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CHAPTER VII

POLITICS AND OFFICIAL HONORS.

FULTON County was organized at a time (1850) when public sentiment was rapidly crystalizing and the lines were being sharply drawn upon the great issue of slavery extension, and but two years after the remarkable Presidential contest had occurred between Cass and Taylor. About 1834, all that were opposed to the Democratic party formed a coalition under the party name of Whig, and under this banner fought their battles until 1854, when a fusion between the Free-Soilers and Know-nothing was made, and both elements combined under the name of Republican. There existed, however, during many years, in the region now embraced in Fulton county, a small but brave and earnest body of Abolitionists, who were denounced and persecuted by both Democrats and Whigs, members of these organizations vying with each other in making assaults upon "the incendiary Abolitionist" But it was only upon this common ground that the two powerful parties would make common warfare. Members thereof were pleased to call themselves "conservative" men, who deemed it their duty to thus emphasize their dislike of the fanatics who were advocating the abolition of slavery, The "conservative" men of that day decried such agitation, because, they said, "it disturbed business interests." They were the psychological ancestors of those vainglorious men of today, who oppose every measure of reform that appears abstruse to their benighted reasoning powers. Dear "conservative" reader: Was the Emancipation Proclamation the culminating achievement of this Christian civilization, and were the enemies of human progress all slain when the Demon of Slavery perished? If not, then it is your duty to study proposed reform measures; and in the conflict of opinion your weapons should be reason and logic, not sneers and vituperation.

But this is a digression, and we will return to the proper subject. Owing to the records of the county having been destroyed by fire, in 1864, we are unable to give the returns of the early elections held, in Fulton county; but since its formation, in 1854, the Republican party has been constantly in the ascendancy, and what local successes the Democracy has met with has been

due to the generosity of its individual opponents and the unpopularity of opposing candidates. In 1855, at the October election, Salmon P. Chase carried the county and the Republican ticket was elected, and this was probably the first instance in the political history of Fulton county where the regular nominees of the Democratic party had been entirely overthrown in a

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strictly party contest. But after the election of 1852, the very name and machinery of the Whig party had passed out of existence and practically all elements had been united in opposition to the Democracy. In 1856; Fulton county gave a heavy vote for the Republican ticket, increasing the party vote of the year before and the majority over the opposition. The contest of 1860 terminated the "irrepressible conflict" between the Free and Slave States, as Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Seward had declared several years previously that it was destined to become, and so far as law could make it so, placed the former master and slave upon terms of civil equality. Fulton county very largely increased her Republican vote and gave to Mr. Lincoln a large majority.

There probably never occurred an election in Ohio that produced a higher degree of excitement within the State, or a more profound interest abroad, than the memorable campaign of 1863. Since the opening of the war in 1861, there had occurred no conflict that would bear comparison, in the intensity of feeling it produced, with this one. After the close of the polls, on October 13, results were rapidly received and transmitted, and the governor-elect being then a resident of Cleveland, was, near 12 o'clock at night, in possession of sufficient returns to authorize him to transmit a dispatch to Edwin M. Stanton, then Secretary of War, that the entire Republican State ticket in Ohio had been elected by a majority of about one hundred thousand.

Since the civil war period, as well as for several years before, Fulton county has been reliably Republican, and the only question has been in regard to the size of the majority. It reached low water mark in 1896, when Mr. McKinley received a vote of 3,227, and Mr. Bryan received 2,460, a Republican majority of 767. In that campaign, Mr. Bryan's wonderful personality, magnetic force and matchless oratory, contending for a platform of principles that was unequivocal in meaning and clear in expression, succeeded in arousing an interest in political affairs to an extent seldom if ever witnessed before. In Fulton county every district school house became a

political forum, and interest in everything else waned while the "Battle of the Standards" was in progress. The large vote given to Mr. Bryan, under the circumstances, was considered a great achievement by his followers. In 1904, however, high water mark was reached, and Roosevelt (Rep.) received 3,593 votes, while Parker (Dem.) received 1,448. These figures represent the largest vote and majority ever given to a political party in Fulton county. But, though there can be no doubt that 'the Republicans have a large majority in the county, the Presidential election of 1904 is not a fair criterion by which to judge its size. It is .but stating 'a truth in history to say that Mr. Parker was not a popular candidate with the "rank and file" of the Democratic party, and especially was this true after he expressed his views on the coinage question. With such an independent character as Mr. Roosevelt in the field, many Democrats considered it an opportune time to consign Mr. Parker, "irrevocably," to the shades of political oblivion. But, notwithstanding the great majority for Roosevelt in 1904, at the State

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election of 1905 the vote for governor was as follows: Herrick (Rep.), 2,302; Pattison (Dem.), 2,266; a Republican majority of only. thirty-six. votes.

In local and State affairs, however, an independent spirit has heel manifested more or less ever since the close of the civil war. The voters of the county have been generally given to, "scratching" their tickets, and it has been difficult to estimate results, particularly as re. gards candidates for county offices, until the votes have been cast and counted; and members of the minority party have frequently been the incumbents of official positions, The first political convention of which there is any account, was composed of people of both political parties, and met in convention at the house of Daniel Knowls, in Pike township, about the last of March, 1850, for the purpose of nominating candidates for the official positions in the newly-erected county, which positions were to be filled at the ensuing. April elections. This convention was not fully characterized for harmony of purpose, but in consequence of the weakness of the then old Whig party, and its inability to succeed in the election of a party ticket, the members thereof. quietly submitted to a portion of the choice of said convention. The successful ones at this convention were Mortimer D. Hibbard of Dover, for auditor; George B. Brown of Royalton, sheriff; C. C. Allman of Delta, recorder; Nathaniel Leggett of Swan Creek, treasurer; William Sutton of Gorham, Christopher Watkins of Fulton, and Jonathan Barnes, commissioners. These gentlemen

were duly elected and qualified as officers of the new county, severally entering upon the duties of their respective positions. Nathaniel Leggett of Swan Creek, John Kendall of Franklin, and Alfred C. Hough of Chesterfield were chosen the first associate judges, but Mr. Leggett refused to serve, and Socrates H. Cately of Swan Creek was appointed to fill the position. Samuel Durgin was appointed clerk, and John A. Read prosecuting attorney; and in the fall of 1850, Alfred C. Hough was elected to the auditor's office and resigned the judgeship, William E. Parmalee of Chesterfield, and A. M. Flickinger of Gorham, in turn latter office successfully until the change of the Constitution of the State, in 1851.

The writer has attempted to perfect an official list of Fulton county, including National, State and County officers, from the organization of the county to 1905, and also to include with the list biographical matter concerning some of the gentlemen, who have borne the official honors. In some instances the favored ones have passed away, leaving neither "kith or kin" to preserve their record, while in others, either from churlishness, cupidity, ignorance or some other cause, those who could have done so have manifested no disposition to furnish the required information. Notwithstanding these difficulties considerable information is here presented, concerning residents of Fulton county who have borne official honors. For court judges, and officers, see chapter on Bench and Bar; and the biographical department of this work also contains additional information.

United States Consuls.—Levi W. Brown to Glasgow, Scotland; W. W. Touvelle to Belfast, Ireland.

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Levi Walter Brown was born in Franklin township, Fulton county, December 21, 1841. He was reared on his father's farm; where he worked during the spring and summer, and attended school in the winter, until he became eighteen years of age. He then commenced teaching in season, and was thus engaged, alternating between the farm and the school-room, for a period of about four years. At the age of twenty-five, having accumulated a small sum of money; the result of his industry, he embarked in the mercantile business at Elmira, Fulton county, having a small stock at the outset, but gradually enlarging it as his means permitted and the increasing trade required,

until he became known as one of the most successful and reliable country merchants of the county. He continued his mercantile life until about 1872, when he sold out and moved to the farm of his parents, they then being in impaired health and strength on account of their advanced years. He continued his residence on the farm until February, 1879, when he removed to Wauseon to assume the office of probate judge. While he subsequently took a very active interest in political affairs, he did not become so engaged to any considerable extent prior to his advancement to this position. Taking his seat as probate judge, in February, 1879, he was twice re-elected, and soon became one of the acknowledged leaders of the Republican party in the county, his ability as an organizer also making him a prominent figure in the politics of the State. In 1886 he was a candidate for the nomination for the office of representative in Congress, but was defeated in the nominating convention, the late Hon. M. M. Boothman of Williams county, being the successful aspirant. In year 1887, Judge Brown was made chairman of the Republican State. Central Committee, a position that called forth his greatest effort as an organizer. He also took an active part in the organization of the National Republican League, and was a delegate in attendance, and member of the executive committee, representing Ohio in the first national convention held in New York City, December 15, 1887. His services in behalf of the Republican party were recognized by President Harrison, who appointed Judge Brown to the position of Consul to Glasgow, Scotland, a place he filled with credit to himself and honor to the country he represented. Being relieved from duty at that post by the change in national administration, he returned to his home in Wauseon and still continued, his great interest in public affairs. He became a close student of economic questions and was a leading advocate of, the free coinage of silver during the discussion of that question a few years ago. His convictions upon the subject of finance caused him to sever the political relations of a lifetime; and in the campaign of 1896 he boldly advocated the election of Mr. Bryan to the Presidency. He continued to reside in Wauseon until 04 when ill health compelled a change of climate and he removed to North Carolina, where he now resides,

William W. Touvelle was born at Steubenville; Jefferson county, Ohio, in 1847, and received a liberal education. He was appointed

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to a cadetship in the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland, in 1864, but resigned two years later and began to read law. He was admitted to the bar in 1868, but continued as a Student until 1869, when, on June , he settled in Fulton county, at Ottokee, for a short time and then at Wauseon (coming from Celina), and began the practice of his profession. He was originally a rabid Democrat, of the type called "Copperhead" during the civil war and for some years after, but he changed his allegiance and was elected prosecuting attorney in 1871 by the Republicans, Serving until 1876, and was also a delegate to the convention at Chicago which nominated Garfield for President. He served as city Solicitor of Wauseon for three terms and filled other local offices. During his first administration, President McKinley appointed Mr. Touvelle to the position of Consul to Belfast, Ireland. He filled the position for about seven years, when, owing to ill health, he returned home and later resigned the office. He died at his residence in Wauseon, November 10, 1904:

Assistant Secretary of Agriculture.—Joseph H. Brigham, a history of whose public services is given in the biographical department of this work.

State Senators.—From 1872 to 1874, Dresden W. H. Howard; 1880 to 1882, John A. Wilkins ; 1882 to 1884, Joseph H. Brigham ; 1888 to 1890, William Geysler ; 1892 to 1896, John C. Rorick.

Dresden Winfield Huston Howard was born in the village of Dresden, on the east bank of Seneca Lake, Yates county, New York, November 3, 1817. In 1821, then being but four years old, with his parents and other relatives he came to the Maumee country. They came by wagons to Buffalo, where the party divided, a portion taking passage on the thirty-ton schooner Eagle, while the balance continued the wagon journey overland. After an unpleasant voyage of eight days, the Schooner arrived under the picketed walls of Fort Meigs on the evening of June 17. The land party were some weeks on the road before they reached their destination—the Maumee. It was the intention of these families to go to the new settlement at Ann Arbor, but the fatigue of the long journey and the dread on the part of the women to enter the dark and seemingly interminable forests, changed their plan, and they were easily persuaded by the few white Settlers to remain on the murky waters of the "Miami of the Lakes," and they were soon provided with small log cabins and a few acres of cleared land on the river flats, on which they

planted corn, potatoes, and other necessary earth products. During the next Summer, lands were purchased on the right bank of the river, at the head of the rapids, or at Grand Rapids, as it is more commonly known. Here three log cabins were built for the accommodation of the families, and to which they moved in March, 1823. On the opposite side of the river was the Ottawa Indian Village of between one and two thousand people, and the Indian children of the village were soon the companions and playmates of Dresden Howard, thus enabling him to soon learn to speak their simple language His association with them became so friendly

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and intimate that he as often slept in their wigwams, on their beds of blankets and Skins, as in the comfortable cabin of his parents. His good mother was in a state of almost constant anxiety for the safety of her son in the camp of the dreaded Indian; but the boy soon learned to love the free, wild life in the woods, under no restraint. The Presbytery of Massachusetts had established an Indian mission (church and School) at a point eight miles down the river from the Howard cabin, and there Dresden attended school from the age of six to nine years, and, other than this, the days of youth and boyhood gave him but little chance for an education at School. Before he was ten years old, young Howard was taken from school and put at work far too important for one of his years. According to his father's idea, the life of an Indian fur trader was the best for his son, and therefore he was hired out to a merchant in the Indian trade, with the limited knowledge of the business which he had acquired in his father's little store of Indian goods.

But the boy soon

became an expert, and knew the value of all the articles of trade, accurately judging the quality and value of skins and furs brought into market by the Indians and the few white hunters of the region. These accomplishments, for such were they then considered, together with the understanding of the Indian languages which he possessed, made him an exceedingly valuable employe, so that at the age of fifteen he had a safe passport into any of the fur trading establishments of the country. In the early summer of 1827 or 1828, young Howard accompanied Benjamin F. Hollister with a pack train of horses laden with goods for the Indian trade, on a journey to the "treaty grounds," on the shores of Lake Michigan, near the mouth of the Chicago river (now the site of the great western metropolis), where were gathered the various tribes—the Pottawatamies, the Sacs, the Foxes and the Winnebagoes

—who were met in council with agents of the government for the purpose of treating upon various subjects. During the summer of 1831, young Howard's father sent him on an expedition down the Wabash river, thence through to the Mississippi, for the purpose of locating bounty lands, to which the father was entitled as a veteran of the war of 1812-15. For this purpose our young hero—for such he was, being but fourteen years old at that time—was fully equipped and fully authorized to act. On this journey his route lay up the Maumee by boat with some French "freighters," thence down the Wabash, on the back of an Indian pony purchased at Fort Wayne, to the old trading post at Terre Haute, and thence across the prairie to the Mississippi. In the summer and fall of 1832 was commenced the removal of the Indians from this section, the last of them making the journey west in 1838. Mr. Howard prepared to follow them, in 1840, taking a large stock of goods for the fur trade. He ascended the Missouri as far as Fort Leavenworth, where, in consequence of the shallowness of the river, he disembarked, procured freight wagons with eighty mules and Spanish drivers, and followed the land trail up the river. One incident

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which occurred during this trip is deserving of mention in a chapter devoted to political affairs. It occurred on the day of the Presidential election, in 1840. There was gathered under a large cottonwood tree a party of ten or twelve traders, trappers and hunters of the region, among them Mr. Howard, for the purpose of holding an election for president. General William Henry Harrison seems to have been the unanimous choice of this small assemblage. The oldest trapper was chosen chairman and the youngest trader secretary of the meeting, this Utter calling into requisition the services of Mr. Howard who kept the poll-on a piece of paper torn from a memorandum book. The votes were cast for the candidate direct, and not for electors; and after all had voted the "poll-book" was mailed to the "President of the Senate of the United States." This was the first vote of Mr. Howard for a presidential candidate, and it may be remarked that the meeting was held near the ruins of old Fort Calhoun, beyond the jurisdiction of state or territorial government. The first public station to which Mr. Howard was called, was an appointment by the State Legislature, as commissioner, or one of the commissioners, to locate and construct a turnpike from Fort Meigs to Fort Wayne, or to the Indiana State line. This was about the year 1843. In 1870, he was elected a member of the State Board of Equalization for the real

estate of Ohio. Then, in 1871, he was elected to represent his district as Senator in the Legislature of the State; and, in April, 1887, he was appointed by Governor Foraker, to the board of trustees of the asylum for insane persons at Toledo. These were the leading positions to which Mr. Howard was called; but, he was identified as prominently with the growth and development of Fulton county and Northwestern Ohio as any resident within its borders.

State Representatives.---January, 1852, Lucius B. Lathrop; 1854, Samuel Durgin, 1856, Lucius H. Upham; 1858, Samuel A. Raymond; 1860, Dennison Steele; 1862, Ezekiel Masters; 1864, Octavius Waters; 1866, E. Masters; 1868, Amos Hill; 1872, Ezra Mann; 1876, John Fenton; 1880, Charles L. Allen ; 1884, Albert Deyo; 1888, Estell H. Rorick; 1892, L. G. Ely; 1896, William A. Scott, Jr., 1900, Charles L. Allen; 1904, Frank Briggs.

Immediately following the formation of Fulton county, Lucius, H. Upham located at Delta and opened a law office. He was then in the prime of life, having been born in 1808, in Windsor county, Vermont, and receiving a thorough preliminary education for the active business office at Chester Institute, in his native county. He then came to Ohio and located and lived for several years .it? Wooster, Wayne county, and, in 1841, began studying law with, Judge Levi Cox.. In 1843, Mr. Upham was admitted to the bar, and for the first six years thereafter practiced his- profession at Wooster, from which place he removed to Fulton county. Mr.Upham, R. Lemmon and Amos Hill became citizens of the county about the same time. In 1856, Mr. Upham took his seat as

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a member of the legislature of Ohio, and served one term in the House of Representatives thereof, his constituency being the of Lucas and Fulton.

Octavius Waters was of English birth, but left the land of his nativity to become a sailor at the age of fifteen years. He received his education at an intitution called Guy's Academy, in Worcestershire. During his career as a sailor he visited many portions of the globe, landing finally at New York city, in 1844. Immediately thereafter he came to Ohio and located in Wood county, where he engaged in the work of the Christian ministry, and for several years was known as a devoted and eloquent Methodist clergyman. In 1851, he located in Fulton county, and engaged for a short time in mercantile

pursuits at the village of Delta. Occupying all his leisure time for the next five years in legal study, in 1856 he was admitted to the bar, and at once began practicing law at Delta, at that time the most enterprising and populous place in the county. He was prosecuting attorney of Fulton county for two terms, and a representative for one term in the Fifty-sixth general assembly and served as a Presidential elector at the elections of and Garfield to the Presidency. At the date of his death, which occurred at Delta, he was sixty-four years old. Mr. Waters was very prominent as a Mason, and as a Republican politician.

On June 10, 1850, within a few months after the legal creation of the county, Hon. Amos Hill became one of its residents, and immediately opened a law office. He was a native of Stark county, Ohio and was born April 4, 1824. Early in life he removed with his parents to Williams county, where he grew to young manhood on a farm, receiving in the meantime a good common school education; and teaching school for a brief period. He studied law with the late Hon. S. E. Blakeslee, at Bryan, Ohio, and was admitted to the bar a few months previous to his settlement in Fulton county. He resided at Ottokee, the county seat, until 1870, when he removed to Wauseon, whither the seat of justice had just previously been removed. For the first twenty years of his practice he was recognized among the very foremost of the attorneys of the Fulton county bar. In 1867 he was elected to represent Fulton county in the House of Representatives of Ohio, where he served his constituents with fidelity and ability for four years, having been re-elected in 1869.

John Fenton, who represented Fulton county in the Ohio legislature of 1876, and also officiated as justice of the peace of Fulton township for a period of twelve years, was born in Scotland of Irish parents, in 1825.. He was a successful farmer and a public spirited citizen.

Recorders.—The following occupants of this office are given in the order of their service: C. C. Allman, Joseph Jewell, S. B. Darby, R. H. Howard, J. K. Newcomer, W: H. Stevens, Jr., Richard Taylor, Albert S. Bloomer, Harrison E. Randall, A. M. Lee, George Lee, H. E. Prentiss and Frank W. Zerman.

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Samuel B. Darby, who was the third man to fill the position of Recorder of Fulton county, was one of the early pioneers. He was born in Rutland

county, Vermont, May 28, 1807, and with his parents removed to Allegheny county, New York, in April, 1809. There he grew to manhood and began the life of a farmer, but, in the fall of 1836, Sold his farm and removed west. He entered forty acres on the banks of the Tiffin river, where he lived the remainder of his life, in what was then Lucas county, but which was afterwards made a part of Fulton county. On February 5, 1838, he arrived with his family to take possession of their new home., His possessions were a wife and three children, two pairs of oxen land a wagon, one dollar and seventy-five cents in money and a little provision, with the sheltered side of a stump for a habitation. The country was low, wet and yet destitute of pure water--"water, water everywhere, but not a drop to drink." For neighbors it gave them plenty of Indians, and offered plenty of game, such as bears, wolves, turkeys, deer, etc. Mr. Darby shook his head and thought it looked forbidding, but Mrs. Darby was full of hope; so with stout hearts they pitched their tent and began pioneer life, disposed of one pair of oxen, replenished the stock of provisions, built a cabin home, opened up the woods and looked hopefully toward the future. The following winter, Mr. Darby and a few neighbors built a small school house and Mr. Darby taught, the winter school numbering twelve pupils. He was the first postmaster in the county, his office being on a mail route from Defiance to Medina, Michigan. German township was organized in 1840, and Mr. Darby was elected township clerk, soon afterward justice of the peace, which office he filled the greater part of the remainder of his life, with the exception of three years when he waS county recorder.

Richard Taylor was born in Canandaigua, Ontario county, New York, July I, 1838, and settled with his parents in Fulton county, Ohio, in 1843. He was elected county recorder in 1872.

County Auditors.-1850, Mortimer D. Hibbard; 1850, Alfred C. Hough; 1864, Jason Hibbard; 1866, Ozia S Merrill; 1870, L. G. Ely; 1877, Isaac Springer ; 1883, A. W. McConnell; Thomas Kelley, by appointment ; 1888, A. W. McConnell; 1889, William W. Croninger; 1895, Harrison W. Ely; 1901, James E. Merrill.

County Commissioners.—The record of the proceedings of the board of commissioners properly begins with the June term, 1850, when the first meeting was held after the organization of the county, but owing to the records having been destroyed when the court house was burned, in 1864, it is impossible to give the dates of the election of the gentlemen who were

members of the board prior to that time. However, the names of the commissioners are here given, with the year in which each was inducted into office, Since 1864. In 1850, the first board was composed of Christopher Watkins, William Sutton and Jonathan Barnes. Then followed Warren McCutchen, Stephen Houghton, F. Masters, George Taft, Joel Brigham, James Cornell, William Dye, Henry Jordon, and

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Elias Richardson, the latter entering upon the duties of the office in 1804; 1865, JoSeph Ely; 1866, A. B. Gunn; 1867, Milton O. McCaskey 1868, JoSeph Ely; 1869, A. B. Gunn; 1870, A. B. Thompson; 1871 H. A. Canfield; 1872, Joseph Shadle; 1873, A. B. Thompson; 1874, D. B. Allen; 1875, Joseph Shadle; 1876, A. B. Thompson; 1877, E. L. Barber; 1878, Richard H. Scott; 1879, Charles Blake; 1880, E L. Barber; 1881, Richard H. Scott ; 1882 Charles Blake; 1883, Charles H. Van Ostrand; 1884, James C. Vaughan; 1885, Henry H. Williams; 1886, Sylvester W. Baum; 1887, James C. Vaughan; 1888, Daniel T. Biddle; 1889, George W. Walters; 1890, Jonathan C. Cornell; 1891, Daniel T. Biddle; 1892, George W. Walters; 1893, J. C. Cornell; 1894, William A. Fenton; 1895 James K. Campbell; 1896, Leander Buxton; 1897, William A. Fenton; 1898, James K. Campbell; 1899, Leander Buxton; 1900, Edgar Ritchie; 1901, George D. Newcomer; 1902, Charles H. Stutesman; 1903, E. H. Ritchie; 1904, George D. Newcomer.

Willam Sutton, a member of the first board of commissioners of Fulton county, was born, May 2, 1808, in Seneca county, New York and after reaching manhood lived in Ontario county of the same State until 1835, when he removed to Morenci, Michigan, and engaged in the hotel business. He purchased a farm of 320 acres in Fulton county, and in 1838, removed thereon, where he resided until 1868, when he removed back to Michigan. Mr. Sutton's general business during life was farming, but he was also a first class carpenter; and when he first came West he was engaged as to agent for selling lands by different companies, and was also employed as agent for fine wool sheep. In these occupations he traveled all through the northern and western States.

James Cornell was born in New Jersey and settled in Fulton county in 1839. He was one of the early county commissioners and served in that capacity

three terms.

Abraham B. Thompson was born in Lincolnshire, England, March 5, 1831. When he was but three months old his mother died, and about a year later his father left England and migrated to the United States, leaving three small children entirely dependent upon the kind charity of relatives. The father did not return to England until the year 1848, and at that time Abraham was seventeen years old. Upon the return trip to America he accompanied his father, and they came to Royalton township, Fulton county, where the son lived until he attained his majority, and then started out determined to work his own way. In life, and, above all other considerations, to acquire, at least, a fair business education. After working out by the month for nearly a year, Mr. Thompson attended school at Maumee City, and there he remained as long as he had money to pay his board and tuition, but was finally obliged to give up further study for want of funds. About this time there was considerable excitement over the wonderful gold fields of California, and, in 1854, then being twenty-three years old, young

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Thompson made the journey by the Nicaragua route. Upon reaching San Francisco he was entirely out of money; but by no means discouraged, he borrowed thirty dollars from a friend and started for the mines full of hope and expectation. For about four years he endured the hardships, privations and disappointments of life in the mines, when, in the fall of 1858, he returned to Ohio, having accumulated about \$2,000 in money as the result of his toil. With this he purchased a farm of one hundred and sixty acres, in Amboy township, the improvement and cultivation of which he immediately commenced. He soon became recognized as one of the township's most thrifty farmers and enterprising business men. In 1869, he erected a suitable building and commenced the manufacture of cheese, which industry he continued for year's with the with, most favorable results. In 1875, Mr. Thompson moved to York township, where he built another extensive cheese factory, and until 1883, operated both this and the one in Amboy township, when the latter was sold. While Mr. Thompson was a very busy man in conducting his business affairs, he nevertheless found time to show a patriotic interest in the welfare of his township and county; and in the political history of each he was a prominent figure, as is shown by his various political holdings. He filled with entire satisfaction the offices of

township road supervisor school director (fifteen consecutive years), treasurer, trustee, justice of the peace; and in connection with the county's affairs he filled the important and responsible position of commissioner for nine consecutive years.

Heman Arza Canfield was a native of New York State, born in the town of West Bloomfield, Ontario county, January 25, 1816. Soon after arriving at the age of twenty-one years he came to Ohio and took up a tract of land, two hundred and forty acres in extent located in Chesterfield township, and which was a part of what was been styled the "Oak Openings." As a farmer Mr. Canfield was thrifty, thorough and practical. His farm, when first purchased, was of such land as abounded in the region, forest lands and oak openings, but, through his persevering efforts, it was made one of the best and most productive of the locality. In connection with his agricultural pursuits he is remembered as having been an extensive cattle dealer and drover at an early day, taking live stock as far east as Syracuse, in New York State, and to other markets in that State. At a later period, being found capable and worthy of confidence, he was entrusted with the management of several estates, and in each and every trust reposed in him he answered fully and faithfully its requirements. In the matter of the drainage of the Carroll swamp Mr. Canfield was a prime mover, and although a long and tedious litigation followed, he held firmly to the project, and became, eventually, successful. In the political history of the county, and of his township, too, Mr. Canfield was an influential though not conspicuous person. He never asked for or sought an office, but held nearly every position within the

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gift of the people of the township. From 1871 to 1874, he filled the position of county commissioner, and performed his part with exceedingly good judgment and to good purpose.

Joseph Shadle was one of the first settlers of Dover township He was born in Lebanon county, Pennsylvania, August 6, 1815, and in 1836, removed to Wayne county, Ohio. For several years there he worked a farm upon shares, and then came to Fulton county, where he purchased 60 acres of land upon section two in Dover township, upon which he moved his family, November 13, 1845, and immediately erected a log cabin. He afterwards added to his first purchase several times, until at one time he was the owner of six hundred acres of land, the major portion of which he cleared. He was many

times honored by his township with the offices of trustee and constable, once with the office of land appraiser and later with that of justice of the peace, but for the latter he did not qualify. He was, twice honored with the. office of county commissioner and served his people six years, during the time being instrumental in establishing an infirmary for Fulton county.

David B. Allen was born in East Windsor, Connecticut, March 1, 1809, upon a homestead which came into the possession of the family in 1630. Mr. Allen settled in Clinton township, Fulton county, in 1855, and in addition to the office of county commissioner he served as justice of the peace for ten or twelve years.

County Treasurers.-The gentlemen who filled this responsible in position prior to 1864, were, in the order of their service, Nathaniel Leffett, Isaac Springer, Julius Marsh and L. L. Carpenter. Their successors have been: 1866, A. B. Canfield; 1870, David Ayers; 1874, H. L. Moseley; 1878, Jared M. Longnecker ; 1879, Thomas A. Kelley; 1881, James W. Howard; 1885, John B. Schnetzler; 1889, Jacob S. Newcomer; 1893, A. C. Daniels; 1897, J. F. Grove; 1901, C. E. Guilford.

County Coroners.-1864, W. M. Schnetzler; 1865, Josiah H. Bennett; 1866, John Fenton; 1868, Charles M. Canfield; 1871, John Odell; 1875, S. T. Worden; 1879, Charles E. Bennett; 1883, George W. Hartman; 1887, L. E. Miley; 1892, S. Odell; 1896, Hal. M. Parker; 1901, J. Howard Johnson.

County Surveyors.-1865, John Spillane; 1868, Osceola E. M. Howard; 1871, Anthony B. Robinson; 1883, Lucius B. Fraker; 1892, M. B. Hoyt; 1895, Frank H. Reighard; 1901, John F. Hettinger.

Prosecuting Attorneys, Clerks and Sheriffs.-See chapter on Bench and Bar.

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CHAPTER VIII

RESOURCES AND EARLY ENTERPRISES

AS the main Source of wealth in Fulton county is agriculture, a chapter descriptive of the resources of the county may appropriately be prefaced by an account of the land.

The features of topography are the few streams and the almost total absence of hills, but very few eminences rising above the general level. The county can hardly be said to be a well watered district The largest Stream is the Tiffin river, or, as it is commonly called, "Bean Creek." The general slope of the surface of the county is to the Southeast and quite moderate. The lowest land the county is in the township of Swan Creek, where the surface lies 668 feet above sea level, while in northweStern Gorham the altitude reached is about 825 feet. In the central part of the county, embracing the northern part of Clinton, nearly all of Dover, about three-fifths of Chesterfield, the southeast part of Roylton, the west half of Pike, and the northwest corner of York, is an elevated sandy plateau with an average elevation of about eight hundred feet above sea level. Prior to about the year 1858, there was a vast amount of land lying within the county that was wholly unfit for agricultural purposes, on account of its swampy character, and inasmuch as there were no streams within the county available for water power, there was but little prospect for advancement or progress by way of manufacture, and the inhabitants must, perforce, seek some channel or adopt some means whereby the county might be built up and made productive. This peculiarity of situation, if it may be properly called such, was not entirely single to this locality, but there were several counties similarly situated. Here the climate, the soil and the natural situation of the land showed favorable for good results in agricultural pursuits as soon as the surface of the land could be properly drained of its surplus and sluggish water.

"The Legislature made provision for draining by the ditching process, and by this must the county stand or fall. It can hardly be within the province of this chapter to enter into a detailed narrative of the laws passed by the Legislature from time to time, bearing upon the subject of ditch draining, but sufficient it is to state that such was the fact ; and under this act and its several amendments and supplements has the vast amount of draining been done within this county. While by far the greater part of the draining done in the county has been of that kind known as ditching, still

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there hass been laid by the commissioners, or those acting in the work for them, a large amount of tile, or pipe made from the native clay. The latter is used where it may be laid to advantage. Tile draining is usually done by the individual in cases where he desires to carry the water from some depressed

portion of land to some already established ditch or other stream."

In the year 1859, that ditching commenced in this county under the direction of the county commissioners, and since that time there are but very few square miles of the surface of the county but has in some manner been opened for this purpose. Of course there are localities where this is not necessary, on the more elevated lands of sandy character.

Is a well established fact, the result of scientific research, that the whole country about, this region has at some time, ages ago, been covered with water of unknown depth, and that these waters were constantly changing as if in motion, or by under currents, tides and waves. In the course of ages these waters receded, having found some outlet into the vast bodies of water that now so largely cover the earth's surface. Again, the labors of those who, during the last two hundred years, have devoted themselves to the study of the structure of the globe, have resulted in the creation of the science of geology, and the claim which this department of human knowledge has to science, depends upon the symmetry which has been found to prevail in the arrangement of the materials forming the earth's crust. By the slow process of adding fact to fact and by comparing the observations of the devotees of the science in different lands, it has been found that the rocky strata of the earth hold definite relation to each other in position, hence in age; that many of them are distinguished by constant or general features, and contain characteristic or peculiar remains of plants or animals by which they may be recognized wherever found. This sequence of deposit forms what has been aptly termed the Geological Column,

The indurated rocks, being everywhere covered by a heavy bed of drift, have been reached in this county only by boring, and this only at a few places. A well drilled for oil at Stryker, near the line between Williams and Fulton counties, after traversing 129 feet of drift, met the Huron shale, with a thickness of sixty-eight feet, and underlaid by limestone. Comparing this record with the railroad levels, the base of the Huron shale is shown to be here fifty feet below the level of Lake Erie. Comparing this, again, with the altitude of the same horizon at various points along the Maumee river, it appears that its dip is to the north, or northwest, at the rate of seven or eight feet to the mile. In adjacent portions of Michigan, the dip, so far as known, is in the same direction ; and it is hence presumed to be continuous through the unexplored interval. There is reason to believe, too, that the gradual rise of the county toward the northwest is accompanied by a corresponding and

equal activity of the rock surface. It follows

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as probable that the higher land is underlaid by 500 feet of strata superior to the base of the Huron shale, and that the upper portion of this base belongs to the next Succeeding base—the Waverly. The lower margin of the Huron Shale is in every direction beyond the limits of Fulton county. The stratagraphical data are so unsatisfactory that the map of the county has been made to represent, instead, the features of the surface geology, which in their relation to the distribution of soils are of more interest and importance.

As before stated, the bedded rocks of Fulton county are covered with a heavy sheet of drift, to a depth of from fifty to at least two hundred feet. These are mainly on or near the line of the Air- Line railroad, and the rock struck in each case was the Huron shale—either the characteristic black shale or associated masses of pyrites. At Delta it was drilled through in boring for oil, and found to have a thickness of fifty-five feet. Under it was found twenty feet of soft gray shale, representing the Hamilton group, while the upper part of the Carboniferous group appeared to be quite argillaceous. Comparing the altitudes of these beds in the neighboring counties, Henry and Lucas, where they outcrop, the general dip is found to be to the north and west, and it is probable that its continuance carries them under the Waverly group within the limits of the county. So far as can be judged the greater part of the county is underlaid by Huron shale, and this is covered in the northwest portion by the beds of the Waverly group. In boring for water near the south line of Gorham townShip, a small coal was struck, and was said to have been penetrated to a depth of three and one-half feet overlying it was the blue clay of the drift, but as the underlying material was not determined, it remains uncertain whether the coal was in its original position, or was merely a drift boulder transported from the Michigan coal field. All present information or knowledge tends toward the latter theory, although the nearest outcrops of the coal measures are about forty miles distant.

The geology of the soil is independent of the underlying rocks, and referable exclusively to the drift long after Fulton county, was raised above the sea, as a sort of plain, topped by the ocean-rippled shales of the Waverly series; long after the depression and up-raisings that accompanied the deposit of the carboniferous or coal-bearing rocks to the eastward; and long after the

streams of that ancient time had cut away the rocks to form the valleys nearly as they are today, throughout a period of erosion when the, Alleghany mountains were reduced from a height of five miles to something near their present modest altitudes—after all this, the ice age came and covered the greater part of Ohio with a glacier. Sheet which completely enveloped what is now Fulton county. This county, therefore, has the same glacial history as has all the northern part of the State. Not a Summit is there that stood above the glaciers, and the clay and boulders that mark the drift overlies all the ordinary high land of the county. The areas covered by the

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drift furnish far more varied and fruitful oils than the native rocks and hence the lands in Fulton county take their place among the best lands in the state of Ohio.

During the early settlement of this region, an unexpected source of water wealth developed itself, being artesian or flowing wells. These famous wells, the first of which were developed in Bryan, in 1842, have their source in the Erie clay. They have become so numerous, and the search for them has been so general, that their distribution in this and the adjoining counties is pretty well defined, and some explanation of them may be given. They are found in a belt of country which, in common with the other geological features of the vicinity, has a northeast and southwest trend. Its western limit is the more definite, and, through Defiance county and the southern part of Williams, follows close to the upper beach line ; the belt then follows more to the east, and terminates in Gorham township, Fulton county. Its width varies from two to ten miles, and seems to be affected by the proximity of a deep cutting Stream, as the Maumee river, or the lower course of Bean Creek. The beds of sand are sometimes isolated and dry, and sometimes connected in broad systems, through which water percolates, following the descent of the land west of the upper ridge, it finds its way to the surface at many points, forming springs along the streams; and the water, in neighboring deep wells, rises no higher, or but little higher, than these springs. East of the ridge, the unbroken lacustrine clay cuts off the discharge through springs, as far as the nearest deep-cutting stream. This taps the sand beds, and Bowers the head for some distance ; but the sand, through which the water seeps, affords sufficient resistance to maintain an head near the ridge. The discharge, though copious, is sensibly limited. Every new fountain well diminishes the

flow of those near it, and, as the number of wells in a locality increases, the head is lowered. It is said by older citizens that the fountain head at Bryan has fallen several feet in their recollection, and that many wells, which originally flowed, now have to be furnished with pumps. The source of this ever-welling water, artesian and otherwise, is, of course, higher than the discharge, and, consequently, west of the lake ridges. Its perennial flow suggests a distant reservoir, while the small percentage of its mineral constituents, and their variable character, point to one near at hand. The superficial yellow loam of the Erie clay, is, in great part, meable, and, storing a portion of the water that falls on it, yields it gradually to the underlying sand beds whenever it touches them.

The mineral impurities of the well and spring water of the country are as variable as the constitution of the clay from which they are derived. The usual earthy carbonates, constituting it "hard" water; are always present, though not often in great amount. Oxide of iron, accompanied by sulphydric acid, is very common, and frequently in considerable force, giving a yellow coating to

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the spouts and troughs that convey the water. A few wells, various localities, afford what is called "bitter water." This rendered noxious, and fortunately, at the same time, unpalatable by the presence of iron, alum or perhaps copperas.

The data of the development of agriculture in Fulton county the life story of the pioneers who cleared away the forests, and the sturdy and faithful workers who have been their successors. Concerning them, much information is given in the township chapters of this work. What has been achieved in the fifty-five years since the organization of the county, as well as what are the principal lines of farm work, are told in the figures of the crops of the present, according to the statistics of the year 1904. The principal crop of Fulton county is corn, to which 32,831 acres were devoted in the spring of 1903. The crop of course varies from year to year, but, in 1903, it was 1,353,100 bushels. The wheat crop comes next, for as is well known this cereal does best in the drift lands of the northern part of the State. In fact, the glacial drift through the Old Northwest territory makes possible the great wheat and the wealth of the country. Fulton county had 9,966 acres wheat in 1903, and the yield was 173,507 bushels, according to the agricultural

statisticians. Over twelve thousand acres are devoted to meadow hay, with a product of Seventeen thousand four hundred tons, and 14,371 acres to clover, with a yield of 23,772 tons of that sort of hay. These figures we suppose are given approximately, as everyone is aware that statistical figures of this sort are no more than approximations at the best. The potato crop in 1903 was about 102,000 bushels, the onion crop 2,020 bushels. The yield of oats was 858,426 bushels, of rye, 11,229, and of buckwheat 1,233. There was no broom corn reported in the county, but there were 529 gallons of sorghum made. The maple syrup production was estimated at 380 gallons, and the bees made eight hundred pounds of honey.

The fruit yields, were estimated as follows: One hundred fifty-three thousand bushels of apples, 1,425 bushels of peaches, 391 bushels of pears, 151 bushels of plums, and 658 bushels of other small fruits.

In the way, of live stock the county had 6,056 horses, 15,108 cattle, 23,147 hogs, 12,202 sheep. The wool clip was molt pounds. The milk sold was 227,058 gallons in addition to that used by owners of cows, and over 500,000 pounds of butter were made. The eggs gathered were estimated at 922,792 dozen.

According to the figures of the State board of equalization of taxes there are 143,600 acres of arable or plow land; 57,843 acres of meadow or pasture land, and 52,475 acres besides, classed as uncultivated or wood land, making a total of 253,918 acres of farm lands, which were assigned a value for taxation by the State Board of \$5,042,043.52.

No county in Northwestern Ohio, probably, possesses better elements to guarantee prosperity to an agricultural organization

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than does the county of Fulton. Except the waters that form river and creek channels, there is not a waste acre in the county. An agricultural society was founded, in 1858. D. W. H. Howard, Oliver B. Verity and L. L. Carpenter were prime movers in the enterprise and were prominent in the organization. The first meeting or exhibition of the Fulton County Agricultural Society was held in the fall of the year 1858, on a ten-acre tract of land which the society held under a ten year lease. The place of meeting was at a point in Dover townShip, about a half mile east and nearly a half mile south from

Ottokee, then the county seat. Suitable buildings were erected for keeping the exhibits and other purposes of the Society. The grounds were laid out with a trotting course for competition in trials of speed of horses. At the expiration of the lease of these grounds, the society purchased, in 1865, a tract of about forty acres of land situate on the "west road" leading from Wauseon to Ottokee, and with money borrowed and additional donations of both money and labor, the grounds were fitted so that the first exhibition was held there the Same year. At this place fairs have been held annually, since. The present officers of the society are as follows : A. F. Shaffer, president; D. W. Williams, secretary; G. W. Howard, treasurer; directors, S. W. Sipe, W. H. Standish, G. W. Lee, B. 1. Prickett, L. Buxton, L. Shadle, G. W. Howard, W. L. Biddle, H. G. Zeller, T. H. A. F. Shaffer, B. F. Gasche, Byron Brink, F. H. Lamed, C. A. Hayes, and D. W. Williams.

In 1883, the Northwestern Ohio Fair Company was organized, mainly by W C. Kelly, J. S. Newcomer and E. S. Callender. The association secured a tract of land just north of Wauseon, at a place easy of access and within convenient walking distance. Meetigs ere held annually for a few years, when for some reason or other they ceased and the society went out of existence.

The first efforts of the pioneers were, of course, after providing . A shelter, to raise something to eat. There was game in abundance son, __venison wild turkey and bear meat. Corn was the great cereal crop and out of it was made a coarse meal and corn bread, and a good deal of whiSkey. Wheat was grown, and in time took the place of corn as an article of human food. Potatoes were easily, grown but were not so popular then as now Fruit was, of course, vary rare at first, but there was an abundance of wild berries which served very well.

Next to food the great necessity was clothing, and it was no small task to obtain it from "back east" unless one were content with what the new country afforded. The home manufacturer of buckskin clothes was not uncommon, as well as the weaving of flax shirts. "Linsy-woolSy" suits were considered full dress, except for the dandies or the city men of imposing rank and station. Buckskin was considered good material for moccasins until tanneries were introduced, and then men skilled in the handling of leather went from cabin to cabin to make footwear for the people.

Following the most primitive manufactures came the production of woolen yarn and cloth, flouring and saw mills, blacksmith shops and forges.

The pioneer farmers in some sections engaged in the manufacture of corn meal themselves, using what was facetiously termed the "Armstrong" mill. A solid stump was cut square on the top and a cavity burned out in it, and when cleaned out this became the mortar, in which corn was put and vigorously pounded. The product was sifted through sieves made by stretching deer hides, when green, over hoops, and puncturing with small holes when dry. Coffee mills of good size were brought into Ohio by many settlers, and some member of the family was kept busy at the grinding.

The first water power mills of the settlers were "corn crackers," supported by two large canoes anchored in some stream where the current was rapid. Between the boats was left a chute for the water, in which the motor wheel hung and revolved. Primitive methods, such as have been described above, may not have been employed by the first settlers in the present limits of Fulton county, but the older people will call to mind by the descriptions given the story of the hardships experienced in the earlier days of Ohio's history.

Water power was, of course, chiefly depended upon for the early industries, wherever the same was obtainable, but as Fulton county was sadly deficient in that particular, water mills were not very plentiful. The introduction of steam power, however, overcame the difficulty, and the early grist mills were mostly run by steam.

No grist-mills were ever run in York township, outside of the village of Delta, and the one there is a roller process mill which does a large and profitable business, both in home and foreign trade. A water saw-mill was built on Bad Creek, above Delta, in the early 40's, which was later moved to Delta and used in making plank for the "plank road." It could be run during only a small part of the year, because of insufficient water. It was owned by Thomas Bayes and James McQuillen. Culver, Compton & Co. built the first grist-mill in Amboy township, in 1845. It was the only one ever built in the township.

Clinton township never had a grist-mill until the laying out of Wauseon, to which point all the subsequent industries of the township have centered. The

early settlers usually went to Canandaigua, Michigan, to mill, and SometimeS to Medina, Adrian or Palmyra, all in Lenawee county, Michigan. At some seasons of the year they would go to Maumee, Waterville or Texas, upon the Maumee river, and to Brunersburg, using three or four days to make the trip. John H. Williams, an early settler, in speaking of those trips, said : "The nights were very dreary, caused by their darkness. We often started from these points after the commencement of nightfall, and traveled all night, and in the thick timber often lost our way, but in the 'oak openings, as they were known,

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the light was generally better. We always had plenty of music of those long nights of our journey homeward, and reached the cabin at various hours of the morning. This music we did not always enjoy, especially when alone. In the dark forests at night might be seen the driver holding on to the end of the yoke, and the cattle making their own way, and if undisturbed all would reach home in safety."

In 1856, Rensselaer S. Humphrey built a steam grist-mill in Gorham township and operated the same for a few years in partnership with Dr. Joseph O. Allen. It was the first grist-mill in the township and the only one at this day located at Fayette. Inhabitants section, in 1836, and for a number of years thereafter, who desired to get to a grist-mill, had to carry their grain to Tecumseh, where, without doubt, was built the first mill north of the Maumee river, unless near Detroit.

The early German SettlerS of German township had little to eat for a long time except corn bread, and they ground a large portion of the meal between two stones, one above and one below, and manipulated the Same by hand. They had no place to get grinding done in the whole country, short of Maumee. This journey was long, expensive and tedious, and seldom undertaken. Soon after this German colony was settled they found themselves nearly out of provisions, and flour at Maumee at that time, 1834, was worth fifteen dollars per barrel, and Some of the men started on the long journey in quest of food. This was about the last of August, 1834, and during their absence there came to the settlement one Captain Williams with a party of chainmen and axmen ; also with the party was Ambrose Rice of Perrysburg, who was the surveyor, laying out the State road from Maumee through the Six Mile Wood's, via Delta, through York, Clinton and German,

to West Unity. They were weary and suffering for something to eat, and seeing a fine baking of bread, clean and tempting, wanted to buy it, but the women would not sell it as that was all they had. But the surveying party must have the bread, and after making the women all reasonable offers to no avail, they took all the bread that was necessary for a few days use, leaving a generous compensation therefor, and went on with their work. George and William Johnson came to the German settlement in 1836, from England, and bought a large property on Bean Creek, on which they afterward built what was called Johnson's Mills, a saw and grist-mill. These mills were built in 1841, and were located on the State road, two miles west of Burlington. They were both water mills, situated on the bank of Bean Creek. Johnson's Mills had the reputation of making forty-two pounds of good flour and twelve pounds of bran and shorts from a bushel of good wheat, besides the toll.

Asher Bird settled on section eight in Franklin township, in 1837, and that year built the first water-mill on Mill Creek, which gave it the name it bears at the present time. This was the first

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grist-mill built and run in the township, and was owned by Mr. Bird until his death, in 1842. It was abandoned at a very early date, 1849 or 1850. This was, without doubt, the first regular gristmill in Fulton county. In 1850, George Kibler built a grist-mill in connection with a Saw-mill, and run them until his death, in 1864, when they passed to other parties, and were soon abandoned. These were both water mills and were built on Mill Creek. No industry of this kind, by water or steam, is carried on today within the present limits of Franklin township. As early as 1837 or 1838, Albert Chatfield built a Saw-mill on Bean Creek and carried on quite an extensive business for many years, but the mill has long since fallen into decay. A grist-mill was built near the old Saw-mill, many years after, and after running a few years was burned.

In the fall of 1834, John W. Harter, the first settler in Fulton township, finding the Six Mile Woods settling apparently with permanent inhabitants, went back to Huron county, his former home, and induced a mill-wright by the name of Bryant Hanly to accompany him back to his new residence. In the Spring of 1835, they built a grist-mill on Mr. Harter's land, which was known as the "Horse Mill." Mr. Hanly superintended its construction, and

Thomas C., Nicholas Q., and William Berry did the most of the work. The two last named sawed all the lumber for the mill with a whip saw. This was done by rolling a log on a skidway, high enough for one man to stand under the log to manage the lower end of the saw, who was designated as the "pit-sawyer." The top sawyer stood on the top of the log and managed the upper end of the saw. It required great muscular power to run this kind of a saw-mill, the first in Fulton township, but that was a qualification possessed by Nicholas Q. and William Berry, far above the average man. The horse mill had a grinding capacity of from two to five bushels per hour. The horse would trot around the circle designated, hitched to a sweep sixteen feet long but horses being very scarce, oxen had to be used on many occasions for the propelling power to the mill. On such occasions the motion proved too slow for doing good work, and through the mechanical skill of Thomas C. Berry, the mill was geared so that oxen could be successfully used. The bolt of this mill was turned by hand, similar to turning a grind-stone, and although the flour made would hardly compare with the roller process of today, those pioneers ate their bread and cake with as good a relish, and yet enjoyed their buckwheat cakes and corn dodgers, prepared from the flour thus obtained, as we of today with all our modern mill improvements. Many of the settlers had no teams, and they would carry their grist of wheat, corn or buckwheat, on their shoulders, or haul, in the winter season, on hand sleds to this mill, some two to six miles, guided only by blazed trees or Indian trails, and in many instances returning long after dark. This mill, in 1849, was moved one mile south on Swan Creek, and converted into a

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water-wheel by Harter & Stair. It sustained a good mill reputation and proved to be of great convenience to the early Settlers. Pilliod Brothers, in 1887, put up a flouring mill at Swanton, which is still in successful operation, and a grist-mill was built at Ai, in Miles Hayes.

David Salsbury, at his residence upon the south side of Pike township,, in the first settlement, ran a feed mill for grinding corn, was was constructed by dishing out a large black walnut Stump as a mortar, and preparing a large, heavy Stone, corrugated with the chisel and pick, and hung in a frame work fixed so that it could be raised from the depression in the stump and then attached in a sweep drawn round and round by oxen, the first power. This for a time made for the inhabitants a good corn meal, which saved much valuable time of the settlers, who would otherwise have been compelled to

go to Maumee, through the country without roads or bridges. The mill was afterward changed to one of more modern date, as soon as means could be obtained to buy one, and it served the inhabitants for a number of years, the frame work and the old stump being visible up to 1850 or later.

About 1857-8, a grist-mill was put up at Spring Hill, in Dover township, and did a good business until it was burned down; in 1860. It was rebuilt, but afterward moved away.

Of these early flour producers of Fulton county, some deserve especial mention. Rensselaer S. Humphrey was one of the pioneers of the county, and settled in Gorham township in 1843. He and one of the first to clear up the land where Fayette now stands, and built the first frame house and the first schoolhouse in Gorham township. In 1844, he cut the road out which is now the principal street of Fayette; in 1847, built a steam saw-mill, the first in the township; in 1850, built a store and blacksmith shop, and in 1857, a steam grist-mill. He was a member of the board of education for twenty-one years, and township trustee three terms. He was born in the State of New York, July 29, 1821. Dr. Joseph O. Allen, who was a partner of Mr. Humphrey in some of his early enterprises, was also born in the State of New York, in 1830, and settled in Fulton county in 1851. He served as township treasurer ten years, and also as member of the board of education and on the village council.

Any amount of material exists in Fulton county for the manufacture of brick and tile, and in any township that industry can be made to pay if properly developed. In Amboy township, clay suitable for brick-making can be found in abundance, but, as yet, comparatively few bricks have been made there. Joseph Roop made the first brick in that township and carried on the industry for many years. Many of the old settlers yet show the brick which was manufactured by Joseph Roop, still used in comfortable dwellings. John Reis, in the eastern part of the township, for years carried on the tile and brick making business to quite a large ex-

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tent, and the brick and tile there manufactured were entirely used by the farmers.

George Mikesell manufactured the first brick in Clinton township, and it is

thought, in Fulton county. In 1838, he burned, a kiln of brick on his farm just west of Wauseon, near the present residence of Campbell Bayes, for the purpose of securing brick for a large fire-place and chimney in the residence he was then constructing. The next year, 1839, John Tigert established a brick yard in the northern part of York township, which was in operation for about fifteen years. In 1840 or 1841, Shipman Losure established a yard for the manufacture of brick, a little over a mile northeast of the present site of Wauseon, and brick was turned out there until some time during the early 60's, when the enterprise was abandoned. About 1848, Elisha Williams and sons, southeast of Wauseon, established a brick kiln, and burned a sufficient quantity of brick to build a large dwelling house for the family, besides disposing of a quantity to others. About 1863, one was established in Wauseon, and brick was burned for the purpose of building the Brooker block. Frederick Brooker was the proprietor and the factory was kept in operation for about twenty years. Of the two brick yards now in Wauseon, one was established in the late 70's, and the other a few years later, probably about 1883. They are each doing a flourishing business. Clay, suitable for brick and tile making, can be found in abundance all over Clinton township, with good sand for tempering. Many tiles have been used in this township, with some from their first manufacture, years ago.

Tile and brick were first made in Pike township by E. M. Strong, who conducted the business for a great many years, until 1877, when he abandoned it.

Brick, tile and pottery were first made in Dover township by Eben French (familarly known as "Old Man French"), who put up an oven near what was known as "Chatfield's Corners," where he made all kinds of pottery, which was peddled through the country at a very early date, about 1846. He also made brick in small quantities, and made the first tile that was ever manufactured in the county. Mr. French also put up a kiln and burned brick on the land afterwards owned by Levi McConkey. Brick were made soon after by Joseph Shadle, and the manufacture was continued for a number of years on his farm, south of Ottokee, but stopped in 1865, after burning brick enough for the new county buildings, then being erected. "Long Bill" Jones, in 1839, made brick on the farm afterward owned by DeWitt Williams, and this was as early as any were made in that township. The last brick made in the township were made by Amasa B. Verity, upon the premises owned by the late Oliver, B. Verity. Tile was manufactured for one or two years, at the saw-mill of James Kahle.

Of the mercantile establishments of early days mention is made in the various township chapters. We will state here, however,

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that the freight wagons which gave Fulton county merchants their transportation facilities to the canal, thence reaching the East and South, have long since become obsolete, their places being taken by the railroads. Of these, the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern has twenty-five miles of main track and the same number of miles of second track and sidings in the county; the Wabash system, thirty miles of main track, and the Detroit Southern, sixteen miles of main track. The total for the county is seventy-one miles of main track and twenty-five miles of second track and sidings. These roads pay nearly, \$40,000 taxes annually upon their property in the county.

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CHAPTER IX

EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

THE first schools in what is now Fulton county were supported by subscription of by assessment upon the patrons, according to the number of children they sent to school. True, the law requiring the establishment of public schools in Ohio went into, effect in 1825, but it was a good while after that before anything closely resembling the common school system of today had been evolved. But it should not be hastily, concluded from this that education was entirely neglected. Parents who could afford it gave their children the advantages of good schools, as good as could be maintained, and among those which were very poor there was much self-sacrifice that the children might be educated and prepared for better success than their fathers and mothers had attained in the struggle of life. Some very poor boys in Ohio, in that period when there were no conimon schools, supplemented the little schooling they could obtain by fire-light reading, and' so beginning, became in later years the great men of the State, and a few of them the greateSt men of the nation. The difference, comparing the present with the early days in Fulton county, is that now the schools are open without cost to

boys and girls, without regard to their family importance or family wealth, and it is no disgrace to attend a free school. Then it was, and free schools were sometimes called "pauper" schools. So, it may be observed, we are more truly democrat today, in this, than the fathers were who considered themselves the special champions of human equality.

This clearly illustrates a point which is, too often overlooked, by those who pretend to think upon economic or social questions. The righteousness of the principle of human equality (not, in mental or physical endowment, but as heirs to the blessings Providence) is recognized inherently by all mankind. And might say with considerable historical accuracy that there has never been a time when this principle was not advocated, more or less, and oftentimes, by those who in practice encouraged or enslaved their fellow-men. The individual is the creature of social conditions, and so long as conditions were such that only the poorest of the poor rejoiced over the introduction of the common school system, the more opulent ones, with a heartlessness, which is too often a companion of wealth, sought to render the movement unpopular by stigmatizing those feeble institutions.

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learning. How great has been the change and how much we have improved in three-quarters of a century! With the record of the past before him, it would be a reckless man, it seems, who would attempt to limit the possibilities of the future. Socialism is, or should be, a growth or advancement towards better social conditions; and those who meet the arguments of the over-zealous advocates of Universal Brotherhood with the time-worn expression, "It is impossible, Sir," base their reasoning and conclusion (unconsciously, however), upon premises that cannot be denied — their own unfitness for such a Utopian state. Altruism will not displace egoism as the result of a statutory enactment — the change must be evolutionary in its nature. And the common school system of America is a powerful factor in the onward and upward movement.

The first school taught in the western part of York township was by Mrs. Emily Spencer, wife of the late William Spencer (son of Rev. Uriel Spencer), and was kept in the house of Uriel Spencer, afterward owned by Samuel Biddle. This was in 1837. A year or two later, Miss Sophronia Flghart taught a winter term of six weeks and three days, at the same place, and received sixty-two and one-half cents per week, boarding herself at

home. These six were kept near the York and Clinton line, east of Wauseon. The first schoolhouse built in York township stood upon the Willard Trowbridge farm, one mile west of Delta. There are, at the present time, thirteen subdistricts in that township, besides one graded school in Delta, all in a very flourishing condition.

The first schoolhouses were built of course in most instances of logs, and considering the abundance of timber, they could well have been constructed much larger and more commodious. A description of one of them would doubtless answer for all. The desks were placed around the wall, and the seats were mostly made of basswood logs, split into halves. Upon these rude and

uncomfortable seats, pupils of all ages and conditions were compelled to sit the six hours per day of school. These pioneer schoolhouses were in strange contrast with the light, airy and commodious school buildings in every district in the county today; and yet it is a fact that as much solid work was done by the pupils in those early school buildings as in the more elegant ones of the present. Wood was furnished by the patrons in proportion to the number of children sent. Often; it was drawn to the schoolhouse by the parents, in the log, and cut up by the pupils.

Most of the pupils, found their way through the woods to the schoolhouses, roads being comparatively unknown. Along these school trails they went to school, and at night to spelling schools, lighting their way, in the night time, with torches made from the bark of hickory, trees.

The old-fashioned spelling school is seldom now heard of, but it is doubtful if any modern entertainment can equal it in interest

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or in lasting benefit to the participants. The young people would go miles to attend one of these events. It was district against district, and it was wonderful how each would back their champions. The method was different at times in spelling down: Sometimes they would stand up and, spell around, and the last one up was the winner. Another method, and by some thought to be a more thorough test, was to stand up two and two, and the one who was able to spell the whole crowd down in that way would carry off the championship. Those friendly mental contests were often very exciting and continued until late into the night. Webster's Elementary spelling book was used for many years, and finally gave way to McGuffey's.

That the pupils in out, common schools then were much better Spellers than now is beyond all queStion.

There was a general uniformity of school books throughout the county, McGuffey's readers, the old edition, being introduced into the schools at an early period. Previous to that, other books were used as readers, the New Testament being prominent among them. No uniformity in regard to arithmetics was practiced until the adoption of Ray's series, and these have been in quite general used since. His Third Part, or Practical, was the standard for many years, and there are many who think it has never been excelled. for the purpose for which it waS designed. No particular system. of penmanship was ever taught, being as various and ever changing; as were the teachers. Davies' algebra was at first used by the advanced pupils, but it was supplanted by Ray, who has ever since apparently held the ground.

Thirteen schoolhouses furnish the facilities for education to the children of Swan Creek township, and the average yearly attendance is about three hundred pupils. All these school buildings are frame or brick, the old log houses having entirely disappeared. Educational interests were somewhat slow in developing-- in Swan Creek, especially in the southern part of the townshicwhere the people were very poor. The land was marshy, miasmatic troubles plagued the residentS a great deal; and to add up these difficulties, a large part of the soil was owned by non-residents and speculators. These illS were all banished by the application of one treatment—ditching. Marvels were wrought in the increased productiveness of the land, the purification of the: atmosphere to such a degree that it became as healthful as any other locality; churches and convenient schoolhouses made their. apearance, and evidences of material thrift and mental cultivation were soon visible everywhere. It may be a slight digression, but as this is a chapter on Educational Development the writer din not refrain from calling attention to an object lesson which presents itself in this connection, local perhaps in interest, but widespread in application. The cost of, ditching being charged as a tax on the land values of Swan Creek townShip, the speculators, Soon disposed of their real eState there, and it was then divided

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and sub-divided, going into the hands of resident owners, who have cleared, ditched and otherwise improved it. Could any argument be more potent than this in portraying the evils of land monopoly, or more convincing in showing

the good results that follow the taxing of land values alone?

There are five school districts in Amboy township, located as follows: One upon the south side of section 4, one upon section 7, one upon section 16, one upon section 29, one upon section 26, and a special district at Metamora. All of the districts have well built houses.

In the very first days of Chesterfield township there were no schools for a year or two, and the children were taught at home by the mother or elder daughter until such time as the population would warrant a school building. The first attempt of the people to levy a tax for school purposes failed at the first election, but at the second it was carried by a majority vote of the people, and soon thereafter provision was made for a school. Accordingly, the inhabitants hastily constructed a school house on section 16, on the northeast corner, just south of the Hawley cemetery. Butler taught the first school in the winter of 1837, and this was the first school ever taught in the township. At that time, Chesterfield included the greater part of Gorham, and the northern half of Dover, running to the Fulton line on the south. The township has no schools except the common schools of the state, of which it contains seven in sub-districts, in all of which they have improved structures, either brick or wood, and all are in a flourishing condition and the pride of the township.

The first schoolhouse built in Royalton township was on section 15, in 1837, and the first teacher was Olive Green. The second schoolhouse was on the farm of Amos Rathbun, who built the same. In 1858, Warren J. Hendrix built and taught for a number of years thereafter, a high school at Lyons. Royalton has now six sub-district schools and one special school.

The first school taught in Clinton township was by Erastus Briggs, and it was held in the cabin first put up by Elisha Williams. The first schoolhouse was built on the land of John Lozer, section 15, but was not used long. In 1840, one was built at the center of section 14, which was used about six years. Other parts of the township put up buildings and began schools about the same time. The house on section 14 had a brick fireplace and chimney, the brick being made by John Tigert. The present number of school districts of the township is twelve, added to which one special joint district at Pettisville, the schoolhouse being located in Clinton township. Other than these there is one graded school in the village of Wauseon. All districts are provided with substantial, well built structures. In 1881, an institution of

learning was established at Fayette, called the Fayette Normal, Music and Business College. It continued in operation at the above named place until 1888, when it was moved to Wauseon and con-

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tinued under the name of the Northwestern Collegiate Institute. A fine new building was erected and the school flourished during the six years of its existence in Wauseon, but at the close of the school year, in 1894, it ceased to exist and no more sessions were held. The building has since been used by the excellent high school of Wauseon.

The first organized school district in the township of Gotha was in the Cottrell settlement, in 1836, and a log school house w built upon the southwest corner of the northwest quarter of section 21. In 1842, another district was organized in the "Snow Settlement," andl a frame schoolhouse was built by R. S. Humphrey, it being the first frame schoolhouse in the township. about this period another school district was organized in there part, and a log schoolhouse was built. Oliver B. Verity taugh the winter school of 1844 and '45, at fourteen dollars per mont and boarded around, which all teachers of that age did—a practical that never went out of date until the adoption of the free school; system, in 1854. Thus began school education in Gorham township, and the demand for other districts kept apace with the jinx provement and population. The township now has eight schod districts, and one joint sub-school district in the southeast corner besides a special school district for Fayette. Lucinda Rog taught the first school in Gorha,m township, commencing in May 1836, in the Cottrell district. She commenced her school under the jurisdiction of the territory of Michigan and ended it under the jurisdiction of Ohio. As the teacher got her wages by a "ratc bill," the transfer did not interfere, as the bill was collected of the parents of those attending the school. This schoolhouse was used for about fifteen years far school and church purposes, combined, and was standing as late as 1862. The first school in the southwest part of the township was taught in a log building and was, in an early day, known as the Severance Schoolhouse. It was situated in the southeast corner of section 26, but it had no legal organization and was supported by subscription. Elizabeth, Freeman, afterwards the wife of Waldron Severance, taught there in the summer of 1842. In 1845, a frame schoolhouse was build on the northwest corner of section 35, and was painted red, as will be remembered by many of

the inhabitants living at the present time,. Miss Minerva Cottrell, daughter of Asa Cottrell and later the wife of George Acker of Morenci, Michigan, was the first teacher in the red schoolhouse. It has since been changedr and the district center located on the south side of section 26. There are no small districts in the township, and it can boast ou as good schools as any in the county. Fayette is a special school district. The public school building is a large and convenient brick structure, with four departments, and has an average attendance of about one hundred and fifty pupils. The establishment of the Fayette Normal, Music and Business College has already been mentioned, as has its removal to Wauseon, 1888. Appreciating the value of such an educational institution, the pea

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ple of Fayette immediately set about securing another school of like nature, and, in September, 1888, the Fayette Normal University was opened to students. This school flourished exceedingly for a number of years, but finally the citizens of Fayette became convinced that its presence in their midst militated against the complete success of their graded schools. Consequently, they withdrew the necessary support from the institution, and at the close of the school year, in the Spring of 1905, the Fayette Normal University closed its doors and went out of existence. There are is now in Fulton county, other than those supported by taxation.

The first school in German township was taught in the winter of 1839-40, by Samuel B. Darby. The first Schoolhouse built in the township was on the State road, one-half mile west of Burlington, the pioneer teacherS were, beSides Mr. Darby, Milton Zouver, Harriet Schnall, Miss Baker, Miss Shipman, Mary Ann Prettyman, Miss Geesey, and Miss Darby. Wages of lady teachers at that period were all the way from one to two dollars per week and board; and for male teachers not less than twelve dollars per month and board. The township has at present fifteen districts, and one graded School for the village of Archbold.

Samantha Crandall taught the first school in the bounds of Franklin township, in the old cabin of Joseph Bates, She had to cross Bean Creek on a felled tree across the stream, evening and morning, and wade through Swales and water to and from school. Her mother taught the next School. Both of these ladies died about 1850. The time of Samantha Crandall's teaching was in the year 1836, and it was conducted as a private school for

the neighboring families. This cabin stood on Section 2, on what is now known as the Shilling farm, and afterwards, Miss Jane Brundridge taught school there. The second Schoolhouse was also a log cabin and was erected by Samuel B. Darby, on the east bank of Bear Creek, near Darby's land, and the latter gentleman taught the first School there, in the winter of 1839. In 1842, a new frame schoolhouse was built on the same site. The Asher Ely school district was organized in 1845, and a hewed log cabin was built for the district. The first teacher was Augustus Porter. The Methodists and Presbyterians used this house for a long time as a place of worship. Franklin now has seven school districts and one joint school district, formed from German and Franklin. Sub-district No. 4 has the remarkable record of having produced over forty teachers, five doctors, three lawyers, three merchants, two jewelers, one minister, one professor, one editor, one portrait artist, one railroad conductor, one telegraph operator and one commercial traveler. This is a record, the equal of which few country schools can boast.

In November, 1837, the pioneers of Fulton township built a log schoolhouse in what was known as the Clark district. It was barren of desks, but Isaac Day, wishing his daughter to learn to

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write, put in a writing desk for her use. Gideon W. Raymond taught the first school in this house, in 1837, and afterward taught the At school some four years. Joseph Babcock follow Mr. Raymond as a teacher in this district. He was a school teacher of the first class and took great pleasure in his school work. Samuel Durgin taught the at School for a number years, and for a long time was county school examiner. The schoolhouse built in Fulton township, however, was in 1836, the southeast corner of the east half of the northeast quarter section ten. It was built of logs, and was finished and furnish without taxing the land—all contributed. It was "chinked" a plastered with mud from the adjoining soil. It had a fire-place made of clay and sticks built up "cob house style," and cropping out just above the ridge of the roof, and plastered upon the in with clay mortar. This formed a safe as well as a comfor heating apparatus. The seats were made of logs about ten inch in diameter, and ten or twelve feet in length, and split into halt? and hewed to smooth them upon the Split side. They were thew mounted, the split Side up, on wooden logs of proper height the pupils. For writing desks they bored holes into the logs three feet from the floor, into' which they drove pins, proj in the room far enough to Support a board or slab placed on pins. For windowS they would

cut out one log the whole length of the building, and stop the opening with oiled paper. This would admit some light, and keep out the cold. Some were furnished with glass, 7 by 9, and when this schoolhouse was complete with a good fire nearly the entire length of one end of the building furnished a good and comfortable institution for training the young minds successfully in the elementary branches. Another schoolhouse, of the same character, was built the next winter stated above, in the Clark neighborhood. Others of like description were "built as the township was settled. In 1842, the frame schoolhouse was built by David Springer, at Ai, which afterward moved across the street and remodeled for a dwelling. Another schoolhouse was soon after built in the Dodge, or Witt district, and they rapidly became numerous. Miss Julia Chamberlain, with her sister (who became Mrs. Samuel Durgin) came to Fulton township in 1837, and taught the first school in a small log schoolhouse, which stood where the present school building now stands, in the Ai district. The wages paid teachers from 1837 to 1850, was from twelve to fifteen dollars per month, and from one to two, dollars per week allowed for female teachers boarding around among the families in the district. Miss Harriet O'Brien taught the first Summer term in the Clark district, but being taken sick, Miss Huldah Merrill finished the term. Among the early teachers were Messrs. Reed, Luther Dodge, Miss Almeda Doughty, A. Sawyer, Samuel Durgin, G. W. Raymond, Miss Lucy Clough, Margaret Emery, Jonathan Woods, Joseph Babcock, Ezra

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Tunison, John Clendening, Miss Julia Chamberlain, Harriet O'Brien, Huldah Merrill and Miss Eleanor Johnson.

The first school taught in Pike township was in 1835, in an old log hut standing at a very early day upon the knob where the Salisbury cemetery is now located. It was afterwards removed to Thomas Silsby's corner, and Michael Handy taught there the first winter after he came to the county, in 1840. Caroline Trowbridge taught the first School. The township now contains six school districts, supported by good buildings, and an advanced step in education has been taken in this township.

Soon after the organization of Dover township, in 1843, it was divided into two School districts, one at Spring Hill and the other at Ottokee. Soon after

was organized another, called the Waid district, and next in order was a district in the northwestern part of the township; and still later, district No. 5, where all elections are held. The last district, No. 6, in the northeast part of the township, was organized about 1864. By an act of the legislature of Ohio, in 1876, Spring Hill district was set apart as a special school district and a fine brick Schoolhouse was built, suitable for all needs. The first male teacher who taught in Dover, it is said, had his pupils spell United States, commencing Y-o-u, but the township was soon after fortunate in securing a better grade of teachers. A. J. Canfield, Rev. J. R. Hibbard, Mortimer D. Hibbard, Michael Handy, and Miss Amelia Hibbard (who became Mrs. Derwin Butler) and many others taught as good common schools as were generally found at that day. Wages for males, ten to thirteen dollars per month dollars and board around, and for females, six to eight and board around. This was paid by rate bills.

Fulton county now has in the township districts 108 schoolhouses for the elementary schools; in the separate districts 10 elementary and three high, making a grand total of 121 school building with 164 rooms. The value of the school property in the township districts is \$96,750; in the separate districts, \$107,500; making an aggregate of \$204,250. One hundred and sixty-eight teachers are employed, teaching thirty-four weeks in the township schools and from thirty-four to thirty-six in the others, at salaries ranging from \$30 to \$68 per month. The enumeration of children of school age (between 6 and 21) is 6,490. The actual enrollment of pupils is 79 per cent of the enumeration in the township districts and 88 per cent in the separate districts. There are no high schools in the township districts, but there are nineteen in the separate districts. The average cost of tuition of the pupils led is \$8.32 in the elementary schools of the township districts, and \$7.23 in the elementary and \$19.38 in the high schools in the separate districts. The county received from the State, mainly from the common school fund, \$13,431.54 for the support of education in 1904; from local taxation, \$62,955.25; from the sale of bonds, \$34,865.74; from all other sources, \$3,162.48; making the total receipts but little less than \$114,500, to which should be

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added a balance on hand, September 1, 1903, of \$31,963.67, swelling the aggregate funds to \$146,378.68. Out of this there was paid \$38,888.11 to teachers in elementary schools, and \$9,122.65 to teachers in high schools;

\$450 for supervision, \$1,127.80 on buildings and grounds, \$7,058.40 on bonds and interest, and \$22,540.99 for all other purposes, making an aggregate expenditure of \$79,187.95. On September 1, 1904, the close of the fiscal year, the balance on hand was \$67,190.73.

In the county there are the village and Special districts of Archbold, C. G. Mueller, superintendent, and school property valued at \$20,550, annual expenditures, \$5,390.38; Delta, G. R. Anderson, superintendent, property valued at \$35,000, annual expenditures, \$6,852.44.; Fayette, G. J. Tripp, Superintendent, property valued at \$8,000, annual expenditures, \$3,660.82; Lyons, E. F. Watkins, superintendent, property valued at \$3,500, annual expenditures, \$1,494.52; Swanton, C. O. Castle, superintendent, property valued at \$4,000, annual expenditures, \$8,902.90; and Wauseon, C. J. Biery, superintendent, property valued at \$25,000, annual expenditures, \$10,170.96.

The county examiners of teachers are C. J. Biery, C. O. Castle and W. H. Murphy. The teachers have a county institute annually, and two additional county meetings.

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CHAPTER X

BENCH AND BAR

THE establishment of courts of justice and the installation of the necessary officials were naturally the first work attending the organization of Fulton county. Under the old Constitution of 1802, which was in vogue at the time of the organization, the Supreme Court had jurisdiction, both and appellate, original and auxiliary to it, was the Court of Common Pleas. On the adoption of the present Constitution, March 10, 1851, the District, Common Pleas and county Probate Courts assumed jurisdiction.

During the period of the old Constitution, the plan of having three citizens act as associate judges—theoretically Supporting the legal subtleties of the president judge with their native shrewdness and knowledge of human nature—was continuously in operation. The associate judges in the Fulton county Common Pleas court, in its short existence under the old regime, were John Kendall, Alfred C. Hough, Socrates H. Cately and William E. Parmalee.

Under the Constitution of 1802, the State was divided into three circuits, for each of which the legislature elected a President Judge; and the associate judges, sitting with him, constituted the court of Common Pleas. The districts were changed from year to year and increased in number, and when Fulton county was organized, in 1850, it became a part of the Thirteenth Circuit, which included several counties in Northwestern Ohio. Having given a list of names of those who served as associate judges for Fulton county under the old Constitution, it may here be mentioned that the first and only circuit judge who presided in Fulton county, prior to the adoption of the new Constitution, was Judge John H. Palmer of Paulding county. In accordance with the provisions of the creative act, to which reference has been made in a former chapter, the first term of the Court of Common Pleas held in Fulton county, was held in Pike township at the house of Robert Howard, who kept an old-fashioned inn or tavern. It being the purpose of this chapter, as its heading imports, to sketch the character and career of the respective members of the Fulton bench and bar, no description will be attempted of this first session of court. Besides, it would be futile to do so, as all official records were lost in the fire that consumed the court house at Ottokee, in 1864.

The Supreme Court had its origin in the ConStitution of 1802, which provided for three members, with permission to the legislature to add another. This court was required to meet once a year in

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each county, a regulation that would be preposterous in 1905; but in 1802, with a few widely scattered counties, that was obviously the most convenient way of serving the people and the ends of justice, Until 1851, this custom of an annual session of the Supreme Court continued, but it is doubtful if any were ever held in Fulton county. This Supreme Court had both original and appellate jurisdiction and important criminal cases were usually tried before it. Thus, until 1851, the supreme judges were peripatetic, holding court in all the counties.

The Constitution adopted in 1851 provided for a Supreme Court, such as the people are now familiar with, its duties confined to hearing appeals from lower courts. The State was divided into nine common pleas districts, and associate judges were abolished. Each district was subdivided into three

parts, in each of which the people should elect a judge of the court of common pleas. Thus there were at least three common pleas judges to each of the nine districts. One or more of the judges held a common pleas court in each county, and the three judges of the district together constituted a district court, that succeeded to the functions of the old Supreme court in their respective counties, and the new common pleas court succeeded to the old common pleas court, except in probate jurisdiction, for which probate judges were provided, to be elected one in each county. Under this new system Fulton county was a part of the second subdivision of the Third circuit, but only about half of the time has it continued in that classification. But the subdivision, at first composed of Mercer, Van Wert, Putnam, Paulding, Defiance, Williams, Henry, and Fulton, now includes Defiance, Fulton, Paulding, Van Wert and Williams.

The first three judges of the Third district, beginning in February, 1852, were Lawrence Hall, Benjamin F. Metcalf and John H. Palmer. Judge Palmer was succeeded in 1857 by Alexander S. Latty of Defiance. The latter was re-elected in 1861, and again in 1866 and 1871, the subdivision at this time, under the act of 1868 being composed of the counties of Paulding, Defiance, Williams, Fulton and Henry. Judge Latty retired from the bench in 1877, after a career, which in length of service has no equal in Northwestern Ohio. He was succeeded by Selwyn N. Owen of Bryan.

The General Assembly of Ohio, in January, 1879, changed the subdivisions of the Third Judicial District by making the counties of Fulton, Henry and Putnam the third sub-division. This change necessitated the election of a judge for these counties and John J. Moore of Ottawa, was elevated to that position. He officiated as Common Pleas Judge until the fall of 1884, when he was elected to the bench of the Circuit Court, and William H. Handy succeeded him on the Common Pleas bench.

William Henry Handy was born in Pike township, Fulton county, January 29, 1847. At the age of sixteen he enlisted in Company H, of the Eighty-Sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and

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served with that regiment until February, 1864, when he was discharged. On April 13, following, he re-enlisted in Company H, of the Sixty-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry and served through

the remainder of the war, being mustered out of service and discharged on September 1, 1863. On returning home he entered the office of his father as a Student of law, where he remained sometime and afterward further prosecuted his studies in the office of Judge Lemmon, of Toledo. At that city, in the year 1868, he was admitted to the bar, and immediately commenced practice at Ottokee, then the county seat of Fulton county, being associated with publisher. This relation was maintained until January 1, 1875, when he retired from the firm to assume control, as editor and publisher, of the Democratic Expositor. To Mr. Handy's management is credited that paper's early success, and to his leaders in its editorial columns was also due the credit of having brought about a more perfect party organization in the county. After two and one half years in the editor's sanctum Mr. Handy sold the paper and resumed the practice of his profession, which he continued up to the time of his advancement to the common pleas bench in February, 1885. At a meeting of the delegates to the Democratic judicial convention of the Third sub-division of the Third judicial district, on January 27, 1885, he was made the nominee of that body of the office of common pleas judge, and two days later he was appointed by Governor Hoadley to the office for which he had just been nominated, and entered upon the discharge of his duties on the 7th day of February. In October following he was elected for the unexpired term of Judge Moore, there being no candidate nominated to oppose him. He was re-elected in 1888 and served until 1894, when he was succeeded by John M. Sheets of Ottawa.

At the October election, in 1893, John M. Sheets of Ottawa, was elected to succeed Judge Handy. In 1898, he was again a candidate for the position, but was defeated by Michael Donnelly of Napoleon, who was re-elected in 1903, and is the present incumbent. The legislature of 1904 changed the subdivisions of this judicial district, adding the counties of Fulton and Van Wert to Defiance, Paulding and Williams, and also increased the number of judges to three in the new sub-division. At the election of 1904, Edward S. Matthias. of Van Wert, and John M. Killits of Bryan, were the successful candidates for the newly-created judgeships, and with William H. Hubbard of Defiance, constitute the judiciary of this sub-division.

In 1852, an act of the legislature divided the State into five circuits for the district court, and a judge of the Supreme Court was required to preside, and the district court was made a court of appeals from the common pleas court.

This practice continued until the supreme judges were relieved of this duty, in 1865, after which the common pleas judges of the district, sitting as a district court, were authorized to consider appeals from their own judgments. This undesirable condition of things was removed in 1883, by the

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adoption of an amendment to the constitution, authorizing the creation of a circuit court, and abolishing the district court, but leaving the common pleas judges and courts undisturbed. Three circuit judges were chosen at the next election in each circuit, and Fulton county was included in the Sixth circuit.

PROSECUTING ATTORNEYS.

Following is a list of those who have held the office of Prosecuting Attorney in Fulton county, and which in some cases has been the beginning of a distinguished career in the law: J. H. Reath 1852, Michael Handy; A. Carmichael; N. Merrill; 1858, M. R. Bralley; 1862, J. W. Roseborough; 1866, Octavius Waters; 1872, W. W. Touvelle; 1874, Michael Handy; 1876, H. H., Ham ; 1880, W. H. Gavitt ; 1885, Mazzini Slusser; 1891, John Q. Files; 1897, Wiffia H. Fuller ; 1902, Clive C. Handy.

Some of these names are mentioned biographically in other chapters. Michael Handy was one of the most prominent teach of the Fulton county bar for upwards of thirty years. He was net to the "manor born," however, but came to Lucas county, Ohio, from New York, his native State, in 1840, having previously seen considerable of the world, both in the States and in Canada. He began active life as a school teacher and farmer, having previous to his admission to the bar, in 1850, at the mature age of forty years taught school in many districts in Fulton county, and redeemed a farm therein from the wilderness. He was a robust, many-sided man, with natural endowments both mental and physical, and of splendid vigor and activity. He was Fulton county's second prosecuting attorney, succeeding John H. Read in that office, in 1852, two years after his admission to the bar. He died in 1886, full of years and honors honestly won and maintained. For many years he was associated with his son, Hon. William H. Handy, afterwards judge of the Court of Common Pleas, in law practice, and was a foeman well worthy the steel of the ablest lawyers of Northwestern Ohio. As a jury lawyer he was especially strong; for being a man of the people he knew them, their excellences, their weaknesses, their prejudices. Upon his professional name

or his reputation as a citizen, there never was blown the breath of dishonorable suspicion or accusation.

Moses R. Brailey was a native of the State of New York, and was born in Ontario county, that State, November 2, 1816. In 1837, having just attained his majority, he started to seek his fortune in the West, as Ohio was then called, and located in the same year in Huron county. He had been in Ohio but a short time when he began to take an active part in local politics, and his attention was thereby directed to the legal profession as a means, not other objects, of securing prominence and influence. Being encouraged by his neighbors; who had begun to appreciate his talents and energy, and having received in his boyhood, in New York, the rudiments of a sound English education, which had been sup-

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plemented by considerable reading and close observation of human nature, he concluded to study law. In 1840, he entered the Office of Stone & Kellogg, a leading firm at Norwalk, the county seat of Huron county, and after two years of close application, was admitted to the bar in 1842, and at once opened an office in Norwalk. Devoting himself assiduously to his profession, he soon secured a living business, and in 1852 was elected prosecuting attorney of that county, the duties of which he discharged with excellent success. Having real estate interests of considerable value and promise in the then new county of Fulton, in 1857 he removed to that county, and, opening a law office, in 1858 he was elected prosecuting attorney, and was again elevated thereto in 1860, acquiring also a large civil business in the meantime. Immediately on the first call of President Lincoln for troops to defend the government, on April 17, 1861, Mr. Brailey enlisted as a private in a company which was recruited for, and expected to become, a part of the historic Fourteenth Ohio Volunteers, the first colonel of which was the gallant James B. Steedman. For some reason, known best to the military authorities of the State, the company was disbanded in June, 1861, without being sent to the field of active military operations. On August 13, 1861, Mr. Brailey again enlisted in the Union army, and was commissioned captain of Company I, in the Thirty-eighth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and on January 1, 1862, was promoted to be major of the regiment. In March of the same year, by reason of ill health, he was compelled to resign; but devoting all his time and energies to the cause of his country, as soon as his health had been somewhat restored, Major Brailey set about the work of recruiting

under the authority of the adjutant-general of the State, and in June, 1862, had raised a company for the Eighty-fifth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which was assigned to the duty of guarding Confederate prisoners at Camp Chase. In this regiment he held the commission of a captain, but was transferred therefrom in August of the same year, to the One Hundred and Eleventh Regiment of Ohio Infantry, with the rank of major, and commanded that regiment in the field until the winter following. In January, 1863, Major Brailey was promoted to the lieutenant-colonelcy of his regiment, and on the report of the Board of Army Surgeons attached to the military department of the Southwest, in January, 1864, he was discharged for disability, having just previously, for meritorious service, been brevetted brigadier general. Immediately thereafter he was appointed pay agent for the State of Ohio, with headquarters at Columbus, and collected and disbursed over four millions of the money of Ohio soldiers, losing not a cent. In addition to his other duties, while acting as pay agent, General Brailey assisted in the organization and equipment of eleven regiments of Ohio troops, for the field. At the State election, in 1865, the people of Ohio further rewarded the efforts of General Brailey, in behalf of his country, by electing him Comptroller of the State treasury, to which position he was again elected.

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three years later, holding that high and responsible office for years. He died, January 18, 1888.

William H. Gavitt was born in Franklin county, Ohio, November 12, 1844, and was educated at the Ohio Wesleyan University one of the most prominent educational institutions in the country under the immediate ecclesiastical control of the Methodist Episcopal church. On January 12, 1863, he began studying law with Michael Handy at Ottokee, the old county-seat of Fulton county, and completed his studies at Delaware, in the office of James R. Hubble, at that time a leading lawyer of central Ohio. On November 25, 1865, Mr. Gavitt was admitted to the bar, and immediately opened an office at Wauseon. Wearying somewhat of the law after a few years, he went to Isabella county, Michigan, where in connection with Dr. S. T. Norden, he engaged in the drug business. In 1876 he returned to Fulton county, and again embarked in the legal practice, this time at Delta, and in 1880 he was elected prosecuting attorney of Fulton county, being re-elected

two years later.

Mazzini Slusser received his legal education in the office of A. C. Baldwin, at Pontiac, Michigan, and at the Michigan University, graduating in the law department thereof, in 1876. His rudimentary and literary training was acquired in the public schools of Bryan, Ohio, and at an academy which flourished there some years ago. After spending two years in public school work, Mr. Slusser located at Wauseon, in 1878, and followed the business of general insurance until 1880, when he formed a partnership with L. M. Murphy and began the active practice of the law. In 1885 he was elected prosecuting attorney of Fulton county, and after serving two terms in that position he removed to Chicago, where he now has a fine practice.

THE PROBATE COURT.

This court was created by the constitution of 1851, with the provision that one judge of the same should be elected in each county. It is an office peculiarly local and intimately associated with the affairs of all the people, and has been filled by some of our best citizens. Samuel Gillis, the first judge elected, was one end of the early settlers of Fulton county. He was born in Argyle, Washington county, New York, in 1789, and settled in Victor, Cayuga county, in 1811. He served in the war of 1812, was a Sackett's Harbor, was taken prisoner and held in Canada for several months, and was present at the burning of Quebec. Mr. Gillis was among the early settlers in Chesterfield township and by occupation was a farmer. He was the first probate judge of Fulton county, and filled many township offices. He died, February 9, 1871.

Lucius H. Upham, the immediate successor to Mr. Gillis, held the office only about one month, when he was unseated. The next Socrates H. Cately, was for about forty-two years one of Swan

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Creek, township's most active and enterprising citizens. He was a native of Cortland county, New York, and was born on January 8, 1815, in the calendar of the Democratic party known as "St. Jackson's Day," being the date of the battle of New Orleans. When he attained his majority he started west, stopping at Maumee City, where he lived for a little less than eight years, and leased land in Swan Creek township and established himself on it.

Besides serving as probate judge of the county he was to an associate judge under the old Constitution.

Oliver B. Verity was elected in 1857. He was born in Pittstown, Rensselaer county, New York, January 8, 1815. Like his predecessor in the probate judge's office, he may be called a St. Jackson man, having been born on the day and in the year that Andrew Jackson fought and whipped the British at New Orleans. Mr. Verity grew to manhood in his native State, and in 1843 came to Gorham township, Lucas, afterwards Fulton county, Ohio, where first settled on section nine and later on section Sixteen. In the fall of 1857, he was elected to the office of probate judge and moved to Ottokee, then the county seat of Fulton county, on February 17, 1858, and resided there the remainder of his life. While living in Gorham he held the office of township clerk for nine years in succession, and in 1855, was elected justice of the peace, but resigned that office to accept the office of probate judge. He was three times re-elected to the latter position and served the people of the county in that capacity twelve years, his last term ending February 9, 1870. In the fall of 1852, he was elected land appraiser for the district composed of the townships of Gorham, Chesterfield and Royalton, and made the tour of said townships the following year and reported to the auditor of the county. In 1846, under the old Constitution, and when this territory was a part of Lucas county, he was appointed a sub-School examiner to examine applicants for teaching in Gorham township alone, which position he held until Fulton county was organized. Then under the new constitution he was appointed by Samuel Gillis to the office of county school examiner, and served as such until he took his seat as probate judge. In 1870, after retiring from the probate office, he was chosen as assistant marshal for the purpose of taking the census of that year, of Dover, Chesterfield, Royalton and Amboy townships. In April, 1874, he was chosen Superintendent of the newly established county infirmary, and held that position until March 1, 1880, and excepting those six years, he held the office of justice of the peace of Dover township from April, 1870, the remainder of his active life. He also served two years as clerk and one as trustee of Dover township. He served six times as juror in the United States District Court, and on April 9, 1861, he was chosen as postmaster at Ottokee and held the office until May, 1885, a trifle over twenty-four years. Mr. Verity was for years recognized as the best equipped man in the county in the matter of facts pertaining to local history, and in the compilation

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of this volume the writer has drawn extensively from articles penned by him.

The judge of probate in 1870-79 was Caleb M. Keith, who was born in Huron county, Ohio, August 11, 1817, and Settled in Fulton county, in 1862. He filled the office of justice of the peace, and was elected probate judge in the fall of 1869, which office he held for nine years. He was succeeded by Levi W. Brown, who was born in Fulton county, in 1841, son of Benjamin Brown, who was a native of the Green Mountain State. He was elected probate judge in 1878, 1881 and 1884. He held the judgeShip for three terms and after him Adelbert D. Newell was twice elected, but died before the expiration of his second term, and H. L. Moseley served by appointment for a few months until Thomas F. Ham was elected for the unexpired term, in the fall of 1892. Judge Ham was twice re-elected and served from 1892 to 1900, and the present incumbent, Edward E. Williams, entered upon the duties of the office in February of the latter year.

CLERKS OF THE COURTS.

Samuel Durgin, as noted previously, was the first clerk of the court of common pleas in 1850, and continued in the office until January, 1854, when Naman Merrill succeeded him, holding the office until 1861, and Harry B. Bayes was then chosen and began a term that continued until 1864. The successors of Durgin, Merrill and Bayes have been the following, all men of ability and prominence: 1863, Samuel Durgin; 1866, Truman H. Brown; 1869, Daniel W. Poe; 1872, Albert Deyo; 1878, Albert B. Smith; 1887, James C. King; 1893, H. S. Bassett; 1899, Frank W. Wood.

SHERIFFS.

The first executive officer of the courts in Fulton county was George B. Brown, one of the prominent men of this section in the early days. He Settled in Royalton township before the organization of Fulton county, and after serving as the first sheriff and in other positions of trust, he retired to his farm and lived a long and honorable life. The successors to Brown, with the years of their accession to office as near as can be stated with certainty, are as follows: 1851, Charles D. Smith; 1857, Marcus H. Hayes; 1861, Oscar A. Cobb; 1865, Jacob Huffmire; 1869, Joseph H. Brigham; 1873, Sullivan Johnson; 1877, Joseph H. Brigham; 1879, Harvey L. Aldrich; 1883, Frank T.

Blair;' 1887, Daniel Dowling; 1889, William J. Connell; 1893, Alfred F. Shaffer; 1897, James L. Shinnabarger; 1901, Henry H. Rittenhouse; 1905, James L. Shinnabarger, present incumbent.

MEMBERS OF THE BAR.

Lucius H. Upham was the first lawyer who permanently established himself in the practice in Fulton county. He located at Delta, immediately following the formation of the county. By the

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following year, however, Mr. Upham had two associates, in the persons of Amos Hill and Reuben C. Lemmon, and by 1852, Michael Handy and Nathaniel Leggett had been added to the list. It is useless to attempt to give a complete roster of those who have at different times "swung their signs to the breezes" as resident attorneys in Fulton county, but the following is thought to contain the names of the more prominent ones, and the years given represent about the dates of their appearance: 1855, John W. Roseborough ; 1856, Octavius WaterS; 1857, Moses R. Brailey 1860; Elbridge T. Greenough; 1864, William C. Kelley; 1865, Sydenham Shaffer and William H. Gavitt; 1868, William W. Touvelle; 1869, William H. Handy ; 1870, Henry H. Ham and Thomas F. Ham; 1872, Charles F. Greenough; 1875, Williams W. Williams; 1880, L. M. Murphy, Mazzini Slusser and John Q. Files; 1886, Cicero E. G. Roseborough.

The foregoing names represent the larger number of those who have practiced law in Fulton county. In addition, however, there have been Richard Patterson, Henry H. McElhiney, John T. Birdseye, William Welker, Ray McConahey, Rezin Franks, Worling B. Leffett, George Denman, George R. Walker, Henry Hogaboam, Edward Tiffany, S. M. Huyck, Warren Upham, Henry Tiffany and Allen G. Carmichael. These have not all engaged actively in the practice but the majority of them have. In 1905, the following resident attorneys have their names printed in the bar of the Court of Common Pleas:

A. P. Biddle, J. Q. Files, J. C. PaxSon, F. B. Fowler, C. F. Greenough, Clive C. Handy, Fred. Wolf, U. G. Hahn, H. H. Ham, F. S. Ham, T. F. Ham, G. B. HeiSe, Ray M. Lance, R. B. Darby, M. B. Cottrell, G. A. Everett, O. O. Rolph, F. B. Geer, and J. W. Roseborough.

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CHAPTER XI

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION

DURING the early days in Fulton county the settlers suffered considerably from illness. Especially was this true of the year 1838, which is remembered throughout the entire lake region and the Ohio valley as "the terrible sickly season," and for many years thereafter the people suffered more or less in the summer and autumn of every year. The settlers of the county, and particularly those that made their homes in the rich bottoms of the various water-courses, were terribly afflicted with fevers and racked with chills.

The fever was so continuous throughout Ohio in those days and so frightful were its effects, that it is remarkable that the settlers were heroic enough to remain in the new country. They stayed partly through grim determination, partly through the natural indisposition to move backward, partly through love of the beautiful country, and largely through hope that is said to spring eternal, doubtless with accuracy, for it was necessary for spring eternally in the breasts of the pioneers, to cheer them in their toil and suffering.

Rich and productive as the lands were, there was a terrible drawback to their attraction in the shape of chills and fevers. So prevalent was this disease in some localities that not a cabin or a family escaped for a single year; and it sometimes happened that there would not be a single well member of the family to furnish drink to the others. It is told that in such cases buckets would be filled in the morning by those most able and placed in some accessible place so that when the shakes came on each could help himself or herself. Had there been any seemingly possible way of getting back to the old Settlements from which these adventurers had come, most, if not all, would have left the rich Maumee bottoms with their shakes and fevers; but as it was, there were no railroads, or even wagon roads, on which they could convey their disheartened skeletons back to their old homesteads with fine springs and health-restoring associations. At the time of the year when a tedious land or water trip could be made there were enough in each family sick to prevent any preparatory arrangements for such a return; while in winter there were more obstacles in the way than the sickness of summer. Thus held not only the charms of the Scenery and the productiveness of

the Soil, but

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by the sterner realities of shakes and burning fever, few came that ever returned, and every year brought new neighbors.

These fevers are described at some length by Dr. Daniel Drake, of Cincinnati, in his great work on the "Principal Diseases of the Interior Valley of North America," published in 1850. They were called various names, autumnal, bilious, intermittent, congestive, miasmatic, malarial, marsh, malignant, chill fever, ague, fever'n'ague, dumb ague—and Dr. Drake himself preferred to call them autumnal fevers. He was disposed to ascribe their origin to what he called a "vegeto-animalcular cause," meaning that the people were infected by organisms that were bred in decaying vegetation, and he pointed out that the disease could not be due to some organism that had a regular period of incubation, because people were not taken with the fevers until some time after the date of supposed infection. This, he stated, not in this language, which is more in the line of modern expression, but to the same effect, demonstrating a remarkable insight into the operations of nature. It is believed now that the malarial infection, whatever its original source, is spread by mosquitoes, but this the doctors and sufferers did not suspect, and if they had, it would have done them little good, so numerous were the insect pests, and so expensive would have been any adequate attempt to suppress them. At the time when people were exterminating bears, panthers, and vast forests, there was no time to make war on such small and ubiquitous things as mosquitoes.

In combating the fever and the chills the doctors depended on Peruvian bark, quinine and calomel in heroic doses. Generally the unfortunate victim was first bled, then large doses of calomel were given, and the patient was cautioned to abstain from any acid food or he might lose his teeth, and the calomel was followed by quinine. Dr. Drake reported a case in Southern practice where a patient was given calomel for malarial fever in increasing doses until he took several ounces a day, and in a short time an entire pound of the drug was put in him. The fate of the unfortunate creature is not mentioned. Another patient was given six hundred grains of compound of aloes, rhubarb and calomel in equal quantities for six days consecutively. There were other remedies. Dr. Joshua Martin, of Xenia, knew of a case where the chills were permanently cured in a small boy by standing him on

his head at the access of the fit. "In many cases," said Drake, "the recurrence has been arrested by means which acted entirely on the imagination and feelings. Of this kind are very loathsome potions, which the patients have swallowed with disgust and different charms or incantations, which rouse powerful emotions that change the enervation and destroy the habit of recurrence." There were some very remarkable cases of recurrence of the disease in various forms. One man was subject to monthly attacks of vertigo and loss of consciousness. When medicine had checked this, the

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trouble soon returned with intervals of twenty-one days, and afterward for five years with periods of sixteen days.

The chills and fever, while not so immediately fatal in ordinary years as yellow fever, from which Ohio has fortunately been spared, was worse in its effects. If a man recovered from yellow fever, he was none the worse for it, sometimes better; but victim of fever and chills often suffered all the rest of his life with neuralgia, liver or spleen disease, dyspepsia or diarrhoea. At times however, the malarial fever assumed a malignant form and it was certain death unless the doctor was near at hand, and happens. to be able to check the paroxysms.

It was this disease, common in every part of Ohio, that the pioneer doctors had to contend with. They battled nobly, some of them falling victims to their antagonist, and it cannot be doubted that they performed a great work in alleviating the sufferings of humanity, and encouraging the pioneers in the work of overcoming the evils of a new country. In time, with drainage and extensive cultivation of the soil, the dangerous conditions passed away, and Fulton county is now as healthy as any of those older regions to which the settlers longed to return in the days when they were taking with ague.

In the summer of 1838, the dreadful epidemic broke out the laborers on the Maumee canal and reached all the isolate. settlers in the woods, ten or twelve miles away. During this siege of sickness there were not well persons enough to care for those who were ill, and eight persons died in York township that suite, summer. The first physician in that township was Erastus Lathrop, who settled near Delta and died very soon after the village was located. He was a member of the Baptist church and sometimes

preached for that society. The medical practitioners of the township have centered in the village of Delta, from which point they practice over a large area of the surrounding country. Prominent among them for several years have been William Ramsey, S. P. Bishop, John Odell, John A. Wilkins and O. P. Fletcher.

William Bailey was the first physician in Metamora. He settled near the German church, west some two miles from the town. A physician named Pomeroy used to practice medicine in the village at a very early day. He was a very old man at the time, and, after a few years of practice, died, and was buried there. Prominent physicians of that village at a later day have been Dr. S. M. Clark, Dr. Foster, Dr. Tompkins and Dr. Markham.

Dr. Joshua Youngs was the first and only physician in Royalton township for many years. At one time his practice was extensive. He settled upon section 26. He died in 1873, having previously retired from practice. Later, Ezra B. Mann and H. H. Brown have been prominent as medical practitioners at Lyons. The former for was a leading man in public affairs and represented Fulton county in the State legislature. H. H. Brown was born at Williamsport, Pennsylvania, July 8, 1863, and was educated in a literary school

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at Clinton, Maine, and at the University of Michigan. He took a three year course in the department of medicine and surgery in the latter institution, entering in the fall of 1883, and graduating July 1, 1886. He located at Lyons soon after completing his studies, and after a few years there removed to Chicago, where he now resides, practicing his profession. Phillips Corners, in the same township, has had one physician in the person of Dr. Cunningham.

The first physician in Gorham township was Dr. John Kendall, who settled a few rods north of Fayette, in about 1839 or 1840, but he left and went to Franklin township about two years later. He was born in New York State, June 30, 1793; received his medical education in New York ; came to Fulton county in November, 1839, and practiced in all thirty-six years ; died January 1, 1873, in Melbern, Williams county. The next physician in Gorham was Dr. Joseph O. Allen, who located within the present limits of Fayette in 1851. About this time one Dr. Davis settled at Cottrell's Corners

and practiced there for two or three years and then left. This is all of the M. D.'s who settled in Gorham at an early date, before Fayette started its journey for village life, and there are none now practicing outside of Fayette. Dr. J. T. Van Buskirk was an early physician of the village, but he died many years ago, and Dr. Turrell and Dr. Amos Kendall, both of whom have died or left for other parts, formerly practiced there. A later corps of physicians have been Estelle H. Rorick, H. F. Van Buskirk, C. B. Herrick, Edson Emerick, all able, energetic, and well qualified in their profession. Dr. Rorick is at present superintendent of the Imbecile Asylum at Columbus, and is mentioned at some length in the biographical department of this work. H. F. Van Buskirk was born in Fayette, Ohio, July 25, 1861, and is a son of the late Dr. J. T. Van Buskirk, of the same place. He began the study of medicine in the fall of 1878 and continued under the direction of Drs. McLean and Bachman, of Stanton, Michigan, until September, 1879, when he commenced a six months' course of lectures at the Detroit College of Medicine. In the spring of 1880, he went to Philadelphia, where he began attending the Jefferson Medical College, where he remained until graduating, April 1, 1882. Soon after completing his studies he located in his former home, Fayette, where he remained in the practice of his profession for several years and then moved to Columbus, Ohio.

L. K. Carpenter was the first resident physician in German township. He was of the old Thomsonian school, and was of some importance to the early settlers. The next in order was Dr. Blaker; the third was William Winterstein, who ran for clerk of the court and was defeated, and then soon after left the township; the next were Drs. Schnetzler and Murbach. At Gachlingen, Switzerland, on December 15, 1838, Dr. Andrew J. Murbach was born, and in that country his life, up to the age of sixteen was passed. In the spring of 1833 his parents, with their children,

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came to this country and settled in Lucas county. At the age of eighteen years Andrew came to board in the family of Marcus H. Schnetzler, who was then a practicing physician Burlington, in this county, and with whom he read medicine; course of study covering a period of some years. During the later years of his study young Murbach became sufficiently well informed and his instructor permitted him to practice in the locality and, with the means thus acquired, he determined to take a medical course at some thorough institution. To this end he entered the Starling Medical College, at

Columbus, where he attended lectures during the terms of 1862-3 and 1863-4, and was regularly graduated in the Spring of the year last named. Having been graduated from Starling, and received that highly cherished prize, a diploma, more commonly known as "sheepskin," Dr. Murbach located for practice at Archbold, in the fall of the year 1864. There he resided, attending to a large practice, until his death, a year or two ago. The first physician in Franklin township was Ira Smith, who came in 1840. He practiced some three years and left. In 1841 or 1842, Dr. John Kendall came from Gorham township, and bought and settled on section 35, and was for many years the only physician of general practice in the township. He left the township about 1860, and settled at Melbern, some five miles west of Bryan, Williams county, and died soon after. Dr. Kendall was one of the associate judges in the early days of the county of Fulton. A son of Dr. John Kendall, Amos Kendall, in 1846, settled on Bean Creek, near Chatfield's Saw-mill, and commenced the practice of medicine. He, however, stayed but a few years and then moved back to Gorham, where in later years he died. In 1860 came Dr. Schmidt, who practiced medicine until 1865, when he left and settled in Edgerton, Williams county, where he died. Lastly was Dr. Wilson, from Stryker, who in 1867 built a log house and office on lands owned by Joseph Ely. His fame soon spread to such an extent as to bring him patients from nearly every State and territory of the Union. He soon had to build a hotel for the accommodation of his patients, and a bus line was established from Archbold on the Lake Shore railroad to his office. In 1873 he moved to Archbold, and there soon after died. He was a wonderful man, a mystery to all, yet his success was not greater in he diseases than other physicians; his power was in diagnosing disease, in which capacity he seemed to be unusually expert.

In 1843, Dr. William Holland settled in Pike township. He came from New Hampshire, a physician with age and experience, and soon gained a prominent position in the county. He was born at Oakham, Massachusetts, in the year 1766; came to Fulton county in 1842 and purchased a tract of land in Pike township, returning soon to Massachusetts. His daughter, Louisa Holland, married Alfred A Shute, September 11, 1843, and Soon after derided to come to Fulton county, With Dr. Holland and family,

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they arrived in Pike township about the first of October, 1843, and the whole

family soon became closely identified with the then few inhabitants of the township. Dr. Holland was educated in private schools, then common in New England. After reaching the age of twenty-one he commenced the Study of Latin under the instruction of Rev. M. Bascom, to prepare himself for the study of medicine read medicine with The most prominent members of the profession of the day, and united with the Massachusetts State Medical Association. At the age of twenty-six he commenced the practice. From 1792 to the year of his removal from Massachusetts, 1843, he practiced his profession. After arriving in Fulton county, at the age of ninety years, he practiced some, even when he had to be carried to and from his house and vehicle. It can be said with truth that no other township in Fulton county, save Pike, has laid to rest a man born ten years before the Revolution, except Clinton. George Mikesell, Sr., was born December 5, 1766, and Clinton township in September, 1837, and died there October 9, 1840. Robert A. Moore was the next physician in Pike township and a very eccentric man he was in all his ways. The next James S. Richards, called the "Indian doctor," who came from Pennsylvania. And lastly, Samuel B. Finney, whose practice has been world-wide in late years, and who from poverty and obscurity has risen to wealth and fame, a mystery to all who visit him, and a severe thorn to the medical fraternity surrounding. He is now located and in practice in Delta.

Dover township, from its first settlement in 1836, to 1845, was "fever and ague to the very edge." It has been no exaggeration of the historian to say, that for a few years after 1838, in the summer and fall, the largest half of the population were languishing on beds of ague and fever, many a housewife being compassing to keep house and do the work for a family between the passing away of the "Sweating Stage" and the next "ague" attack. In this interval a large amount of work was done by them, and had to be, because help was scarce in such times as these. This picture is but a fair sample of conditions then, which had to be endured until the winter frosts brought relief. Quinine was to them the staff of life, and often meant more than bread to the languishing individual. Dr. Blaker was the first resident physician in Dover, followed in succession by Drs. William Hyde, McCann, V. Gurley, S. T. Worden, B. M. Delano, Henry Herriman and Welcome C. Robinson, each of whom engaged in general practice before Ottokee and Spring Hill had an existence as villages. These early physicians have long since passed away and knowledge of their careers

largely disappeared with them. Henry Herriman, was born in Livingston county, New York, January 18, 1811, and settled in Fulton county, in 1844. He farmed and practiced medicine in Dover township, and also filled the office of justice of the peace. He enlisted in the Union army in Company A, Sixty-Seventh regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in the medical department, and was honorably discharged in 1865. After Spring Hill Started, the first

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physician was Dr. William Hyde, who educated for the profession Noah W. Jewell, later a prominent physician in Wauseon. Dr: Jewell succeeded Dr. Hyde, and next in order was Dr. Robert C. Ely, followed by Drs. Buchanan, Leach, Webb, Estelle H. Rorick and George P. Campbell.

Noah W. Jewell, who is spoken of above, was born in Wayne county, Ohio, January 21, 1826; moved with his family to then Luca county, Ohio, in the year 1842, in the vicinity of Spring Hill. At the age of twenty-one he commenced to study medicine with Dr. William Hyde, who had recently moved into the neighborhood and remained with him as a student for two years. During the fall of 1848, owing to the amount of sickness and lack of physicians, he treated quite a number of families without the aid of his preceptor allowing him the fee. In the Spring of 1849 he commenced to practice medicine for himSelf. In 1850 he concluded to attend medical lectures. Accordingly, in the month of October he mounted his horse and rode into Wayne county, the place of his birth, intending to sell his horse there, and with the proceeds attend medical lectures during the winter. Failing to sell as expected, he left his horse with a friend and Started for Cleveland, Ohio, on foot, where he arrived in due time, matriculated at the college, bought a text:, book on anatomy and received a ticket of general admission to a the lectures, good for six weeks. At the end of this time his money was all gone and he was compelled to return home. Thus came with a little knowledge of anatomy and what he had seen in the clinics of the, college, he went forth again to battle with distance feeling at least that he was as competent as any of his competitort. In January, 1855, he married and moved to Toledo, Ohio, and practiced medicine in that city during the summer and fall. In January, 1856, he moved to Wauseon, then beginning to thrive on the Air Line railroad, and within the bounds of his old field of practice. In the fall of 1859 he removed to Valparaiso, Indiana, opened office in that city and practiced until the Spring of 1861, when response to the earnest solicitations of many of his old patrons he moved back to

Wauseon, where he resided the remainder of his life during the war he was commissioned surgeon for Fulton county to examine applicants for exemption from military duty, and served during the continuance of the war. While in Valparaiso, he learned the business of dentistry as taught in that early day, and when he returned to Wauseon, he practiced jointly medicine, surgery and dentistry for many years. In the fall of 1864 he concluded to attend lectures again and obtain the degree of Doctor of Medicine, and to that end he attended Bellevue Hospital Medical College during the Season of 1864 and 1865. He learned after a time that he could not graduate at that institution, however well qualified he might be, in consequence of their rules requiring two full courses of lectures, and his course at Cleveland in 1850 being only a partial course, it rendered him ineligible as a candidate for graduation. At the close of the session he returned home, and not

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wishing to make another break in practice he concluded to avail himself of the opportunity of attending the Spring session of the Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery for the year 1865, the only college in the west at that time holding a spring session repair at once to Cincinnati, entered the college, and at the close of the term received his diploma, bearing date of June 19, 1865. After his graduation he attended medical lectures at Chicago, in it 1873 and Philadelphia and Baltimore, in the year 1881.

George P. Campbell was born March 19, 1847, at Carmichaeltown, Green county, Pennsylvania, and moved to Ohio in 1855. He read medicine with Dr. J. H. Todd, of Wooster, Ohio, and graduated at Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York city, in March, 1870. He located at Ridgeville, Henry county, Ohio, soon after graduating and practiced there until May, 1872, when he moved to Tedrow, Fulton county, where he practiced his profession nearly twenty years. He then removed to Wauseon and attended to a large and lucrative practice until his death, which occurred a few since.

Mention of other Fulton county physicians is made in the biographical department of this work, and some are also given a place in chapters upon affairs with which they were prominently identified.

An association of the physicians of the county has nominally been in existence for thirty-seven years. It was organized on February 15, 1868, and prospered and grew in membership and interest for several years, becoming

auxiliary to the State Medical Society. Then the interest in the local society seemed to decline and the meetings were poorly attended until for long intervals there were no meetings held. Efforts to revive the organization met with poor success until recently; but now meetings are being held with good attendance, and the organization gives promise of being a permanent one, contributing to the promotion of social fellowship, scientific advancement and the high standing of the profession in Fulton county.