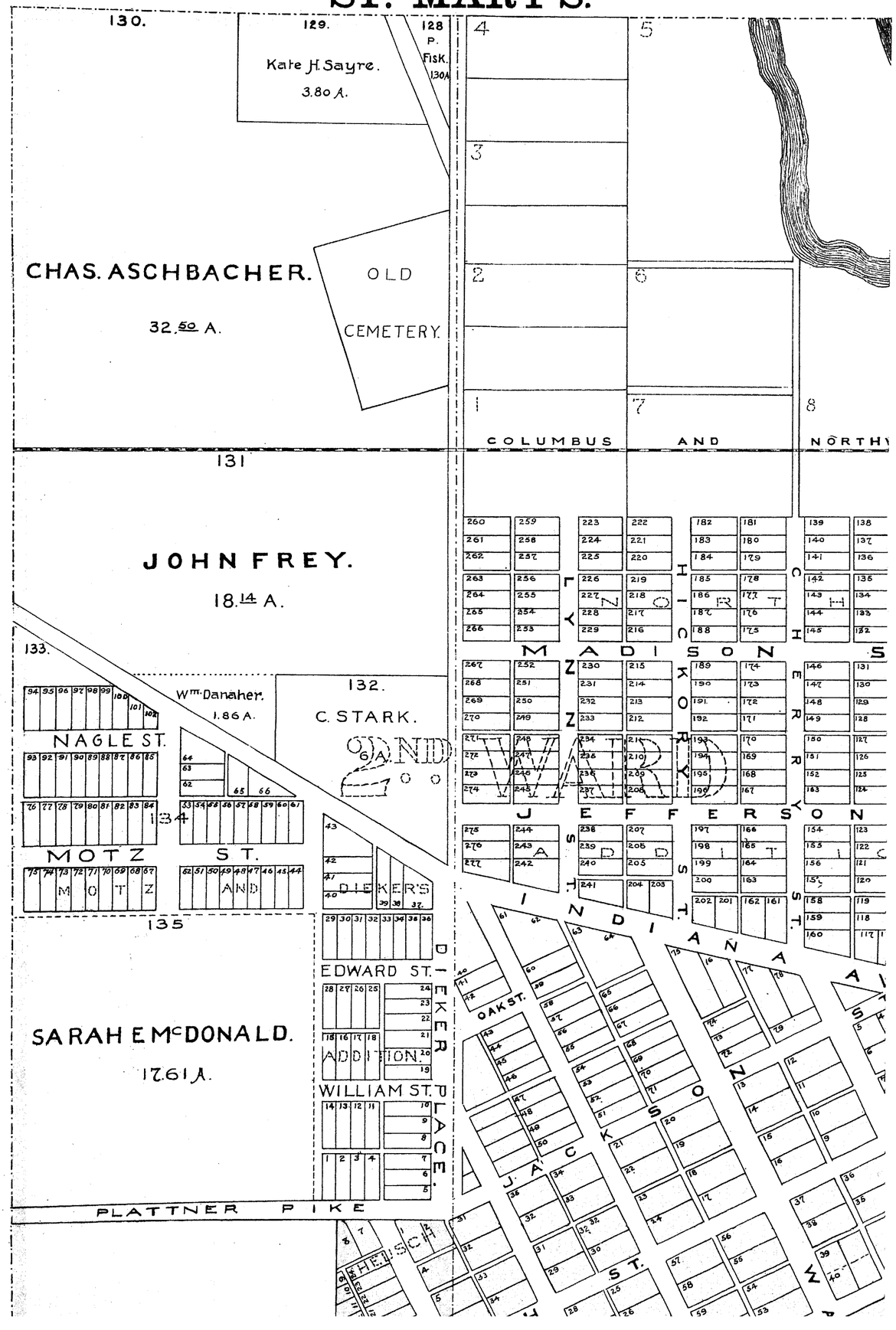
SALEM TOWNSHIP.

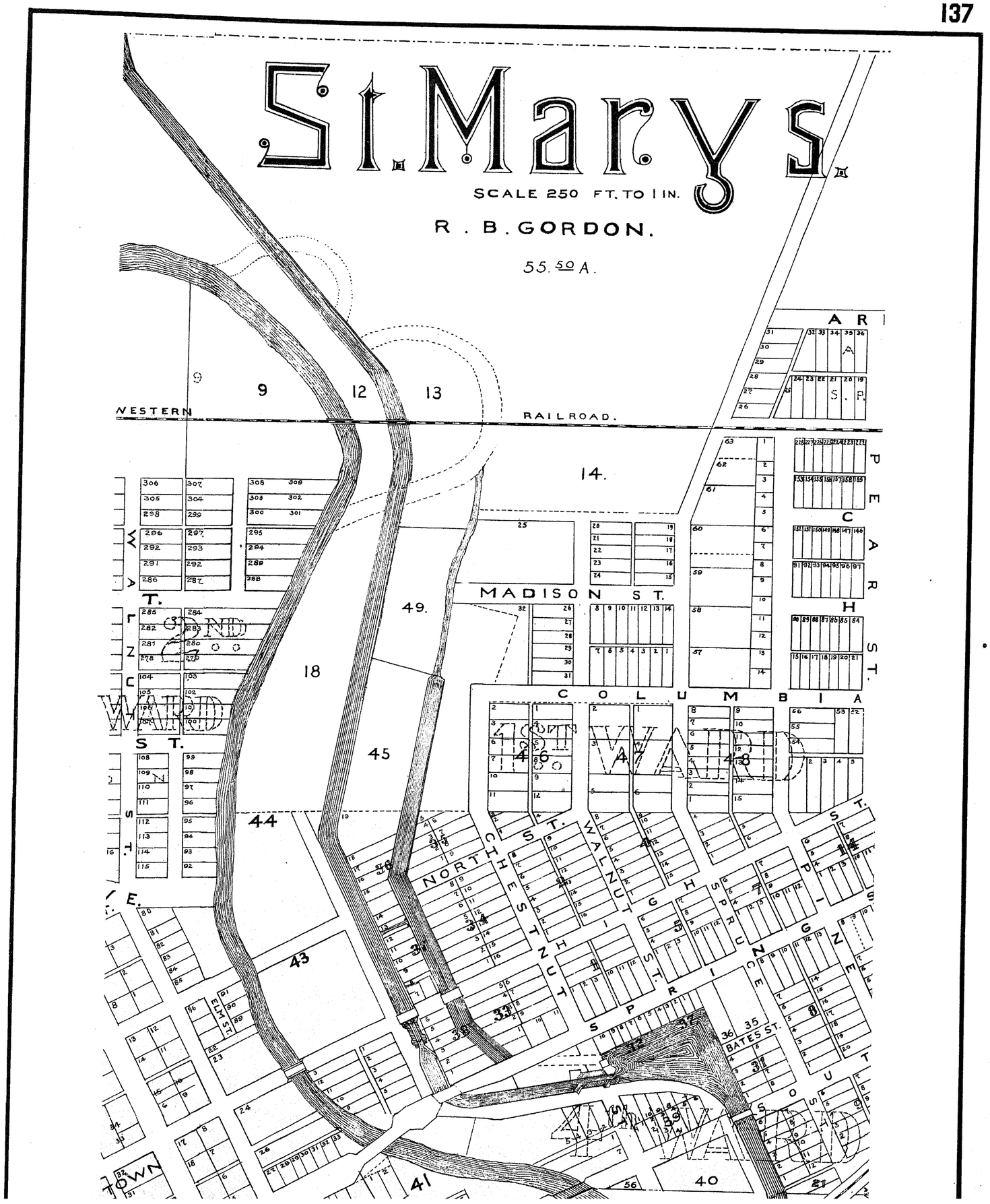


ST. MARY'S TOWNSHIP.

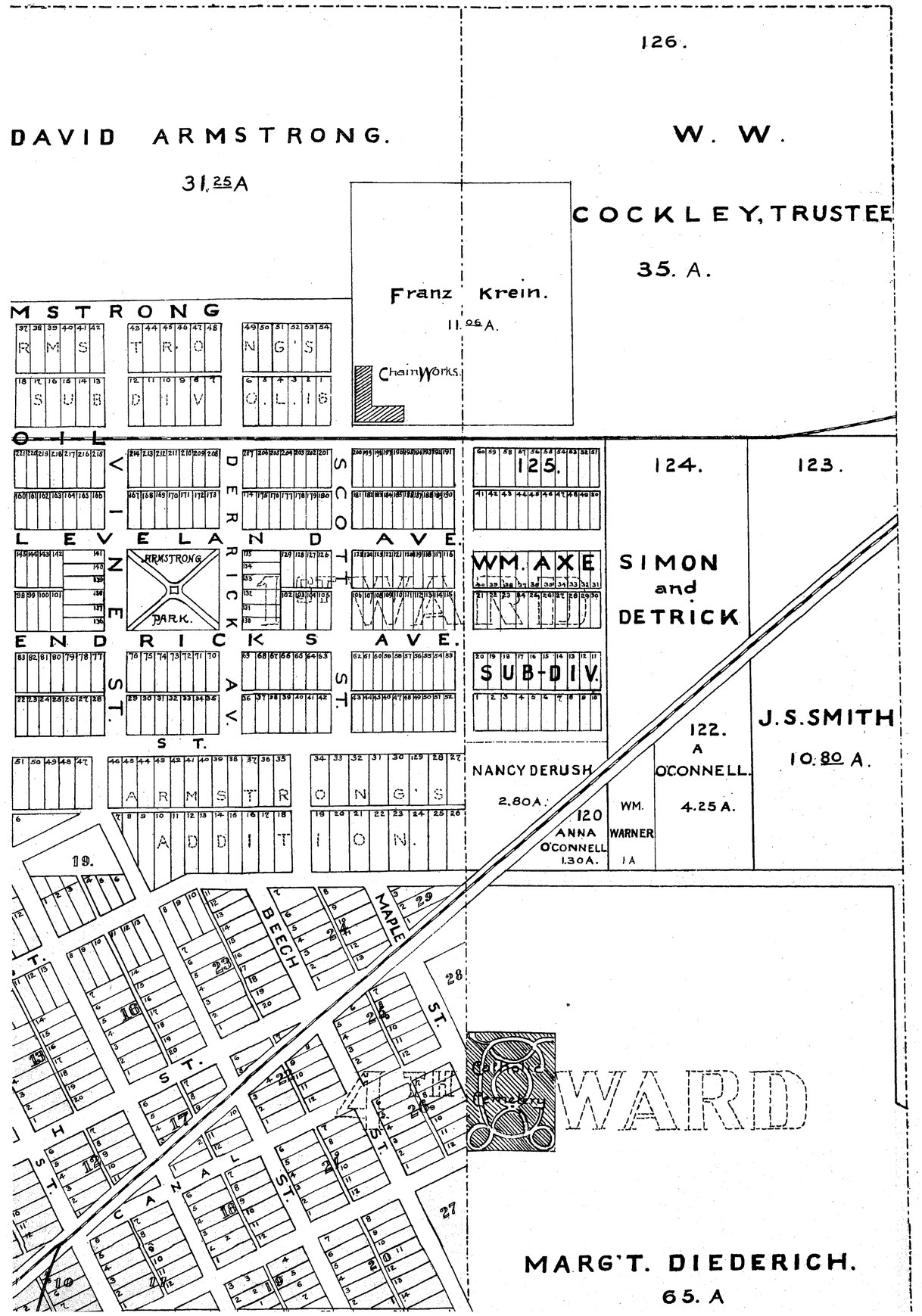


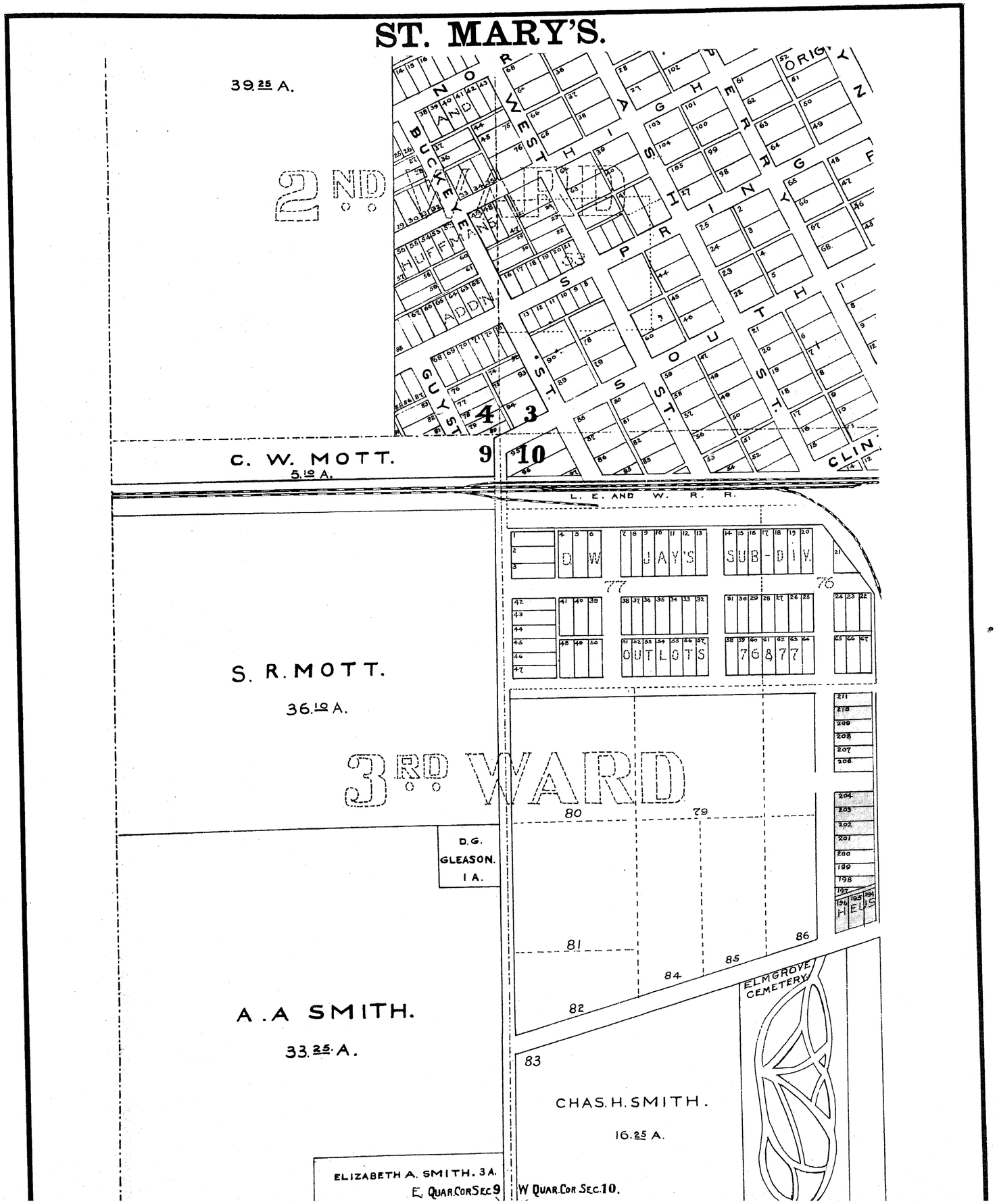
ST. MARY'S.


130.
129.
Kate H. Sayre.
3.80 A.
128
P.
Fisk.
130A
CHAS. ASCHBACHER.
32.50 A.
OLD
CEMETERY.
131
JOHN FREY.
18.14 A.
133.
Wm. Danaher.
1.86 A.
132.
C. STARK.
6 A.
NAGLE ST.
134
MOTZ ST.
MOTZ AND
DIEKER'S
135
SARAH E McDONALD.
17.61 A.
EDWARD ST.
ADDITION.
WILLIAM ST.
DIEKER PLACE.
PLATTNER PIKE
COLUMBUS AND NORTH
MADISON ST.
JEFFERSON ST.
INDIANA AV.
OAK ST.
JACKSON ST.
HEUSCH
LYNN ST.
HICKORY ST.
CHERRY ST.
WARD
ADDITION

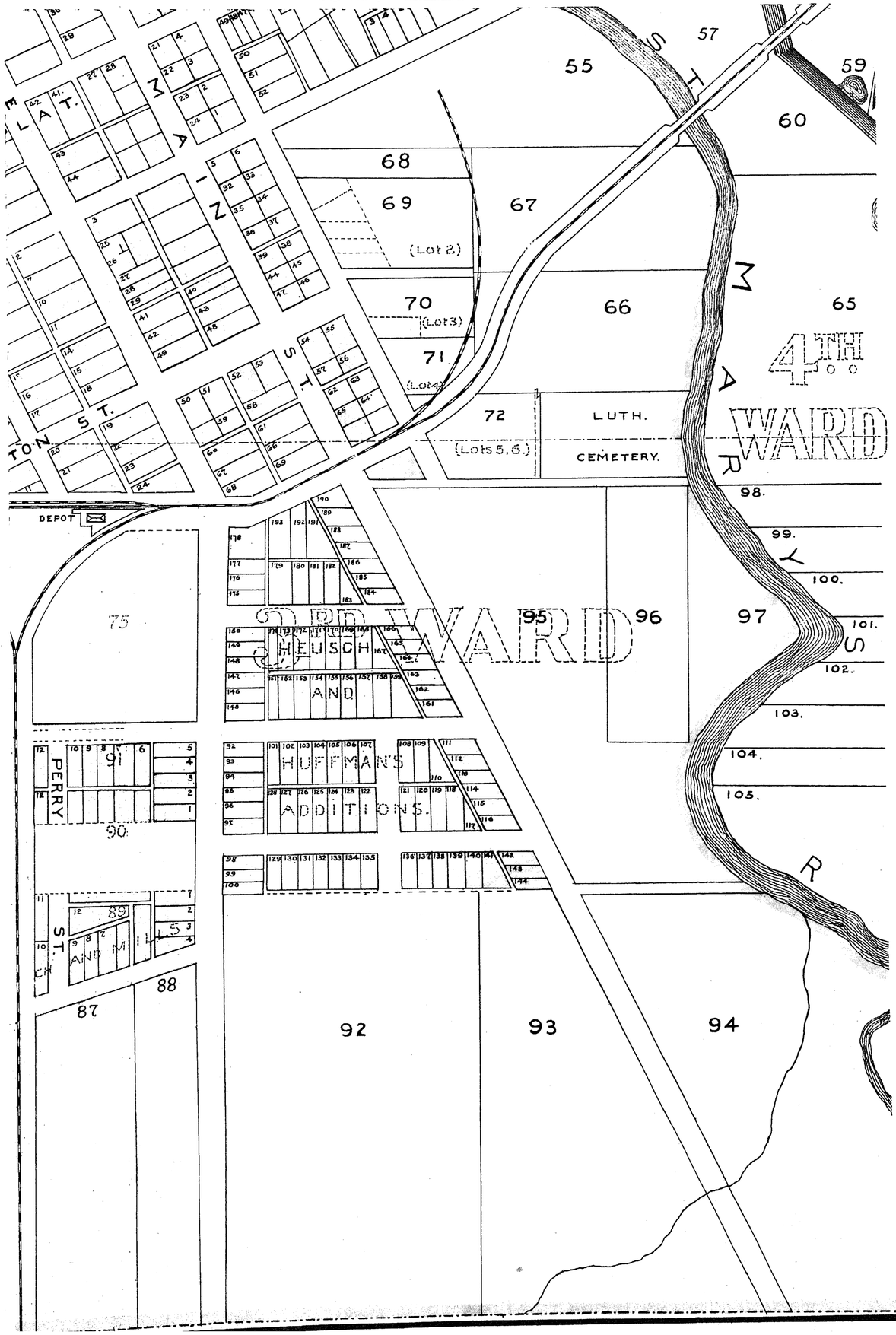

St. Marys
SCALE 250 FT. TO 1 IN.
R. B. GORDON.
55.50 A.
WESTERN
RAILROAD.
MADISON ST.
COLUMBIA
NORTH ST.
CHESTNUT
WALNUT
HIGH
SPRUCE
SPRING
BATES ST.
ELM ST.
PEAR ST.
WALNUT ST.
9
12
13
14.
18
49.
45
44
43
41
40
46
47
48

ST. MARY'S.


126.
DAVID ARMSTRONG.
31.25 A
W. W.
COCKLEY, TRUSTEE
35. A.
Franz Krein.
11.06 A.
Chain Works.
MSTRONG
RMS
TRO
NG'S
SUB
DIV
O.L.16
OIL
VINE
DERRICK
SCOTT
125.
124.
123.
LEVELAND AVE.
ARMSTRONG PARK.
WM. AXE
SIMON and DETRICK
ENDRICKS AVE.
SUB-DIV.
ST.
AV.
ST.
J.S.SMITH
10.80 A.
122.
A O'CONNELL.
4.25 A.
NANCY DERUSH
2.80 A.
120
ANNA O'CONNELL
1.30 A.
WM. WARNER
1 A
ARMSTRONG'S
ADDITION.
19.
BEECH
MAPLE
ST.
CANAL
ST.
Catholic Cemetery
WARD
MARG'T. DIEDERICH.
65. A

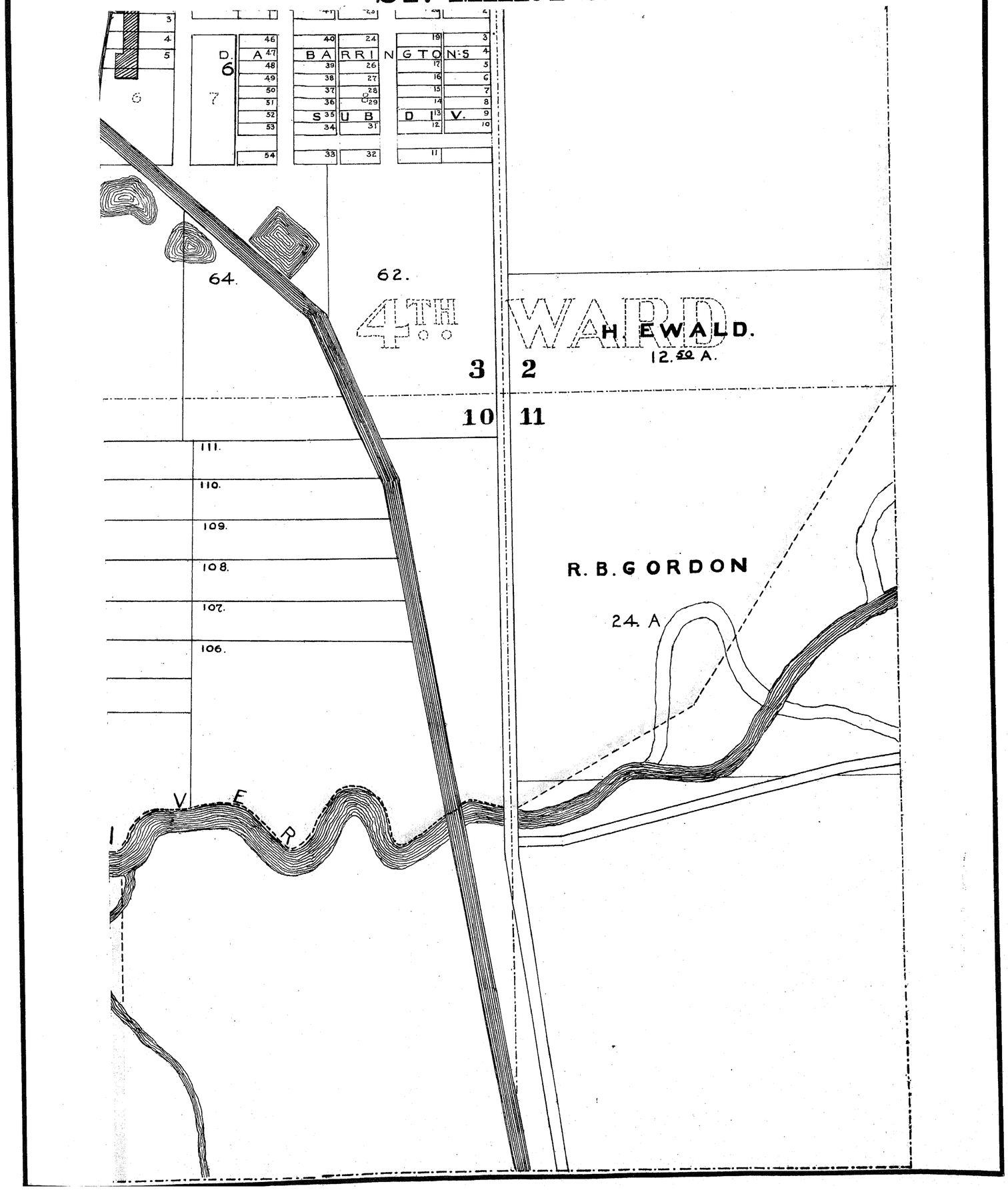

ST. MARY'S.
39.25 A.
2ND WARD
C. W. MOTT.
5.10 A.
L. E. AND W. R. R.
D. W. JAY'S SUB-DIV.
OUTLOTS 76 & 77
S. R. MOTT.
36.10 A.
3RD WARD
D.G. GLEASON. 1 A.
A. A SMITH.
33.25 A.
ELMGROVE CEMETERY
CHAS. H. SMITH.
16.25 A.
ELIZABETH A. SMITH. 3 A.
E. QUAR. COR SEC. 9
W QUAR. COR SEC. 10.

ST. MARY'S.

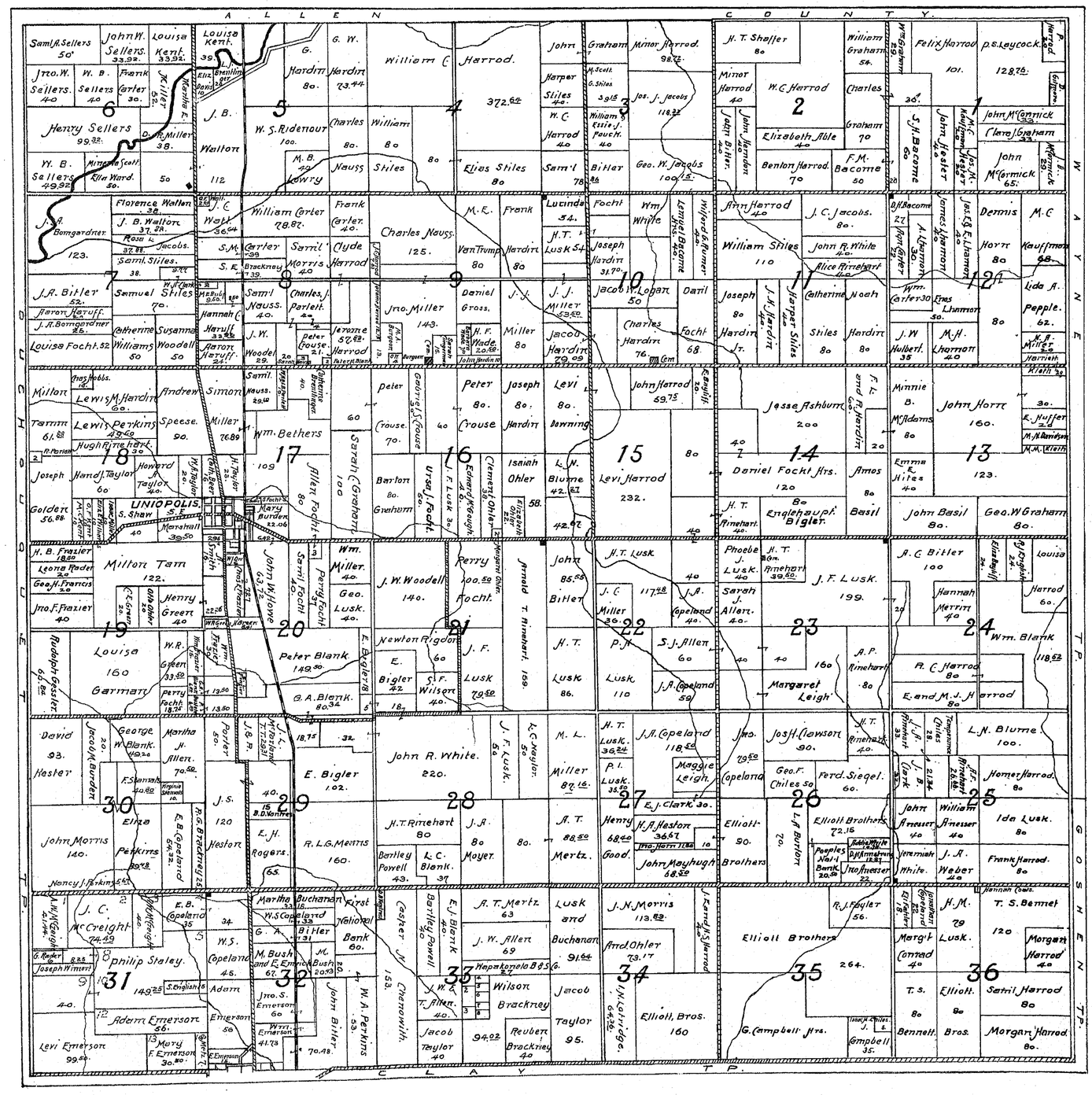


ST. MARY'S R
4TH WARD
3RD WARD
LUTH.
CEMETERY.
(Lot 2)
(Lot 3)
(Lot 4)
(Lots 5, 6.)
DEPOT
HEUSCH AND HUFFMAN'S ADDITIONS.
PERRY ST.
AND MILLS
55
57
59
60
68
69
67
70
66
65
71
72
75
95
96
97
98.
99.
100.
101.
102.
103.
104.
105.
91
90
89
88
87
92
93
94

ST. MARY'S.


D. A BARRINGTON'S SUB DIV.
6
7
64.
62.
4TH WARD
H. EWALD.
12.50 A.
3
2
10
11
111.
110.
109.
108.
107.
106.
R. B. GORDON
24. A
V E R

UNION TOWNSHIP.


ALLEN COUNTY.
WAYNE
T.P. GOSHEN T.P.
SOUTH
T.P.
CLAY
UNIOPOLIS
Louisa Kent.
G. W. Hardin 80.
Hardin 73.44
William C. Harrod. 372.64
John Harper Stiles 40. W. C. Harrod 40
Elias Stiles 80
Sam'l 78
Lucinda 54.
J. T. Lusk 54
Graham
Minor Harrod. 98.72
Jos. J. Jacobs 118.32
Geo. W. Jacobs 100.15
H. T. Shaffer 80
William Graham 54.
Felix Harrod 101.
P. S. Laycock. 128.76.
W. C. Harrod 2
Elizabeth Fible 40
Benton Harrod. 70
F. M. Bacomb 50
Charles
Graham 70
J. H. Bacomb 60
John Foster
John McCormick 65.
Clara J. Graham
Dennis Horn 80
M. C. Kauffman 68.
Lida A. Pepple. 62.
J. B. Walton 112
W. S. Ridenour 100.
Charles 80.
William 80
Nauss Stiles
80
M. B. Lowry
Florence Walton 38.
J. B. Walton 37.28
Jacobs.
Samuel Stiles 38.
William Carter 78.87.
Frank Carter. 40.
Charles Nauss. 125.
M. E. Van Trump 80
Frank Hardin 80
Focht
Wm White
Joseph Hardin 31.70.
Lemuel Bacomb 40.
Wilford & Rumer 40.
Ann Harrod 40
J. C. Jacobs. 80.
William Stiles 110
John R. White 40.
Alice Rinehart 40.
Joseph Hardin 80
J. M. Hardin 40.
Harper Stiles 40.
Catherine Noah 80
Hardin 80
J. A. Bitler 52.
Samuel Stiles 70.
Aaron Haruff. 42.
Catherine Susanna
Louisa Focht. 52
Williams 50
Woodell 50
Samuel Nauss. 40.
Charles J. Parlett 42
Hannah Haruff 33.55
Aaron Haruff 21.
J. W. Woode 29.
Peter Crouse 21.
Jerome 57.42.
Harrod
Jno. Miller 143.
Daniel Gross.
H. F. Wade 20.65
Miller 80
J. J. Miller 53.62
Jacob Hardin 79.03
Charles Hardin 76.
Cm.
Daril
Focht 68
Milton
Lewis M. Hardin 60.
Andrew
Tarrim 61.88
Lewis Perkins 49.60
Speese. 90.
Hugh Rinehart 30
Simon
Samuel Nauss. 29.40
Miller 76.89
Wm. Bethers 109
Gabriel S. Crouse 40
Peter Crouse 70.
Peter 80. Crouse
Joseph 80. Hardin
Levi 80. Downing
John Harrod 59.75
Jesse Ashburn 200
F. L. and B. Co.
Hardin 20
Minnie B. McAdams 80
John Horn 160.
Joseph Harrel J. Taylor 60
Howard Taylor 40.
Golden 56.88
S. Shaw
Marshall 39.50
Isaiah Ohler
L. N. Blume 42.87
42.87
Levi Harrod 232.
Daniel Focht Hrs. 120
H. T. Rinehart 40
Englehaupt Bigler
Amos 80
Basil
John Basil 80.
Geo. W. Graham 80.
Emma E. Hites 40
13 123.
Barton 80. Graham
Allen Focht 80
Sarah C. Graham 100
Utter J. Focht 50.
Edward Keough
Clemens John
Elizabeth Ohler 58.
H. B. Frazier 18.80
Leona Rader 20
Geo. H. Francis 20
Jno. F. Frazier 40
Milton Tarn 122.
Henry Green 40
John W. Stone 63.75
Wm. Miller. 40.
Geo. Lusk. 40.
Sam'l Focht 40.
Perry Focht 37.
J. W. Woodell 140.
Perry 100.50 Focht
Newton Rigdon 60
E. Bigler 42
S. F. Wilson 40.
Arnold T. Rinehart 199.
John 85.55 Bitler
H. T. Lusk
J. C. Miller 36.24
117.28
J. A. Copeland 40.
Phoebe J. Lusk. 40
H. T. Rinehart 39.50
J. F. Lusk. 199.
A. C. Bitler 100
Hannah Merrin 40
Louisa
Harrod 60.
Rudolph Gossiaux 60.
Louisa 160 Garmany
W. R. Green 33.50
Perry Focht 18.25
Peter Blank 149.30
E. Bigler 18
B. A. Blank. 80.34
Newton Rigdon
E. Bigler 42
S. F. Wilson 40.
Lusk 79.50
Lusk 86.
Lusk 110
P. L. Lusk. 36.24
S. J. Allen 60
J. A. Copeland 58
Sarah J. Allen. 40.
Margaret Leigh
A. P. Rinehart 80
Ft. C. Harrod 80
E. and M. J. Harrod 80
24 Wm. Blank 118.62
David 93. Hosier
Jacob M. Burden 20.
George W. Blank. 49.20
Martha N. Allen 70.50
Porter 50.
J. S. 120 Hosier
E. Bigler 102.
John R. White. 220.
J. F. Lusk. 50
L. C. Naylor 50
M. L.
Miller 80.16.
H. T. Rinehart 40.
J. A. Copeland 118.50
Maggie Leigh.
Jno. Copeland 79.50
Jos. H. Clewson 90.
Geo. F. Chiles 50
Ferd. Siegel. 60.
L. N. Blume 100.
Homer Harrod. 80
25
John Ansel 40
William Ansel 40
Ida Lusk. 80
Frank Harrod. 80
John Mayhugh 48.50
Elliott Brothers 90.
Elliott Brothers 72.16
Peoples Nat'l Bank 20.00
Jno. Ansel 22
Veremiah White.
J. A. Weber 40
Elliott Brothers
L. P. Burton 70.
Henry 68.40 Good.
H. A. Heston 36.67
Mrs. Horn 1.80
E. J. Clark 30.
Wm. Carter 30
Ems
Lhamon 30.
J. W. Hulbert. 35
M. H. Lhamon 40
Harriett
Wash 30.
E. Huffer 24
M. N. Ramsdyn
M. M. Wash
Louisa Bagley 24.
Harrod 60.
Wm. Miller 40.
Geo. Lusk. 40.
Sam'l Focht 40.
Perry Focht 37.
Peter Blank 149.30
B. A. Blank. 80.34
E. Bigler 18
J. C. Jacobs 40.
Wm. Frazier 50.
Wm. Green 50.
Perry Focht 18.25
Rudolph Gossiaux 60.
Louisa 160 Garmany
W. R. Green 33.50
Perry Focht 18.25

WAPAKONETA,

COMPILED AND DRAWN BY J. B. WALSH,

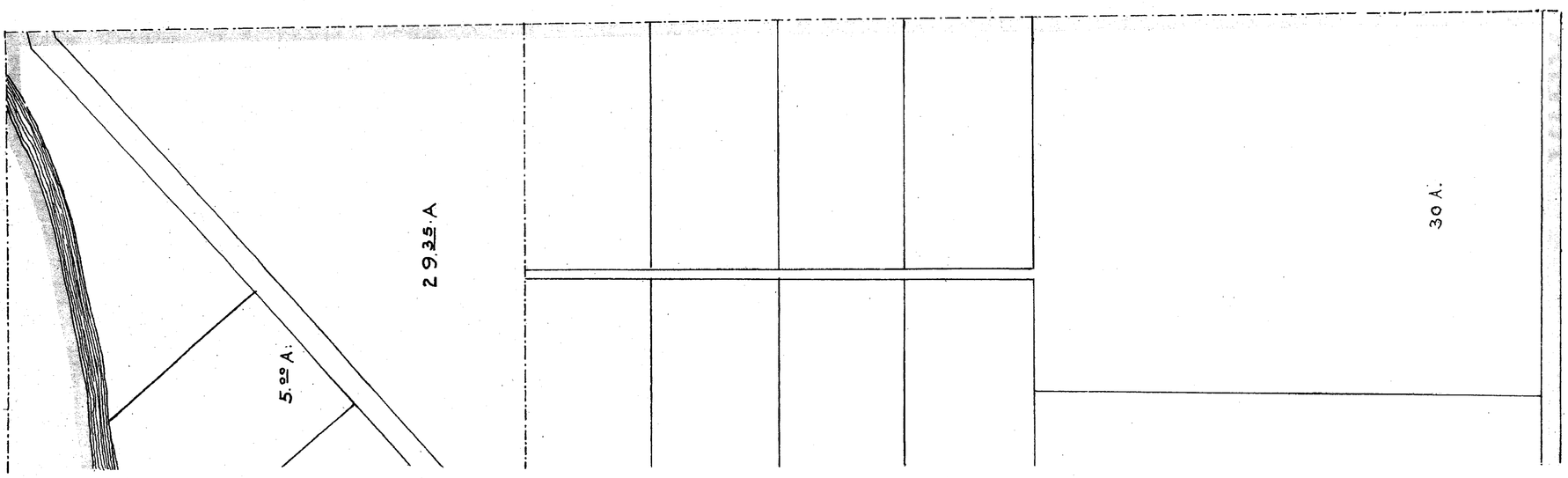
AND

PUBLISHED BY THE ATLAS PUBLISHING CO.,

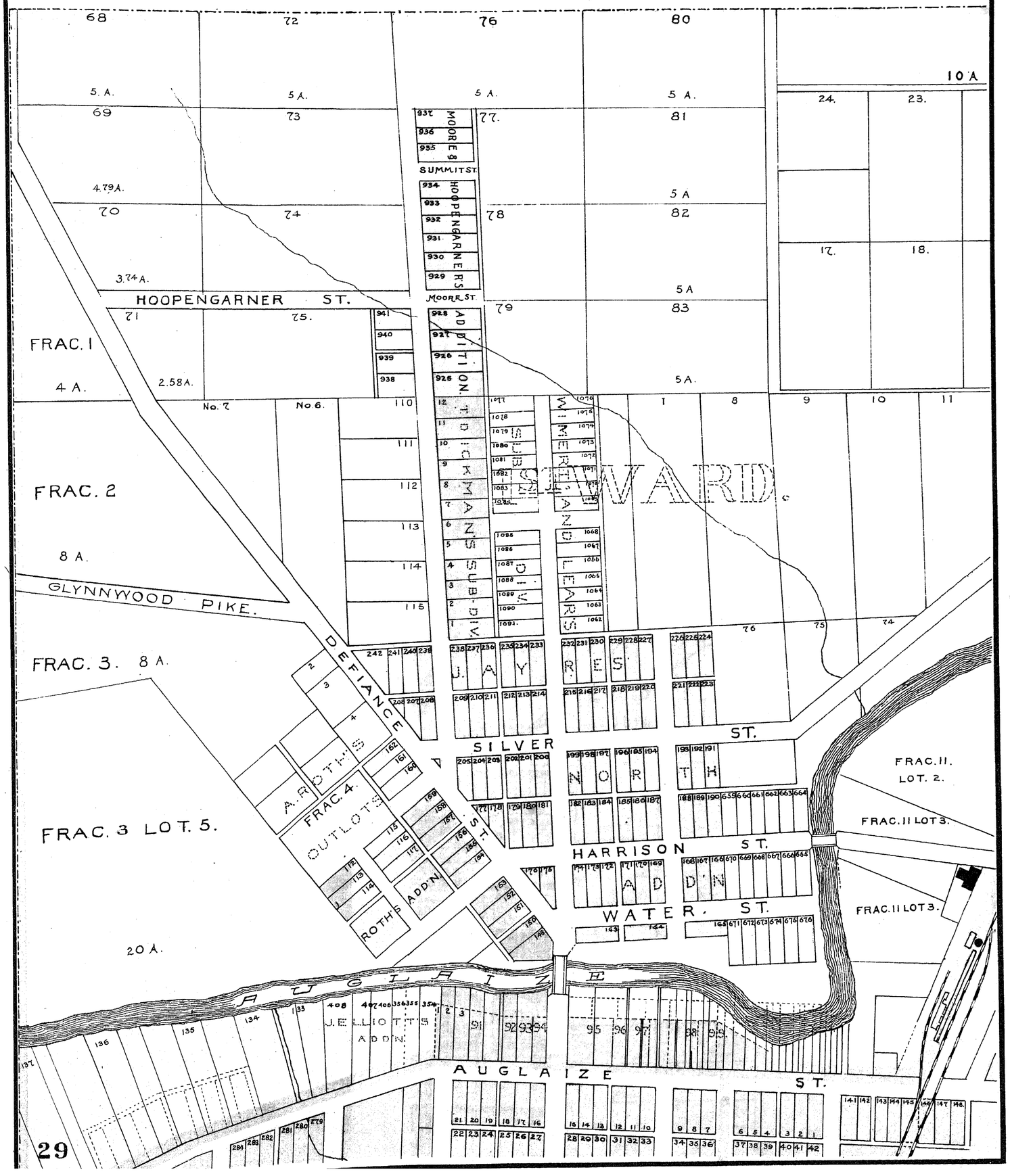
WAPAKONETA, OHIO.

SCALE 250 FEET TO ONE INCH.

1898.



WAPAKONETA, OHIO.



WAPAKONETA, OHIO.

22. 21. 19. 20

13.25 A

22.82

22.90 A.

21.31 A.

R I V E R

OLD CEMETERY

FRAC. 10.

J. AYER'S 8.54 A.

OUTLOTS 6.33 A.

ELLIOTT'S SUB-DIV.

MEEKER'S SUB-DIVISION

30 A

NORTH ST.

WALKUP

WATER

LIMA

BRIGHTHORN

CASS ST.

JOHNSTON ST.

ANNA ST.

WOOD

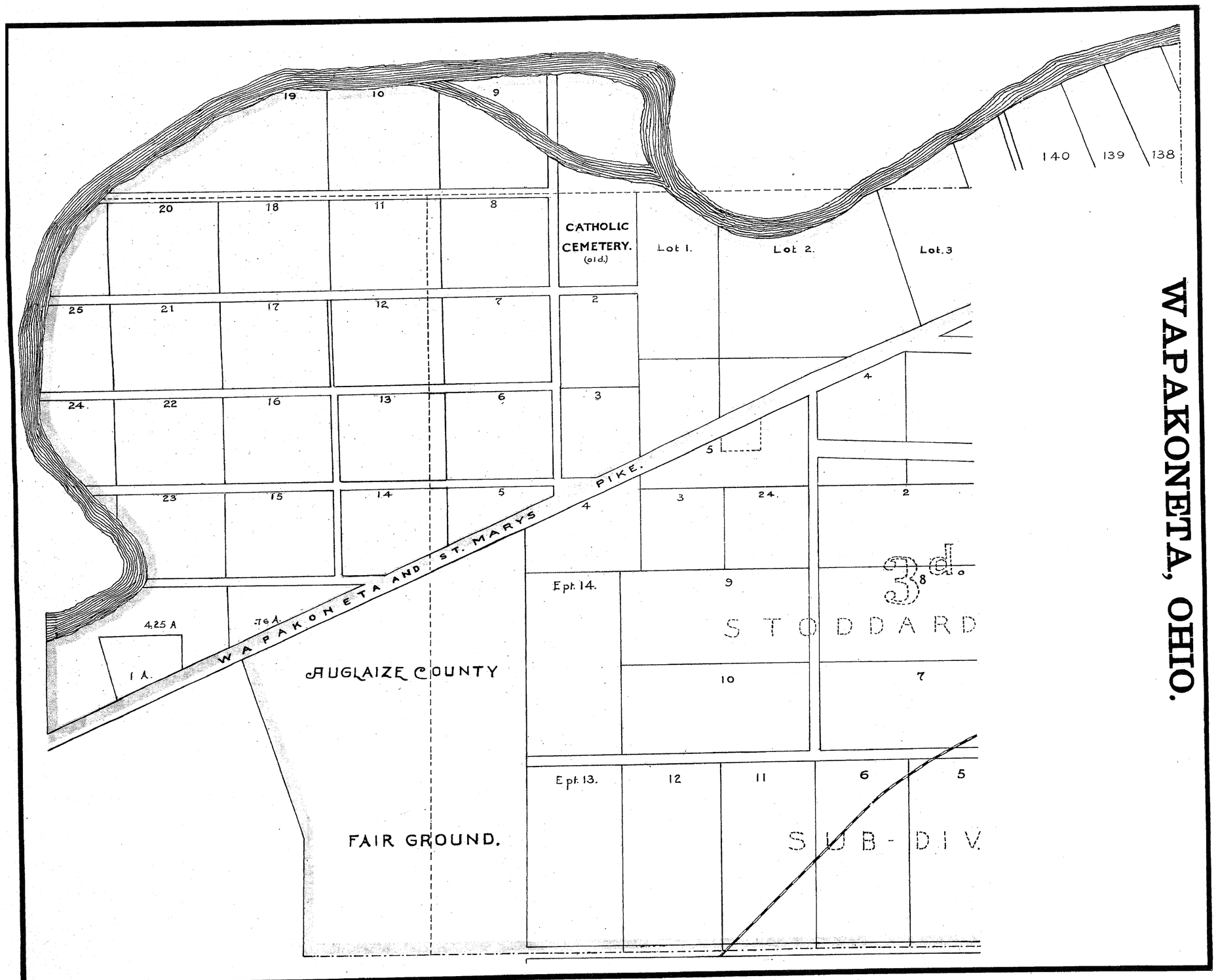
JONES

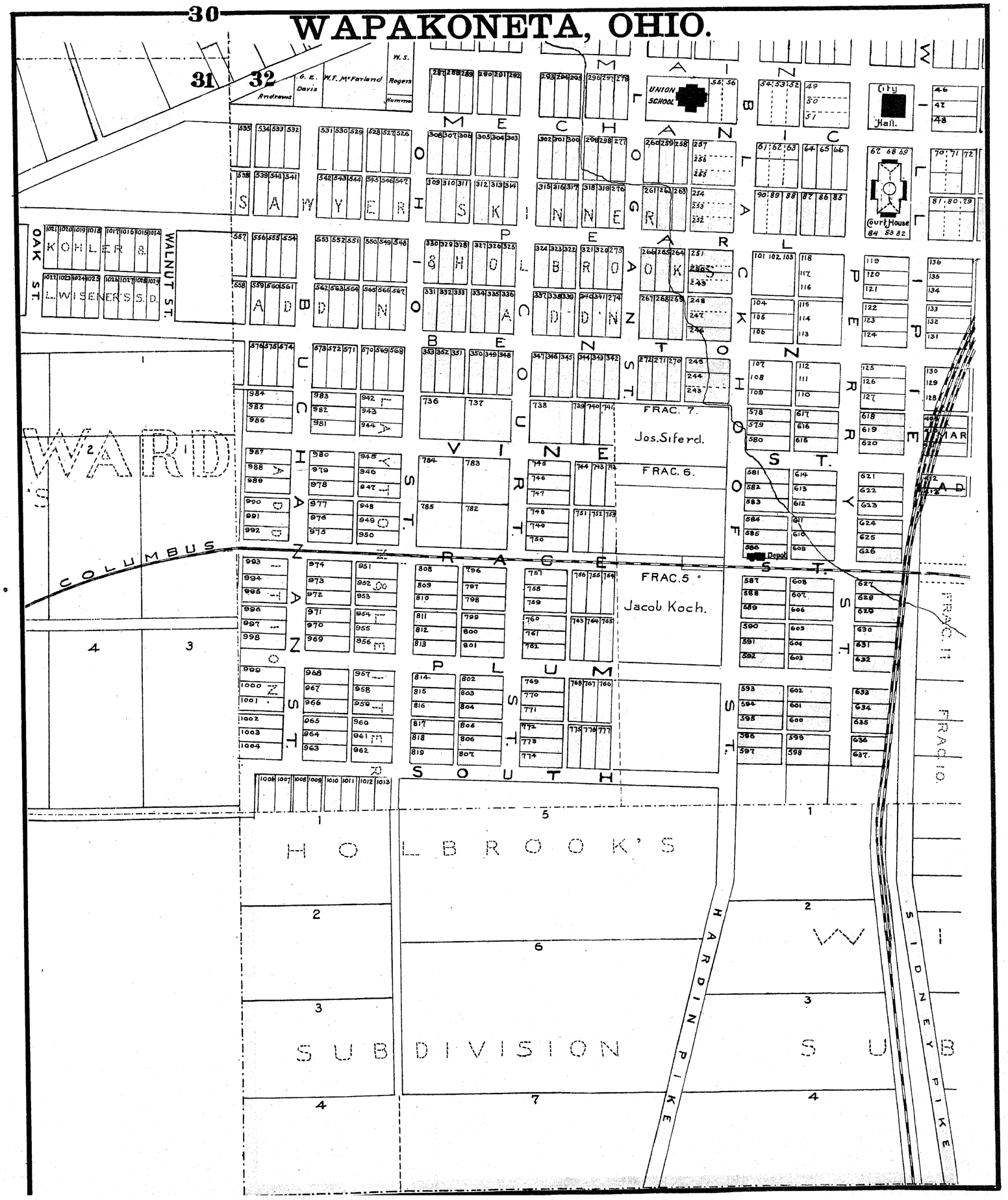
VAN HORN ADDITION

ADDITION

28

WAPAKONETA, OHIO.




30
WAPAKONETA, OHIO.
31
32
Andrews
G. E. Davis
W. F. McFarland
W. S. Rogers
Hummel
MAIN
MECHANIC
OHIO
SAWYER
SKINNER
PEARL
BENTON
VINE
ST.
RACE
PLUM
SOUTH
OAK ST.
WALNUT ST.
KOHLER &
L. WISENER'S S. D.
BUCHANAN
COLUMBUS
WARD
UNION SCHOOL
City Hall.
Court House
FRAC. 7.
Jos. Siferd.
FRAC. 6.
FRAC. 5
Jacob Koch.
Depot
FRAC. 11
FRAC. 10.
HOLBROOK'S
SUBDIVISION
HARDIN PIKE
SIDNEY PIKE

WAPAKONETA, OHIO.

MIDDLE PIKE

RAUTH ST.

S T.

BELLFONTAINE

BROADWAY ST

SELTZER ST.

PARK ST.

ST.

SCHOOL BLDG.

Meyers Subdivision

J.W. Cordell's Subdivision

Foos & Hertel's Subdivision

Rostorfer Addition

MILLER.

2nd. WARD

OUT LOTS

L D ' S

-DIVISION.

MOUCH'S

SUB-DIVISION.

NORTHWESTERN R. R.

10.69 A.

10.36 A

10.30 A.

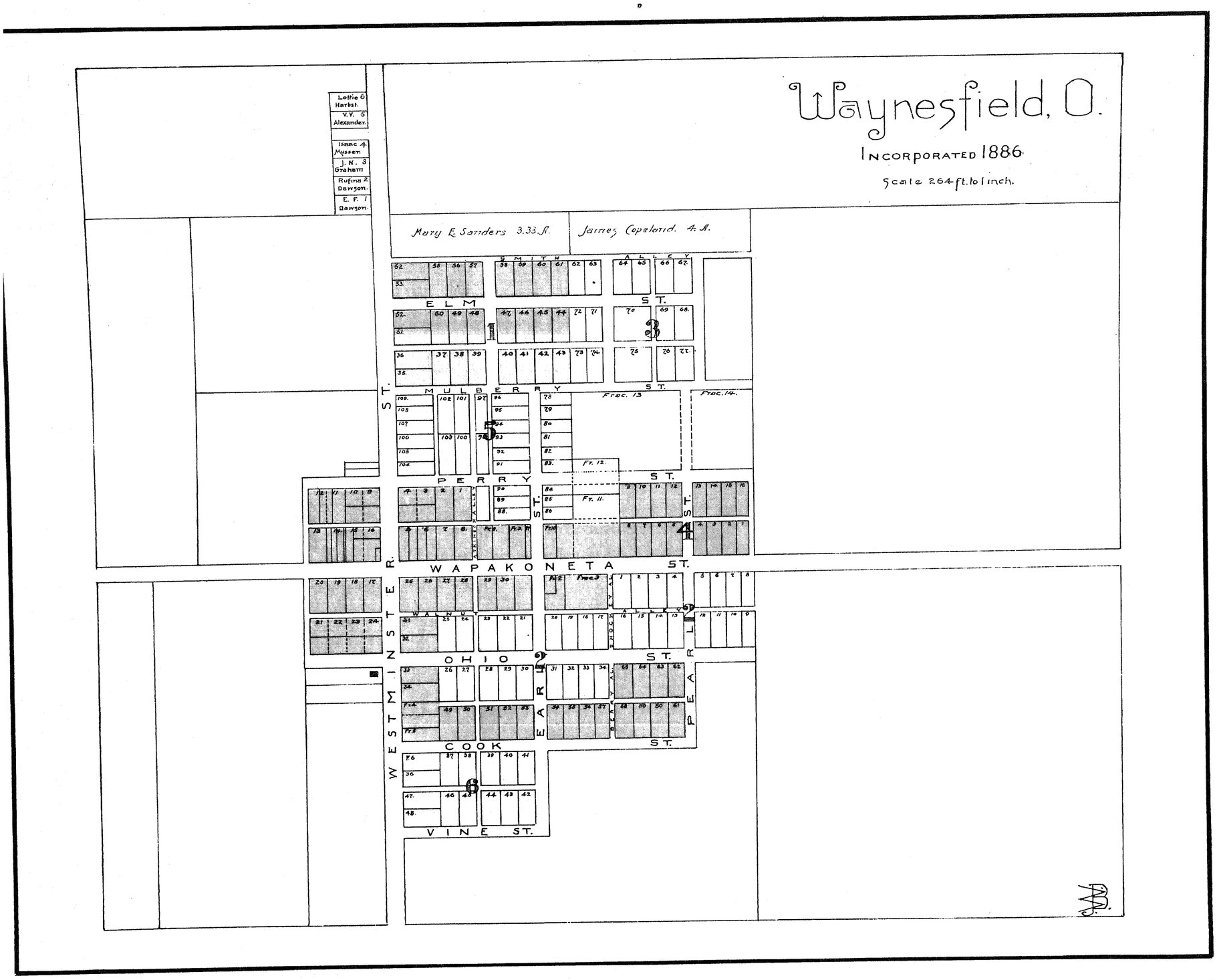
2.52 A

1. A.

1. A.

1 A.

238. A.


Waynesfield, O.
Incorporated 1886
Scale 264 ft. to 1 inch.
Lottie 6 Harbst.
V.V. 5 Alexander.
Isaac 4 Musser.
J. N. 3 Graham
Rufina 2 Dawson.
E. F. 1 Dawson.
Mary E. Sanders 3.33 A.
James Copeland. 4 A.
SMITH ALLEY
ELM ST.
MULBERRY ST.
PERRY ST.
WAPAKONETA ST.
WALNUT ALLEY
OHIO ST.
COOK ST.
VINE ST.
WESTMINSTER ST.
EARL ST.
PEARL ST.
Frac. 13
Frac. 14.
Fr. 12.
Fr. 11.
Frac. 3
1
2
3
4
5
6

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP.

