

a century or more ago, and is at present represented by a lodge and encampment. The Lodge was instituted November 15, 1845, as Olentangy Lodge, No. 53, I. O. O. F., and was composed of the following charter members: Henry Pattee, Adam Wolfe, J. W. Place, Charles A. Drake, C. Platt, William L. Harris (now Bishop of Methodist Episcopal Church), and George Breyfogle. The first officers were: William L. Harris, Noble Grand; C. S. Drake, Vice Grand; C. Platt, Secretary, and George Breyfogle, Treasurer. The Lodge has an active membership of 158, and is officered as follows: J. L. Wolfley, Noble Grand; Lewis Benton, Vice Grand; O. A. Wolfley, R. Secretary; G. W. Wentsell, P. Secretary, and A. Evans, Treasurer.

Delaware Encampment, No. 52, I. O. O. F., was chartered May 5, 1851. The charter members were J. A. Barnes, S. A. Cherry, W. P. Jones, C. T. Bradley, John Converse, H. W. Chamberlain and Cyrus Masters. It has sixty-seven members, and the following is the roll of officers for the present term: H. A. Weld, C. P.; J. L. Wolfley, H. P.; Thomas C. Evans, J. W.; E. R. Ryan, Scribe, and C. T. Bradley, Treasurer.

Mount Moriah Lodge, No. 1,511, Grand United Order of Odd Fellows in America (colored), was chartered December 12, 1872, under authority from the Grand Lodge of England. Among the

charter members and first officers were H. Garvin, B. J. Johnson, and J. W. Highwarden. The Lodge at present has thirty-five active members, and is officered as follows: A. Highwarden, V. G.; A. Crawford, N. G.; J. W. Highwarden, P. and F.; J. C. Lyons, P. and G.; R. R. Lindsey, P. S., and D. Alston, W. T. Their meetings are held in C. Renner's building, every second Wednesday.

Lenape Lodge, No. 29, K. of P., was instituted December 22, 1870, and chartered February 11, 1871, with the following original members: P. H. McGwire, C. V. Owston, Jacob Kruck, Robert Bell, H. E. Buck, Jacob Heller, Jonas Brown, M. M. Miller, Aaron Frantz, Geo. E. Breyfogle, C. Riddle, W. A. Lear, T. P. Vining, Henry Fleckner, Enoch Shelley, and G. W. Stimmell. The first officers were P. H. McGwire, P. C.; C. V. Owston, C. C.; J. Kruck, V. C., and Aaron Frantz, K. of R. and S. The Lodge is in a flourishing condition, the records showing seventy-five members in good standing. The welfare of the institution is guarded by a Board of Trustees, consisting of H. F. Brown, B. F. Sprague and Geo. C. Eaton. The present officers are Geo. C. Eaton, C. C.; Ira G. Rawn, V. C.; P. H. McGwire, P.; Aaron Frantz, K. of R. and S.; Lew Willey, M. of F.; Levan Miller, M. of E.; W. K. Rutter, Master at Arms.

## CHAPTER XIV.

### LIBERTY TOWNSHIP—EARLY SETTLEMENT—PIONEER LIFE—MILLS AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS —SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, ETC.—STORES AND VILLAGES.

"—Like the one  
Stray fragment of a wreck, which, thrown  
With the lost vessel's name ashore,  
Tells who they were that live no more."—*Moore.*

THIS particular section of Delaware County is rich in remains of the strange people who once inhabited the country and left imperishable evidences of their labors behind, extending from Lake Superior to the Isthmus, and from Ohio to the Pacific. Of them and concerning them history is silent. No record exists of their achievements and progress; no sculptured memorial attests their skill and greatness, yet all about us is proof that a population vastly greater than now abounds, once inhabited these valleys, and reared these mysterious structures. Our houses are built on grounds once

appropriated by others; our towns and cities occupy the sites of older cities; and our cemeteries are sacred to the memory of a ghostly people, who, in the event of a final resurrection, could rise up and claim ownership prior to the present occupants. As to these mounds, investigation and research tell us, that—

"A race that long has passed away  
Built them, a disciplined and populous race,  
Heaped with long toil the earth, while yet the Greek  
Was hewing the Pentelicus to forms  
Of symmetry, and rearing on its rock  
The glittering Parthenon;"

but whence the builders came, in which age they existed, and the cause of their final disappearance, we know absolutely nothing. The antiquary finds

in them no inscriptions, which, like those found on the plains of Shinar, or in the valley of the Nile, can unfold the mysteries of bygone centuries. He finds only moldering skeletons, the scattered remnants of vessels of earthenware, rude weapons of war, axes made of stone, and other implements equally rude.

Not only this township, but the country immediately surrounding it, contains many traces of that wonderful people, the Mound-Builders. One of the most extensive relics of them in this region, and perhaps in the county, is in Orange Township, just across the river from the southeast corner of Liberty, and is on the land of A. E. Goodrich, Esq. It is located on the bank of the river, which here rises into a bluff, and being so near to Liberty Township, and the land upon which it is located having, for a number of years, been owned by the Goodriches, citizens of Liberty, they take more interest in it than do the people of Orange. It bears all the marks of having been a fort, and with the river—and a large ravine which enters the river almost at right angles—forms a semi-circle, or, more properly speaking, a quadrant, and incloses something near ten acres of ground. Several gateways or openings in the wall surrounding it, which is of earth, from five to eight feet high, are guarded by mounds on the inside of the inclosure. This work, whatever it may be, has never been examined scientifically, and hence may be as rich in archaeological lore as any of the mounds and fortifications hitherto examined in the State. Mr. Goodrich, who owns the land, is much interested in the matter, and, doubtless, will sooner or later have a thorough investigation made. About a quarter of a mile southwest of the elder Goodrich's residence, and on the farm of one of his sons, is a mound, perfect in shape as though made but a few years, instead of untold centuries ago. It is some forty or fifty feet in diameter, and has the appearance of having been walled in. Another mound in Mr. Goodrich's barn lot, some forty feet in diameter, which was recently removed for grading purposes, was found to contain three skeletons, most of the bones in a pretty good state of preservation. One of the skeletons, judging from the bones (which the writer had the privilege of examining) was that of a man considerably above medium stature; the other two were much smaller, and were apparently those of a woman, and an individual not fully grown. These relics were found some eighteen inches below the surface, but as the ground about the mound had long

been used as a kind of barn lot, they were, doubtless, originally placed much deeper in the earth. Still another of these mounds was on the old Carpenter farm, in the north part of the township, and embraced in the family burying-ground. When Capt. Carpenter had occasion to choose a site for a graveyard, upon the death of his wife, he selected the spot where this mound had been built in the "dim ages past." In grading down the mound, assisted by some of his neighbors, and leveling the ground, a human skeleton was found of an unusually large size. Mr. Gillies, who was present, and who was a man fully six and a half feet high, in comparing the thigh bones with his own limbs, it was admitted by those present that they had belonged to a man much larger than Gillies. But our space will not admit of a full detail of all the mounds existing in this part of the county. The subject is more fully discussed in another chapter, and with these local allusions we will pass to another branch of our work, leaving further investigation to the scientific.

Liberty Township lies south of Delaware, and is one of the three original townships into which the county was divided for temporary purposes, at the time of its formation. In that division, Liberty comprised about half of Orange, Berlin, Delaware and Scioto Townships, and all of its present territory, and of Concord Township. At the first meeting of the County Commissioners, Delaware Township was formed, which took a large corner from Liberty, as did Scioto, Berlin and Orange some years later. In 1819, when Concord was erected, Liberty was called upon to contribute most of the material for its formation. With all these drafts upon its territory, it is at present about eight miles in length; from four to five miles in width, and bounded on the north by Delaware Township, on the east by Berlin and Orange, on the south by Franklin County, and on the west by Concord Township. Its principal water-course is the Olentangy, which enters almost in the center of the north boundary, and flows a little east of south, passing out near the southeast corner of the township. A number of small streams, such as McKinnie's, Wild Cat, Big Wolf and Lick Runs empty into the Olentangy. There are also many fine springs along its banks, of never-failing, pure water. Not far from old Liberty Church, but on the opposite side of the river, is one of the finest sulphur springs in the county. The water is the very strongest of sulphur, and the flow said to be ten or twenty times greater than that in the campus of

the Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware. The Scioto River forms the boundary line for some two or three miles between Liberty and Concord Townships, and drains all the western portion of Liberty. Upon the farm of Mr. Stanbery, situated on the Scioto River, in the extreme southwest part of the township, is also a fine spring, noted for its cold water, which, in summer, is said to be almost as cold as ice-water. In early times it was a favorite camping-place for the Indians when hunting in the vicinity. The land in Liberty Township will compare favorably with any portion of the county. It is what might be termed rolling, but not rough or broken, and originally contained all the varieties of timber common in this section, among which may be noted black and white walnut, oak, hickory, sugar-maple, hackberry, sycamore, etc., etc. Fine sugar orchards abound in various parts of the township. What were called pigeon oaks were quite plenty. This name was applied to them on account of the vast numbers of wild pigeons that swarmed into them in the fall of the year, and fed upon the acorns.

Along the river bottoms the land is very rich and produces all kinds of grain crops. The high lands are better adapted to grazing, but also produce abundantly. Much attention is paid to sheep-raising and wood-growing, and many fine flocks of sheep are to be found in the township. To sum up in a word, Liberty is one of the wealthy and flourishing subdivisions of the county.

This township is noted as being the scene of the first settlement made in the county by white people. A complete and intelligent history of this early settlement involves a sketch of the family who made it, and is not deemed inappropriate to the subject. Such a sketch will doubtless be read with interest, not only by the citizens of Liberty Township, but of Delaware County. It carries us back to the reign of George I, who ascended the English throne in 1714. In the early part of that monarch's reign, three brothers named Carpenter came to America on a tour of observation. They were of a respectable family, possessed ample fortunes, and being highly pleased with the country, two of the brothers, Jonathan and Abiah, remained, resolving to make it their permanent home. The third brother soon after returned to England.

The following facts, pertaining to this noted family, and their settlement in this township, are from an article in the *Delaware Gazette*, written by A. E. Goodrich, a descendant. The article is so thorough, and so well written, that we incorporate

it in this chapter, almost bodily, as being pertinent and to the point. It is as follows: "There was a custom in the family, contrary to the feudal system, by which the chief inheritance passed to the youngest son. After the death of Abiah, his son, Abraham Carpenter, was established in the family seat, at the village of Rehoboth, in the Massachusetts Bay Province, which at that time was a small republic, and quite independent, as it had not yet been enslaved by the encroachments of the British Ministry. Here he continually added to his estate by the purchase of small and sometimes large tracts of land, until he became an extensive land-owner. No doubt it will be somewhat surprising to our readers, to learn that prices for land then were about as high as at the present day, as is shown by some of his conveyances, now in possession of the writer, some of which date back to the year 1728. For one half-acre he paid £10 (\$50), and for two acres he paid £40 (\$200); but, as they were small tracts, they were probably located near the village. In 1756, Abraham made his last will, which is as much a dissertation on the Christian graces as it is a conveyance of his property—bequeathing his property to his son Abiel, and to his grandchildren. Abiel lived in the village which was the choice of his ancestors, where he reared a large family, and his third son, Nathan, became the pioneer, and the original settler of Delaware County.

"Capt. Nathan Carpenter was born at Rehoboth in 1757, and grew to manhood amid the excitement preparatory to the Revolution, a zealous patriot. He was among the first to respond to the call of his country when the great colonial struggle came on, though scarcely more than a boy in age. He fought bravely at the battle of Bunker Hill, at which place his brother was killed and himself wounded. Afterward he participated in several sanguinary battles, among them the pursuit and capture of Burgoyne at Saratoga. After the surrender of Burgoyne, Capt. Carpenter had an interview with him, in which he took occasion to remark that he had very reluctantly accepted the command imposed upon him by the British Ministry, that of compelling him to war against the American colonies. He soon after confirmed his position by returning to England and joining Pitt's party, opposed to the war. Carpenter described Gen. Washington as being a tall, large man, of very imposing appearance, and, like Bonaparte, devoid of warm or passionate affection, although so ardently and truly devoted

to his country. Persons owed more gratitude to him collectively than they did individually. After the battle of Monmouth, Carpenter visited his home, and during his stay was married to Miss Irene Reid. But he did not long remain at home, and, soon after his marriage, returned to his post of duty. He took an active part in the campaigns and participated in many of the battles until a peace was conquered at Yorktown. The war was over now, and the troops were returning home. The battalion to which he belonged was expected home on the evening of a certain day. The young wife knew not whether her husband was living or dead. (Mail communications were not so complete, nor soldiers' letters so common, as during our late war.) Full of hope, however, she prepared supper for both of them, and then sat down to await his coming. Sadly she thought over the probabilities of his return, now that the war had ended. As she was beginning to despair, and her heart to sink with hope deferred, a knock was heard at the door. She started up, but was unable to speak or move further, when the door opened, and, behold, both her husband and brother stood upon the threshold safe and sound. It was too much; she fell senseless, but her husband caught her in his arms. He had returned to enjoy with her the recompense of those hard-fought battles, and to share with her the rest of his eventful life.

"After the close of the war, Mr. Carpenter lived in Connecticut until 1795, when he removed to New York, and purchased a large estate upon the Unadilla River. It was while residing here that the excitement over the Ohio Territory rose to a height exceeded only by that perhaps over California in later years. Public meetings were held, at which were discussed the stories of its delightful climate and inexhaustible wealth. Never having become attached to the country which he had adopted as his home, he was inclined to share in the enthusiasm. And, then, a life in the West would be congenial to his nature. One morning, after having ascended to the roof of his house to shovel off the snow, a frequent necessity in that climate, he broke the intelligence to his wife, that he intended to leave that land of hills and snowbanks, and go to the wonderful Ohio. Having disposed of his estate and other effects which he would not need, and, having procured everything required in his future home, he bade adieu to his numerous friends, who had gathered to say farewell, and started for the new El Dorado on the 12th

day of February, 1801. About twenty young men (Powerses, Smiths, etc., etc.,) who were going out to see the country, and some of whom afterward became permanent settlers, accompanied him. He traveled on wagons and sleds as far as Pittsburgh, where he loaded his effects and passengers into a boat and continued his journey by floating down the Ohio River. The beginning of his journey down the Ohio placed the little party beyond civilized limits, and brought it a foretaste of the privations and luxuries of pioneer life. He traveled by day only, the boat being made fast to shore at night; but shortly after leaving Pittsburgh, some of the passengers became anxious to travel at night also, and Capt. Carpenter finally acceded to their wishes. The boat started out, but did not proceed far before it struck a "sawyer," obstructions which were then so common in the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, and crushed in the bow. The hold was rapidly filling with water, when the break was rudely stopped and the water kept down, until the boat could be run ashore and all on board rescued, though not a little alarmed. A day was spent in repairing the damage, when they again proceeded on their journey with light hearts and buoyant spirits. Congeniality lightened every adversity and swelled every enjoyment. The variety of scenery contributed largely to the entertainment of the little band as it floated down *La Belle Riviere*. This voyage was long remembered and was highly interesting to the younger members of the party at least. Although early in the season, Nature had already donned her spring clothes, for the winter was indeed over. The knolls and valleys were covered with grass, and hundreds of deer, which looked in great wonderment upon the strange barge, were seen grazing upon the green slopes. Sometimes a solitary moose, with his huge antlers, or a bear, would change the monotony of the scene and contribute their mite to the variety of the bill of fare. Then turkeys were so plenty and the deer so tame that *le voyageurs* never lacked for fresh meats. Marietta was left behind; prominent hills faded away in the distance; the last bend was passed, and the boat arrived safely at the mouth of the Scioto River. But here a change must be made; in order to reach his destination, the Scioto River must be ascended. Accordingly, the cargo and passengers were transferred to keel-boats, in which they were moved up to Franklinton, a place consisting of three or four log houses, and situated across the river from where Columbus now stands. Here a



large canoe was procured, and his goods transported up the Olentangy to the place where Hiram R. Carpenter now resides, and where he arrived on the 1st day of May, 1801, having been two months and eighteen days on the voyage. The first business in order was the erection of a cabin for a shelter, which was built on the bank of the river just above highwater mark. It was rudely chinked with split sticks and covered with bark, but without floor or chimney. Flat stones were set up against the logs to make a safe place to build a fire. The cabin was scarcely finished when it commenced to rain, and continued for eight days in succession. After the flood had abated, the land was surveyed, and, according to previous arrangement, Capt. Carpenter received choice of land in the section. He now began prospecting for a site on which to build a permanent home, which must be erected and finished before winter. His assistants were equally engaged in clearing, planting and hunting, and the result was they harvested 500 bushels of corn, besides superabundantly supplying the party with the choicest meats. Game was plenty; deer were to be seen every day; turkeys were frequently shot from the cabin door, and the creeks were full of fish.

"During the summer a substantial hewed-log house was erected on the site of the present residence of Squire Carpenter. The family were moved into it, and provided with improved furniture and other adjuncts of civilization. In the spring following Capt. Carpenter's settlement, his party was joined by two other pioneer adventurers, Thomas Cellar and Josiah McKinnie, who were also men of wealth and influence, having their land paid for, and bringing with them surplus money. Mr. Cellar had purchased an entire section (4,000 acres) of land (a matter to which we shall again have occasion to refer), and, upon his arrival, built his house near the present residence of E. G. Taggart; McKinnie located on the opposite side of the river from Carpenter. The colony now consisted of the families of Carpenter, Powers (who came with Carpenter), Cellar and McKinnie. Cellar was a gunsmith, and had manufactured guns for the war of independence, while the others had used them to that end. They were now associated together, not in war, but in subduing the wilderness, and building up homes in the new land of promise.

"The children of Capt. Carpenter, ten in number, were now young men and women, and, being of congenial disposition, were sufficient company

for each other to render their forest home cheerful and pleasant, instead of suffering it to become lonely and irksome. They often had exciting stories to relate concerning their adventures with wild animals and the Indians. With the latter they were usually on pretty good terms. As many of these pioneer stories have been handed down to the present, we will give one or two by way of embellishment to dry facts. There were those among the Indians, who sometimes became intolerable in their conduct, especially in their demands for whisky, and the whites, in such cases, did not hesitate to enter into a skirmish with them, knowing that they were in bad repute, even with their own people. An old Indian, whose name was Sevans, came to Carpenter's one day and asked for 'whisk.' Ira, the eldest son, who chanced to be present, knowing too well what the result would be, informed Mr. Sevans that he could not be accommodated. The old Indian urged his demand with so much importunity, that it became necessary to use other kinds of persuasion than argument. He first drew his knife, but Ira wrested that from him with little difficulty, which rendered the red man furious, and he began drawing his tomahawk from his belt, when a kick from his pale-faced adversary sent him sprawling out of doors. As soon as he recovered himself, he threw his tomahawk at young Carpenter with all the force he could muster, but the door was brought together in time to intercept the blow. The weapon passed through the door, however, and was now in possession of the white man, who chastised Mr. Sevans quite severely. He then gave him back his knife and tomahawk, with the injunction never to be seen there again—an injunction the old rascal faithfully obeyed.

"There being a surplus of help at home, John Carpenter, the second son, concluded that he would hire out his services, and obtained employment of a Mr. Patterson, who had a trading-post at Sandusky. He set out for that place on foot and alone, following the Indian trails, which were the only roads there were at that time through the wilderness. He traveled in the daytime, guided by these trails and a pocket compass, and at night he slept by the side of a log. His first night's rest was quiet and undisturbed, but late in the second night, he was awakened by shrieks or howls, the source of which was evidently approaching nearer every moment. Being thoroughly awakened and conscious of his impending danger, he remained perfectly still by the side of his log. The shrieks

were soon changed to snuffings, and then the beast sprang upon the log directly over his head; walking down the log smelling of its intended victim, it again alighted upon the ground, and, after smelling of him from head to foot, began to cover him up with leaves that were within reach. After having accomplished this feat to its satisfaction, it retired some distance and began to shriek most hideously, and soon Carpenter heard a response in the distance which convinced him that he was the subject of a grand supper talk. Not wishing to become the food of a panther and her cubs, he quietly crawled out of the pile of leaves which had been heaped upon him and climbed up the nearest tree. The answering sounds which he had heard grew nearer, and soon the young family made its appearance. They tore open the bed of leaves, but their anticipated supper had disappeared. Uttering hideous shrieks, the old one struck the track and followed it to the tree, and, rearing up against the trunk with her fore feet, stared indignantly at the subject of her disappointment. When the morning dawned, the huge panther withdrew her interesting family, and young Carpenter, happy in his escape, went on his journey. Many other incidents of interest pertaining to this pioneer settlement might be narrated, but our space will not permit; so we will return to facts.

"Capt. Carpenter died in 1814. On the evening of the 9th of September, a little more than thirteen years after his settlement in the township, he was returning from the town of Delaware on horseback. The animal on which he was mounted was a very vicious one, and, having left town late, night overtook him before he reached home. He could not see the road, and his horse had no disposition to follow it. Winding along the river, it passed between the bank and a tree that stood very near to it. An overhanging limb swept the rider from his seat, and, being so near the brink, he fell down the precipice upon the rocks below. He raised upon his hands and uttered a solitary cry for help. The familiar voice attracted the attention of a neighbor near by, who hastened to his assistance. He immediately asked for water, which the man, with his hat for a cup, procured for him from the river. Dr. Lamb was soon at the scene of the accident, but his injuries were fatal, and he soon expired, thus ending, at the age of fifty-six, his eventful life. His death cast a cloud over the entire community; all were conscious that they had lost a friend. His family were devotedly attached to him; his physician and

many friends wept at his grave, as they laid him by the side of his wife, who had died ten years before."

Capt. Carpenter's seven children, who survived him, lived to an average age of eighty-one years, aggregating 570 years.\* The eldest daughter, Mrs. Swinton, went to Illinois in 1816, and died in 1873, at the age of ninety-three years. Alfred died in Illinois, and Nathan at his residence in Worthington. The others are all dead except Mrs. Case, now eighty-three years of age, and most of them died in the county in which they grew up. Mrs. Case is living in Licking County, in good health for one of her years. Sarah, who married John Hardin, Esq., and who died at the residence of her son-in-law, A. S. Goodrich, Esq., in the winter of 1878-79, at the age of eighty-eight, was the last surviving child, except Mrs. Case, of Capt. Carpenter. After her decease, her grandson, A. I. Goodrich, whose excellent sketch of the Carpenter family has served us so well in recording the first settlement of this township, indited an affectionate little tribute to her memory, which we give as an appropriate finale to the history of this pioneer family. He pays a beautiful and touching compliment to a noble woman, and his only fault is, that he does not oftener touch the strings of his harp, and sing for the benefit of the public:

"There was naught of living verdure,  
Or of summer's light,  
For the earth was clothed in ermine,  
A true emblem of her life,  
When they bore her to her resting  
In the city of the dead,  
Near by the ancient temple,  
With a slow and measured tread.

"'Twas by the old familiar streamlet,  
Where, full many years ago,  
She had watched the red man sailing  
In his light and fleet canoe.  
She was laid beside a dear one,  
Who had gone some time before,  
When she was left to mourn him,  
For thirty years or more.

"Long had she dwelt among us,  
Was always true and kind,  
And many stories did she tell us  
Of the happy olden time.  
No grave, in her early childhood,  
In all the land was seen,  
Yet she had seen the churchyard  
Filled with her friends and kin.

\* This estimate was made in 1876, at the time Mr. Goodrich wrote the article from which we have quoted so freely in the foregoing pages. Mrs. Hardin, as well as Mrs. Case, was then living.

"But, yet, alas! the time had come,  
A day of grief, a day of gloom;  
We left the cares of the busy world  
To lay her in the tomb.  
Sweet incense to the memory  
Of the sleeper 'neath the sod,  
Till we join her in the presence  
Of the everlasting God."

Thomas and Avery Powers accompanied Capt. Carpenter to the West. They were neighbors in New York, and settled on adjoining farms to Carpenter in this township. Avery was one of the first County Commissioners, a position he filled with credit and satisfaction. He did not live many years, however, to enjoy his new home, but died some time previous to Capt. Carpenter. A son of his, Benjamin Powers, has been, until recently, President of the First National Bank of Delaware, an office he filled acceptably. Thomas Powers served in the war of 1812, and was killed in the battle of the Thames, we believe. Thomas Cellar owned 4,000 acres of land (one section) in the central part of what is now Liberty Township. He was a native of Franklin County, Penn., and came to his new possession in the spring of 1802. Josiah McKinnie came with him, and hailed from the same region. The Cases and James Gillies followed a few years later. These were all related by marriage or otherwise, and located upon the "Cellar section." Thomas Cellar had several sons, among them were Thomas, R. M. and J. F. Cellar. McKinnie was one of the first Associate Judges of Delaware County after its organization. Both he and the elder Cellar died years ago, and sleep in the old burying-ground at Liberty Church. McKinnie's widow is still living, nearly ninety years old, but quite active. The Cellar family was a large one, and representatives of it are to be found in many parts of the county. Of the Case family, there were Ralph, Watson and George Case, who were all pioneers. There are still many descendants of them in the country. George Case and his wife lie buried a short distance east of Powell. In the corner of a large field, by the roadside, stand their tombstones, looking as lonesome as a weeping-willow tree by moonlight.

The Welch's came to Liberty Township in 1804. There were three brothers, John, Ebenezer, and Aaron Welch, and a brother-in-law, Leonard Monroe, and all were from Unadilla County, N. Y. John Welch, the eldest of the Welch brothers, came to Ohio as the agent of the Glover lands, but, liking the country, he settled permanently in Liberty Township. He died in Marl-

borough Township in 1832; Aaron died in Delaware in 1816, and Ebenezer died in 1823. He was a man somewhat addicted to drinking, or had been, but for some time had refrained. He was at Delaware one day, where something went wrong with him, and, to solace himself, drank to intoxication. Late in the evening he started home, a place he never reached. A few days afterward he was found dead in the woods. Abijah Welch was a son of John Welch, as was also Dr. David Welch. Abijah died very early, and was among the first deaths that occurred in the settlement. In fact, it has been said that his grave was the first of a grown-up white person north of Franklinton. This, however, we think a mistake, as Mrs. Carpenter died the same year the Welch's came to the country. John Welch's mother, who came to the country with him, also died early. Billdad, another son of John Welch, came to Delaware County in 1817. A son of his, Augustus Welch, lives in Delaware, a prosperous furniture dealer. John Welch was a Justice of the Peace, and probably the first one in the county. Isaac Welch, a nephew, was also an early settler. He settled near the mouth of Welch's Run. He had a large family, which are scattered; none of them living in the county at present. He himself died on the place of his original settlement, some twenty-five years ago. Leonard Monroe, a brother-in-law to the Welch's, died nearly half a century ago. He was a tailor by trade, and always appeared in company looking extremely neat and well dressed. A devout Christian, Deacon Monroe is still remembered in the community as a very pious man. One day he was lecturing some of his neighbors about not attending church, when they remarked, "Well, but Deacon, you have shoes to wear, and we would have to go barefooted." "Why," said he, "if that is all, I will go barefooted too." So the next church day, the delinquent brothers went to meeting "to see if Deacon Monroe would keep his word." Sure enough the Deacon was there barefooted, and had taken a seat just inside of the door with his feet so displayed that any one on the outside could not avoid seeing them. As each man came up to the door and caught sight of the Deacon's naked feet, he walked in and took his seat. Thus, by adapting himself to circumstances, he largely increased the attendance at church; on this particular Sunday at least. But whether they were drawn thither for the benefit of divine worship, or to see whether Deacon Monroe would attend church barefooted is somewhat problematical.

old home. Laura, the youngest daughter, then sixteen years of age, went to stay with her in her solitude. She had looked after the various little charges around the house one evening, and had gone inside to attend to the housework, when, looking out of the window into the moonlight, she saw two savages approaching the house. Having just heard of the murder of an entire family but a short distance from their neighborhood, she was considerably startled, and exclaimed, 'My God, Electa!' (which was the name of the young wife who sat in the middle of the room with the child in her arms) 'what do you suppose these *critters* want?' Electa understood too well her meaning, and was unable to utter a word. In order that they should not surprise her, Laura advanced, opened the door, and propped it open, then, seizing the ax, she retired behind her sister's chair that she might the better conceal her motions and the ax, with which she had determined to defend them to the last. The savages, armed to the teeth, walked up to the door, came in, and began their parley by making pretenses, during which time Laura remarked that they could obtain what they wanted at her father's house upon the hill. 'Oh, your father live near here?' 'Yes,' she answered; 'only a short distance.' After a few more words, they shouldered their guns and started, as they said, for the 'big house.' Thus the young girl had saved their lives by artfully insinuating that help was near. After they were gone, she received the congratulations and thanks of her sister, who, during this time, had sat speechless and as white as death, which each moment she expected to suffer. After barricading the house, Laura, expecting their return, stood guard with the ax until morning, when they returned to the manor-house. The savages had not gone there, as they pretended they would, but, on the contrary, as soon as they were out of sight, they went into the woods and were never seen afterward."

When the Carpenters first settled in the county, Indians were numerous, and they had several villages within its limits, but none situated in the present township of Liberty. Says Mr. Goodrich in his sketch, speaking of the arrival of the Carpenters: "Unlike the Ohio, the shores of the Olentangy were swarming with Indians, by whom our party was received with many tokens of friendship, notwithstanding the stories they had been told of their hostile and savage nature. The Wyandots predominated in numbers and enlightenment, followed in their order by the Senecas, Del-

awares, Shawanees, Choctaws and the Taways, who were noted for their uncleanness." Although none of their villages were in Liberty, yet its forests were a favorite hunting-ground. The fine springs along both the Olentangy and the Scioto, presented fine sites for camping-places, especially Otter Spring, on the Scioto, where Mr. Stanbery now lives. This was a famous camp-ground, and old "Leather-lips," an Indian chief, whom many of our readers doubtless still remember, made it his camping-place during his annual hunt for many years. It was known throughout the country on account of its water being so cold, and the name Otter became attached to it from the otter found here in early times. The trail from Sandusky to Chillicothe passed by it, and thus it was a well-known watering place to travelers between those points. And it is even a tradition in the neighborhood, that a detachment of Harrison's army, during the war of 1812, camped at the spring on its way to join the main army in the North, and the old road where the troops passed is still pointed out to visitors to the place.

From the cranberry marshes of Sandusky, the trail followed along the west bank of the Olentangy River to Franklinton. Over this trail, the Indians used to pass in the cranberry season with their long trains of ponies laden with cranberries for the markets at Franklinton and Columbus, and where they bartered their berries for flashy cotton bandana handkerchiefs, powder, lead and "fire-water." A. S. Goodrich, who was born and reared in the township, and enjoyed an extensive acquaintance with the Indians, and had their confidence and good will, relates many incidents and amusing reminiscences of the "noble red men." He has now in his possession a war-club that was presented him by a chief, who told him it had been in his family for many generations. It is a rather ugly-looking shillalah, and, wielded by a strong arm, is still capable of cracking any number of skulls. Mr. Goodrich moved this Indian chief, who lived in the neighborhood of Sandusky, and his family and household traps, to Cincinnati, when he left for the reservation of his tribe, and, as a token of his friendship for Goodrich, the chief presented him this family relic, which the pale-face has preserved to the present day.

On the Carpenter farm, which is still owned by Hiram B. Carpenter, a grandson of the original settler, are frequently discovered what are supposed to be Indian graves. Skeletons and human bones have more than once been turned up by the plow

on this place. That they are Indians, there is but little doubt, as they are interred altogether differently from the Mound-Builders, there being no mound raised above the graves. In all yet discovered, as Squire Carpenter informed us, a large flat stone was laid in the bottom of the excavation, other rocks set up around the edge, the corpse placed in this vault and covered with earth. Quite a number of such graves have been discovered on this farm; so many, in fact, as to lead to the belief that it was once used, to a considerable extent, as an Indian burying-ground.

In addition to the dangers to be apprehended from the Indians, there were other sources of peril and annoyance to the pioneers. The woods were full of wild beasts, some of which were ferocious enough to attack people when pressed by hunger. Wolves, wild-cats and panthers were plenty, and sometimes troublesome. Many other minor perils beset them, but received little attention from them, on account of their insignificance as compared to the savage barbarities which took place in many parts of the country during the war of 1812. Then there was the danger of starving to death, of which some entertained wholesome fears. If a man ran out of provisions, he could not go to Columbus or Delaware and purchase a supply, for these places were unborn, and, had they existed then, there was nothing to buy with. Men had hard work to scrape together money enough to pay their taxes. Sugar and coffee were from 25 cents to 75 cents per pound; and everything else that the pioneer had to buy was correspondingly high, while that which he had to sell was correspondingly low. And thus the earlier years were spent in the great wilderness.

The first mill built in Liberty Township, and the first in Delaware County as well, was built in 1804, by Capt. Carpenter. It was run by water-power, and used both for sawing and grinding. The buhrs were cut out of large concretions, a geological formation that abounds in plentiful profusion in this section of the county. But they did ample work for the demands made upon them, and proved a great convenience in the neighborhood. It furnished both meal and lumber for the early settlers, and was the only establishment of the kind in the county for several years. Just how long it did supply the neighborhood with these necessities is not now known. But, some ten or fifteen years later, John Case built a saw-mill on the Olentangy, a little below Carpenter's. It finally ran down, and lay idle for quite a while,

when Harvey and Pomeroy Pasco, whose father built a mill in the southwest part of the township, on the Scioto River, in an early day, obtained possession of it, and repaired it. This was probably about 1835, and for a few years the old mill was run by them. About 1842, Jones, Gunn & Co. commenced the large stone mill near the same site, which is now operated as a woolen factory. It is a large and excellent stone building, three stories high above the ground, and cost originally some \$5,000 or \$6,000—more really than it was actually worth. It is now owned by James Henkle, and is operated exclusively as a woolen factory, though it does not run more than about three months during each year. A grist-mill was built about 1843-44, half a mile above Squire Carpenter's, by Knapp & Glenn. Three or four years later it was bought by Mr. Bieber, and since his death it has been owned by his son, James Bieber. It was originally a wooden building, but, a few years ago, Mr. Bieber commenced a stone building of large dimensions, which cost a considerable sum of money, and which he has not yet succeeded in completing or utilizing, beyond operating a saw-mill in the first story of it. The grist-mill still occupies the old wooden building, and does excellent work. It comprises three run of stones, and, if ever put into the new building, with new machinery, it will be a first-class mill in every respect, the best, perhaps, in the county. In an early day, a saw-mill was erected where the Olentangy Valley Mills now stand. There appear to have been several stockholders in it, among whom were Edmund Goodrich and Martin Case, and Dr. Pickett was also interested in it. A grist-mill was added some years later. It is now owned by Herman Muelzer, a man who thoroughly understands his business and is doing well. It is believed that Sebert Hinton originally built this mill, but no one can say definitely that he did. That he owned it once is well known, and that it changed hands several times, without paying its owners large dividends, before it became the property of Mr. Muelzer, is also known. He, it is said, is the only man that has ever made money out of it. Another of the pioneer mills was erected by Joseph Cellar, one mile above where the Liberty Church now stands, but on the opposite side of the river. The dam was finally washed away, a damage never afterward repaired. The property is now owned by Mr. Rutherford.

The first bridge in Liberty Township was built over the Olentangy at Liberty Church, where the



MAJOR BARTHOLOMEW  
LIBERTY TP.

Lewis Center and Sulphur Spring road crosses. It is a wooden structure, upon stone piers, and was built, the piers by the people, and the superstructure by the county. It was originally built some twenty-five or thirty years ago, and with occasional repairs it still serves the purpose. There are two other bridges spanning the Olentangy in the township, one at the Olentangy Valley Mills, known as the Bartholomew Bridge, and the other at Bieber's Mill. The latter is an iron bridge, and was built in 1875. The Bartholomew bridge, at the Olentangy Valley Mills, was built in 1876: the stonework was let to J. L. L. Jones, and the superstructure to the Canton Wrought Iron Bridge Co. It is a substantial piece of work. Another bridge, in which Liberty is interested, is the Stanbery bridge, over the Scioto River, where the road from Powell, running west, crosses. It was built in 1877; the stonework by Glick, Corbin & Harriott, and the superstructure by the Canton Wrought Iron Bridge Co. Like the Bartholomew bridge, it is an excellent iron bridge, and is substantially built.

The first road through Liberty Township was merely the improving of the old Indian trail which wound along the Olentangy, and was the route from Sandusky to Columbus, or Franklinton, as it then was. This road has been worked at and improved, until it is the best in the township. Liberty is not as well provided with turnpikes and gravel roads as some other portions of the county. So far as dirt roads, or mud-pikes, as they are called—and the name has been singularly appropriate the past winter—they are well supplied, and this class of roads are good enough during the summer season. The road running east and west through Powell has been recently graded, and with a good coating of gravel would be a most excellent pike. The citizens of the township are working to have it thus improved—at the expense of the county, while all, except those immediately interested, oppose such a measure, and maintain that the people whom the road will benefit most should pay the expense of building it. Without entering into a discussion of the matter, we would suggest that the completion of the road, by graveling it, would be a grand improvement to the section of the township through which it passes, and one that is much needed.

The messenger of death entered the pioneer settlement in the year 1804, a little more than three years from the time of the first settlement. On the 7th of August of this year, the wife of

Capt. Carpenter died, and was buried on the old Carpenter homestead. Upon a high point of land, bearing marks of artificial elevation—a cemetery, perhaps of the lost race—with a freestone slab, moss-grown and dimmed with age, she calmly sleeps. Although the first to occupy this pioneer metropolis, many of her loved ones now slumber around her. By her side rests the partner of her joys and sorrows, who followed her ten years later, and, near by, John Carpenter, her son, who died a short while before his father. Several other members of the family occupy places in this little burying-ground, all marked by neat freestone slabs, but much dimmed by age. The tombstone of John Carpenter is profusely illustrated with the emblems of the Masonic Fraternity, thus denoting that he was a member of that ancient and honorable order. The square and compass, trowel, crow, pick and spade, the anchor and ark and many others, familiar to the members of the mystic tie, adorn it. Squire Avery Powers, who came to the country with Capt. Carpenter, died early, and was buried on his farm, which adjoined Carpenter's on the north. One of the Welch brothers, noticed as early settlers, was also an early death in the township. The first birth is contested by B. Powers and Jeremiah Gillies. The date of Gillies' birth is given as August 7, 1803, and it is said that Mrs. Carpenter maintained that he was born before Powers. One of the first marriages of which we have any record was that of Ebenezer Goodrich and Miss Betsey Dixon. They were married at Middlebury, as the settlement about Powell was then called, in June, 1813, by Aaron Strong, a Justice of the Peace. This worthy couple is still represented in the township by numerous descendants, who rank among the best citizens. Nathan Carpenter and Electa Case were married as early, perhaps, as those given above.

Education and religion received the early attention of the citizens of Liberty. The first school taught in the township, of which there is any definite information to be obtained, and, no doubt, the first effort made to advance the cause of education, was taught by Miss Lucy Carpenter, afterward Mrs. James Swinton. The exact date of this school is not now remembered, but was probably within a few years after the first settlement was made. It was taught in the first cabin built by Carpenter, and used by him as a family residence during his first summer in the wilderness. The school was supported on the old subscription plan. An Irishman named Haligan was

among the early teachers in this section. From this small and insignificant beginning, educational facilities have increased in proportion to the demand, until no township in the county surpasses it in this regard. There are eleven school districts in the township, in all of which are good, comfortable schoolhouses well supplied with modern furniture and fixtures. A few years ago, after building the bridge over the Olentangy at Squire Carpenter's, Districts 5 and 6 were consolidated, and a new district formed in the southern part of the township, still retaining the same number of districts as before the consolidation of 5 and 6. Of the eleven schoolhouses, six are brick and five are frame; all commodious buildings and in excellent repair. Good schools by competent teachers are maintained for the usual term each year.

The date of organization of the first religious society in Liberty Township is scarcely to be obtained at this distant day. The old Liberty Church, as it is called, was formed so long ago, that no one now living can tell the precise time of its organization. The almost universal answer to the inquiry is, "Well, it has been in existence ever since I can recollect." And, in regard to the old church building, the same answer is given. It is well known as one of the oldest church societies, as well as one of the oldest church buildings, in Delaware County. The society was originally organized by Rev. Joseph Hughes, of Delaware, but at what date we are unable to learn. Several years later, the church was built. It is located on the west bank of the Olentangy, where the White Sulphur Spring road, as it is called, crosses the river, and is still doing service as a temple of worship, though it has several times been modernized and remodeled, and presents an appearance now to the casual visitor of being as good as new. The present membership of this church is not far from 130, under the pastoral charge of Rev. Thomas Hill. The Sunday-school, superintended by E. G. Taggart, is one of the most flourishing in the county, outside of towns and cities. A fact that is deserving of mention is, that for fifty years, it is said, not a Sunday has passed, rain or shine, without Sunday school, nor a week without the regular weekly prayer-meeting of the church. Deacon Leonard Monroe was a zealous member of this church, and labored "in season and out of season" for the cause of Zion, and to him, more than to any other one man alone, perhaps, is due the high attainment of both church and Sunday school. A cemetery was laid out adjacent to the

church building very early, and is the resting-place of many of the pioneers of Liberty Township. It is one of the oldest public burying grounds in the county.

Among the pioneer preachers of this settlement were the Methodist circuit-riders. Rev. Mr. Beach was one of the first of these itinerant ministers, and was here before there was a regular society formed in the township. Rev. Mr. Bacon was a local preacher of the M. E. Church, and used to hold meetings at Carpenter's house before the era of organized church societies. He married Ann Case and was a permanent resident of the neighborhood. The first Methodist society formed in Liberty Township was organized by Rev. Mr. Emery, at the house of Jarvis Buell, as early, perhaps, as 1825. The society built its first church about 1840, just south of Powell, and across the road from where the present building stands. It was a log structure, very plainly furnished, and christened Emery Chapel, in honor of Rev. Mr. Emery, who organized the first society. In 1859, Emery Chapel was rebuilt. The new edifice was located on the opposite side of the road, and is a neat and tasty frame building still in use. It was erected under the pastorate of the Rev. Levi Cunningham. The church is flourishing, the membership is large, with an interesting Sunday school under the superintendence of A. G. Hall, which is well attended and maintained during the year. These two buildings are the only church edifices in the township.

Another of the landmarks of the township was the pioneer tavern of David Thomas, which stood on the west bank of the Olentangy, on the trail running from Sandusky to Franklinton, and was the general stopping-place for travelers between those towns. This tavern was kept by Mr. Thomas from 1811 until his death in 1826, and the old house, it is said, is still standing. Besides the mills, to which we have already alluded, other pioneer industries comprised the blacksmith-shops along the river trail, and the tanyard over on Middlebury street, all of which are numbered among the things that were.

The first effort at merchandising was made by an Englishman, George Dean, who opened a store on Goodrich's farm about 1829-30. After conducting the business for a few years, he sold out to Edmund Goodrich and Henry Chapman. They sold goods in partnership for two or three years longer, when the store was discontinued. This ended the mercantile business in this section of the



township. The next move was made by Joseph M. Cellar, who opened a little store at Liberty Church. A post office was established at the same place about 1848-49, called Union, and for a time it was quite a lively place, consisting of a store, post office, church, schoolhouse, and—a cemetery. But after a few years, both store and post office were discontinued, thus leaving the township without these useful additions to civilization, until a little store was opened at "Hall Corners," or "Middlebury," by Thomas R. Hall. This was a small affair, and the date of its establishment is not remembered, but it was a number of years ago. This store at "the corners" led to an application for a post office, which, through the influence of Judge Powell, of Delaware, was obtained, and named for him in compliment for his exertions in procuring it. Joshua Pennell was appointed Postmaster. With the building of the Columbus & Toledo Railroad, Powell Post Office made some pretensions toward becoming a town. It was surveyed and laid out as a village in February, and the plat recorded March 29, 1876, for A. G. Hall, the owner of the land upon which it is located. Joshua Pennell was the first merchant, except Hall, as well as the first Postmaster, and opened a store long before the place was laid out. The first house in the place was built by Mr. Hall. Since the laying-out of the village, it has contained as many as three stores at one time, but recently they have been consolidated, and the mercantile business proper is controlled by one house—that of C. W. Mason. In addition to his establishment, there are two drug stores, by Dr. Ingersoll and John Kidwell respectively; two wagon and blacksmith shops, by William Gardner and William Banning; one boot and shoe shop, by David Shaw. Quite a handsome little schoolhouse adorns the town. There is no church within the corporate limits, but Emery Chapel stands just outside of the village, and a little beyond the church is the saw-mill of Mr. Hall, which does a large business in its way. A few years ago a lodge of Odd Fellows was organized in the village, and is to-day one of the most flourishing lodges in the county. A half-dozen or so members of the order, who were somewhat isolated and distant from lodges, conceived the idea of having a lodge of their own, bought a lot and put up a substantial building thereon; the lower story was made into a storeroom, and the upper into a hall. Upon the completion of the building, they applied for and received a charter as Powell Lodge, No. 465, I. O. O. F., with the fol-

lowing charter members: B. B. Nafzger, J. T. Gardner, Ralph Case, William P. Fuller, M. S. Case, J. N. Kidwell, M. G. Staggers, Arthur Dougherty, G. N. Warner, A. S. Goodrich and S. P. Andrews. It was instituted September 29, 1870, by Hiram J. Beebe, G. M., and W. C. Earl, Grand Secretary. The first officers were A. S. Goodrich, N. G.; J. T. Gardner, V. G.; M. S. Case, R. S.; B. B. Nafzger, P. S.; William P. Fuller, Treasurer. The Trustees of the building are Ralph Case, M. G. Staggers and S. P. Andrews. The present officers are Ralph Case, N. G.; T. W. Case, V. G.; Jacob Stietz, R. S., and M. S. Case, P. S., with forty-seven members at last report. As remarked, the lodge owns the building, which cost \$1,600; has a fund at interest of \$2,000, and promptly pays every demand made upon it by the Grand Lodge, or by others. The village cemetery is a well-chosen spot, and is kept with good taste. It was laid out long before the village, and contains the moldering remains of many of the early settlers in this part of the township. The village of Powell, for a new place, and a railroad village, too, contains some very handsome residences. The houses are mostly well built, and upon the whole are much above the standard of towns of its size.

The village of Hyattsville was laid out February 6, 1876, by Henry A. Hyatt. Ed Nalz opened the first store. Henry Cook bought him out, when Nalz opened a store in the depot building. A post office was established in 1877, with H. A. Hyatt as Postmaster. Hyatt originally kept a few goods, but makes no pretensions in mercantile business at present. He keeps a grain warehouse and does considerable shipping. The business may be thus summarized: In addition to the stores of Cook and Nalz, there is a blacksmith-shop by B. Poole, cooper-shop by English, shoe-shop by James Wallace, saw-mill by Henry Oiler. One of the best schoolhouses in the township is located here. There is one saloon, which adds little to the morals of the place.

Both Hyattsville and Powell are the result of the building of the Columbus & Toledo Railroad through the township. There was a store and post office at Powell previous to the building of the road; but for the road, however, it doubtless would never have been anything more than merely "Powell Post Office," as it had been known for years before. Hyattsville, it is quite evident, owes its existence to the road. But it was not in the birth of these thriving little villages that the great benefit to the township of this road

lay; it was in bringing the best markets in the country into the midst of the people. With two shipping stations in the limits of the township, the people are well supplied with facilities for

getting rid of their surplus produce and stock. Then, the road itself is a valuable one, and one that any section should be proud of. It is one of the best-ballasted and best-equipped roads in the State.

## CHAPTER XV.

### BERKSHIRE TOWNSHIP—INCIDENTS OF EARLY SETTLEMENT—INDIAN ALARMS—CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS.

"Where nothing dwelt but beasts of prey,  
Or men as fierce and wild as they,  
He bids the oppressed and poor repair,  
And builds them towns and cities there."

—*Old Hymn.*

THE world is now taking time to look back, and the story of the pioneer is becoming one of absorbing interest. Ohio was for so long a time considered "out West," that its people, scarcely yet out of the woods, took little interest in those traditions relating to a condition of society but little removed from their own. But

"While History's muse the memorial was keeping  
Of all that the dark hand of Destiny weaves,"

the onward rush of civilization has pressed back the Western frontier, making the once Northwestern Territory the central link in the brilliant chain of States. This awakening to the true value of the pioneer history of this country, comes in many respects too late. The children of the pioneer settlements have been gathered to their fathers within the past decade, and the old landmarks, one by one, have decayed and passed away with those who placed them. The men who opened up the forest of Berkshire to the illuminating rays of civilization, though possessed of an unusual degree of culture for that day, were practical men. They came to better their material prospects, and, while they labored to bring about them those influences which would mold the new community into the highest form of social life, they did not undertake to demonstrate a theory in social philosophy. Their labor has not been in vain. To the thoughtful observer, the traces of their earnest watchfulness is everywhere apparent. In but few places elsewhere in the county did the schoolhouse and the church take such early and deep root as in Berkshire, and the careers of her sons and daughters at home and abroad, could they be spread before us, would furnish ample proof of the wisdom and pious fidelity

of the early founders. But they are now gone. "O'er a' the ills o' life victorious," crowned with the "ornament of a meek and quiet spirit," the pioneer has been laid to rest.

"No ominous hour  
Knocks at his door with tidings of mishap.  
Far off is he, above desire and fear;  
No more subjected to the change and chance  
Of the unsteady planets."

But we who remain, upon whose untutored shoulders the burden of responsibility rests with so poor a grace, look in vain to the story of the early days for the secret of their success. They lived wiser than they knew, and, glad to think that the rising generation would be wiser than they, died and made no sign. The historian finds himself not more favored than the socialist. The men who faced the difficulties of frontier life in the opening decades of the nineteenth century, found no time to trace their record, and the following pages are presented more as the result of a fortunate groping in the dark than as an historical array of facts.

Berkshire was formed of United States Military land, and is five miles square. It is bounded on the north by Kingston, on the east by Trenton, on the south by Genoa, on the west by Berlin, and was known in the United States Military Survey as Township 4, Range 17. The first organization of Berkshire as a separate township was in 1806. Previous to this time, it was a part of Sharon Township, in Franklin County, but on petition it was set off by itself and consisted of certain sections of townships which will be better understood if we use the names subsequently acquired. As originally erected, it included the fourth section of Brown, the third section of Kingston, the east half of Berlin and Orange Townships and the west half of Genoa, and the present Berkshire Township. June 8, 1813, the west half of Genoa

was set off to the township of Harlem, which then included the whole of Genoa. September 3, 1816, the east half of Orange Township was set off to form that township, and on the 8th of January, 1820, the east half of Berlin was set off to form that township. These subtractions left Berkshire in the form of an L, consisting of Sections 2 and 3 of the present Berkshire Township, with Section 3 of Kingston and 4 of Brown. When Delaware County was set off from Franklin, the eastern part of this county was set off, at the first session of the Commissioners' Court, into a separate township, with its boundaries as follows: "Beginning at the northeast corner of Section No. 2 of Township 5 (Kingston), Range 17, of the United States Military Survey; thence south with said line to the south line of county; thence with the south line of county to the east line of said county; thence north with said county line to the Indian boundary line; thence westerly with said boundary line to the east boundary of Marlborough Township; thence south with said boundary line to the southeast corner of said township; thence east to the place of beginning." By taking a map of the county and tracing the lines, it will be observed that the present townships of Harlem, Trenton and Porter, with the east half of the townships of Kingston, Berkshire and Genoa, were included in this township, besides the townships of Bennington, Harmony, Peru and Lincoln, now in Morrow County. This geographical "what-not" was called Sunbury, and has succeeded in handing down its title to the thriving village of that name, in Berkshire Township. By the erection of successive townships its territory was gradually diminished, until in 1821 it only included the east half of Berkshire and Trenton Townships. When Berkshire's loss of the sections in Kingston and Brown was compensated by the addition of Sections 1 and 4 from Sunbury Township, the absence of the record renders doubtful, but probably about the time of the erection of Trenton into a separate township. The surface is a fine, rolling country, lying high and in admirable shape for tilling, and, with the exception of a small prairie, a little northeast of Berkshire Corners, was originally covered with a dense forest. This prairie was a low piece of ground, about half a mile long, of irregular shape, reaching upward of a half-mile in the widest part. It was a noted deer lick in the early time and the resort of immense flocks of pigeons. Various opinions were entertained by the early settlers as to the origin of the spot, the preponder-

ance being in favor of the theory that at a very early period the place was submerged by water held there by a beaver dam, or natural obstruction of fallen timber, and thus the natural growth of the forest prevented. The first settlers found the timber skirting the lower part of this spot made impassable by the number of fallen trees. There was a small spring here which still exists, and in the wet season the accumulated waters, obstructed by the fallen timber, backed up so that frequently they nearly found an outlet over the river banks into the Little Walnut, which flows across this plat. This stream, coming from the north, takes a southwest course at this point, but, changing its direction below the Sunbury road, it flows to the southeast, and joins the Big Walnut just below Galena. The latter river intersects the township just east of Sunbury Village, and, taking a southwesterly course, passes Galena and reaches the Scioto River in the southern part of Franklin County. This river was known by the early settlers near it, as Gehenna, but without any obvious reason, and lower down is still known by the local name of Big Belly. These streams afford Berkshire ample drainage, and at an early day afforded by canoes a means of communication with the older settlements. The high divide between these two streams constitutes nearly one-half of the township, and was formerly covered almost exclusively with oak. This timber is evidently of a second growth, giving ground for the opinion that at an early period the timber along this elevation was entirely prostrated by a devastating tornado. Across the Little Walnut, on the rise of ground beyond, is found the same quality of oak of immense size, evidently a part of the original forest growth. Here is found also a generous variety of timber, including maple, hickory, walnut, butternut, elm, etc. Occasional elm swamps were found on the west side and in the northern part, but they dried up by a natural process when freed from timber and exposed to the influence of the sun. The general character of the soil is that of a light yellow clay, admirably adapted to grass and corn. The prairie and the elm swamps are the exceptions to the general rule of clay. In these is found a rich, black soil, highly prized by the farming community. Grain raising and feeding stock for market receive the principal attention of the farmers. Four places have at different times aspired to metropolitan honors in the township: Berkshire, in the northwest; Rome, near the middle; Galena, in the southern, and Sunbury, in the eastern middle part.

The two latter are thriving villages about the same size.

The pioneer of Berkshire was Col. Moses Byxbe, of Lenox, Berkshire County, Mass. He was a man of wealth and standing in his native town: a man of shrewd business ability and of great decision of character. He united the business of "keeping hotel" with that of storekeeper, and in this way had come into possession of a large number of soldiers' land warrants, and located them in Section 2 of what is now Berkshire, and in Section 1 of the present township of Berlin, 8,000 acres in all. He afterward bought large tracts of land in Brown and Genoa, and was the largest landholder ever in the county. In June, 1804, he fitted out a four-horse team, in charge of Orlando Barker, a three-horse team, with Witter Stewart as driver, and a single-horse wagon, driven by Solomon Smith, and, loading with goods from his store and his household effects, started them for the West. Mr. Byxbe led the way with his family in a two-horse carriage, in that day an indisputable evidence of his wealth. He persuaded Azariah Root, a surveyor and resident of Pittsfield, Mass., to accompany him, promising to give him employment to pay for his land. He also brought his nephew, Edward Potter, then a boy of thirteen years of age, to act as clerk in the store he proposed to start. Taking up their line of march, the little colony started on their journey in the track of the Scioto colony, which had gone out the year before. Their course was to Fishkill, thence across the river through Newburgh to Easton, Harrisburg, Carlisle, and Shippensburg. Here the little caravan held council as to the rest of their course, whether to go to Chambersburg or to cross the Three Brothers to Strawsburg and thence on to Bedford. The latter course was decided upon, Root taking the lead some distance in advance on the road toward Somerset. When near Bedford, Byxbe concluded to go to the left of the usual route, and struck the river at Redstone, now Brownsville. Here he found a Mr. Hutchinson and family bound for Cincinnati, and stayed five days. Deciding to take the river, a flat-boat was built capable of carrying fourteen horses, with wagons, baggage, and the united families. Thus provided, they started down the river to Pittsburgh. Here Byxbe made considerable purchases of iron goods, and, to lighten the boat, which found it difficult to navigate the river in its shallow state of water, sent the horses across the "pan-handle" to Wheeling. On arriving at Wheeling, learning that he was as near

Worthington there as he would be at the mouth of the Scioto, he prepared to start overland to his destination from that point. He unloaded only a part of his goods and arranged that Hutchinson should land the balance at Portsmouth. From Wheeling, Mr. Byxbe came to Zanesville, thence to Lancaster, Franklinton, and Worthington, arriving at the last-mentioned place in the latter part of August. They overtook Root and his family at Franklinton, where they had been waiting some two or three days. At Worthington they found the colony in a woful condition. The season had been extraordinarily wet, and there was "water, water, everywhere, but not a drop to drink." The freshets had made the river unfit to use, and the colonists had dug holes a few feet in the ground and used the surface water as it filtered in. The consequence was that the whole community were sick, shaking with the ague. Their crops had largely failed, and many had nothing but green corn to eat. Here Mr. Byxbe stayed nearly three months and built a two-story frame house. He sent men in canoes down the river to Chillicothe for flour and bacon, and bought a steer. This was killed, and, it is said, was eaten up before the meat lost its natural heat. While here he went to his land in Berkshire, and, choosing a building site on the banks of the Little Walnut, in the prairie, built cabins for his home, and stables. He also built a cabin for Mr. Root about a half-mile south of where the "Corners" now are, on the Berkshire road. Meanwhile he had got his effects from Portsmouth and sold all his store goods to Nathaniel Little, before opening the packages. Early in November, the first load of household goods were sent forward to Berkshire from Worthington. It took a whole day to go and another to return, although the road had been chopped out by Col. Byxbe's direction after reaching Worthington. Load succeeded load until both families were established in their new homes. After making the cabins comfortable, Mr. Byxbe began to lay plans for settling up his purchase. Berkshire street was surveyed out through his land, and farms laid out abutting on it, the surveying being done by Mr. Root. Early in January, 1805, Mr. Curtis, a shoemaker, came to the settlement, followed by John Kilbourn, Ralph Slack, Elem Vining, Sr., a Mr. Harper, and Adonijah Rice. These came in singly, in close succession, during the winter. Close after these came some negroes, Sarah Brandy and Polly Noko, who went to Berlin afterward. Polly Noko's husband was detained

at Chillicothe, and sent fourteen cows by a negro boy, Jack, to the Salt Reservation, in the present township of Brown, where he was to cut browse for them, but the boy, becoming infatuated with a girl in the settlement, let them go in the woods, and went to work for Col. Byxbe. In the meantime, Maj. Thomas Brown, who had gone to Detroit looking for land to locate upon, came back by way of the Byxbe settlement. He was persuaded to cast in his lot with this community, and remained with them until June. Meanwhile the boy Jack, after asking Col. Byxbe to marry him to the girl of his heart (who explained his legal inability to accommodate him), applied to Maj. Brown, who possessed the title of Squire as well. Here the difficulty was not less insurmountable, as he had no jurisdiction. How the poor fellow made out is not known, but the cows starved to death for lack of attention.

In June of 1805, by Mr. Byxbe's directions, Mr. Root surveyed a road out to the present site of Granville, and as soon as this was completed, the Byxbe family, in their carriage, accompanied with a wagon in which rode Potter, Brown, and another man who furnished one of the two horses, started for Lenox, Mass.; Brown for his family, and Byxbe for more settlers. The whole male portion of the settlement escorted them, cutting out the road as far as surveyed, taking three days to accomplish the distance. Each night they built substantial camps of elm bark, which they left standing for those who might pass over the road subsequently. On their journey out they met the colony which settled at Granville, within two days' travel of their destination. In the following year, Maj. Brown returned with his family, accompanied by David Prince and John Patterson with their families, Col. Byxbe remaining behind to spread the news of his new-found El Dorado and to sell it. Joseph Prince followed early the next spring. On arriving at the frontier, Maj. Brown found a wagon-track leading toward his destination, the first track to Berkshire over that route. It was subsequently found to be the track of Nathaniel Hall, who afterward built the mill on Alum Creek. About this time came the family of James Gregory—a family of high social position and mental attainments. The names of Solomon Jones, a Mr. Helt, and George Fisher also appear, and, further south, those of John B. Grist, Joseph Patrick, David Armstrong, Samuel and David Landon, and Gideon and William Oosterhaus. In 1806, steps were undertaken by

Maj. Brown to have the township organized, and it was set off with the name of Berkshire. It was not long before Mr. Byxbe returned and occupied a double log-cabin, which he had built on the "street" just before he went East.

In 1807, Ichabod Plumb, with his family, and Dr. Reuben Lamb, with his wife and child, came to Berkshire Corners. Some years before, Dr. Lamb, then an unmarried man, had started for the Mississippi Valley, but, meeting Col. Byxbe at Pittsburgh, was persuaded to come to Berkshire. He was disappointed with the place, however, and, thinking that Worthington promised to be a prosperous place, he left Berkshire after remaining a few months and settled in the former place. Here he married his wife and became intimate with Mr. Plumb, who was one of the original members of the Scioto colony, which went out from New Haven County to Worthington in 1803. A little previous to the time of which we write, Messrs. Plumb and Lamb had sold out their property in Worthington, and, on horseback, had made a tour of inspection through the country toward the Wabash River. On their return journey they passed through Urbana, and, attracted by the place, they decided to locate there. Soon after their return to Worthington, some member of Col. Byxbe's family falling sick, Dr. Lamb was summoned. Mr. Byxbe, finding, in this interview, that the doctor had not bought land elsewhere, set about securing so valuable a member for his colony at the Corners. This point, though considerably improved since Dr. Lamb's first visit, was even then not so promising as many other points, but the Colonel made him large inducements in the way of land donations, and, in view of subsequent events, doubtless gave him an insight to his plans which won him over to Mr. Byxbe's project. Nevertheless, he had given his word to join Maj. Plumb, and he did not feel disposed to break his pledge to his friend, but he set about bringing Maj. Plumb over to the new plan. When these two old friends met, and Dr. Lamb broached the subject, there was a warm discussion which lasted nearly all day. The result was that they both moved into the settlement, with the understanding that when the county of Delaware should be formed, the county seat should be located at the Corners. In the same year came John B. Grist, a native of Luzerne County, Penn. Mr. Grist depended upon his labor for the support of his family, and had spent the previous winter logging in the woods. He had thus secured considerable lumber, and, deciding to go West, he sought

to accomplish the double object of taking his lumber to market, and, at the same time, forward his family toward the destination he had chosen. Placing his family, household goods, his cart, oxen and horse upon a raft which he had constructed of his lumber, he launched out on the Susquehanna River. On reaching tide water he sold his lumber, and, with the proceeds of the sale as his sole capital, he prepared to strike out into the wilderness. At that early day the sale of his raft did not bring a fortune, and he had gone only a little west of Zanesville when his money gave out. Here he was forced to stop for some time, while he earned means to continue the journey. On reaching the Big Walnut he made a short stay, and while here spent his last cent for three bushels of corn, which he bought of a settler. Here he fell in with David Armstrong, who was, within a few cents, in as poor a financial condition as himself. Thus barehanded they came into the forests of Berkshire Township, and secured land of Col. Byxbe, a half a mile north of Sunbury. Their families were ill provided for the winter that was fast approaching. There were no cabins in the immediate vicinity, their larder (to adopt the name of a latter-day convenience) was empty, and only the corn which they had purchased a few days before, stood between them and starvation. Hastily setting up some poles in tent fashion, they covered them with bark, and in this rude tabernacle placed their families and household goods. While on the Walnut, Armstrong had bought some corn, and, desiring to take it all to mill, they each mounted a horse for the purpose of carrying it to Chillicothe. The distance was considerable, but there was a blazed track most of the way, and the knowledge of the destitute state of their families spurred them on. They were soon on the return road and rapidly nearing their destination, when a heavy rain began to fall. Covering the bags containing the meal with deerskins, they experienced no difficulty in making their way across rivers and through the mud until they reached Alum Creek. This stream they found swollen to the brink, the water rushing along its course, threatening to sweep them away with its current, should they attempt to force a passage. The situation was distressing. Beyond the angry flood, their poorly sheltered families were without food, and with them was their only means of present subsistence. They were not long in deciding upon their action. Finding a hollow sycamore log in which they carefully bestowed the larger part of their meal, and fixing the bags con-

taining the remainder firmly to their horses, they plunged into the stream. The issue of the event for some time stood in doubt, but the heroic fortitude which made the early settler the fit pioneer of the nineteenth century, carried them safely through. Hurrying to their wigwam, they found their families anxious for their safety, and with the last morsel of food consumed. The meal was found thoroughly mixed up, and, without more ado, was transferred to the bake-kettle, and soon set before the half-famished family.

In 1808, the Hon. Ezekiel Brown, one of the most distinguished of Delaware County's early settlers, came to Berkshire and settled on land east and a little north of where Galena now is. Mr. Brown was one who would prove a valuable addition to any community. He came from Lycoming Co., Penn., where he had been elected to Congress for one or two terms. His native place, however, was in Orange County, N. Y., where he was born March 13, 1760. In 1776, he enlisted in the Revolutionary army, and, joining the forces under Washington just after the battle of Trenton, he participated in several engagements. Some two years later, while on a furlough to visit his home, then in what is now Lycoming County, Penn., he was unfortunately captured by the Indians. The incident, as related by his daughter, Mrs. Samuel Leonard, is as follows: There had been numerous Indian alarms, and the people had finally betaken themselves to a strong, hewed-log cabin, which was easy of defense. Here they awaited the onset of the savages, but in vain. The Indians were too wise in their style of warfare to accept such a gage of battle. They kept secreted in the neighborhood for days, until the settlers, lulled into a false feeling of security, sallied forth to their homes. It seems almost incredible at this day that so fatal a mistake could be so easily made. No sooner did the savages see their plans succeeding, than, rushing in upon the unsuspecting and defenseless settlers, they commenced their work of butchery. Brown's father and mother were ruthlessly murdered, and himself and a sister with her seven children were carried off into Indian captivity. It was some mitigation of their situation that they were in the same band, but this was not suffered long to continue. The mother was separated from her children, and the children from each other. Meanwhile Brown was forced to pass through the forms preceding adoption into the tribe. Three times during his journey to the main town of the Cayugas, near

where Scipio, N. Y., now stands, was he forced to run the gantlet. The first time he received a severe wound from a tomahawk; the second time, less fortunate, he received a terrible blow from a war club, which felled him to the ground in a fearfully mangled condition. His life seemed ended, but, finally recovering, he proceeded to the destination of his captors, where, after another trial, he passed through the fearful ordeal unharmed, and was adopted by a family who had lost a son in the war. He was afterward taken to Canada, where he found his sister and got clue of her children. Here he managed to get into the employ of a trader, and soon bought his freedom, but the ties of kindred were too strong for him to leave his sister in captivity. He at once set about securing her release and that of her seven children. Through his efforts she was enabled to purchase her own ransom, while Mr. Brown bent all his efforts toward the release of the children. One by one they had been secured until all save the second child, a boy of twelve or fourteen years. It was nearing the time when he hoped to return to his friends, that he learned a party of Indians with the boy was about to start for a distant point to hunt. If this should occur, he despaired of ever seeing the child again, and determined to kidnap the boy. Calling the Indians into the trader's cabin, he treated them with the strongest potations at his command. When they were drunk, he pushed the Indians out and the boy within, and, barring the door, awaited the issue. This summary treatment was not relished by the savage lords of the forest, and they resented it by sundry kicks and more forcible attacks upon the door. There was no sign of yielding, and, as any other more forcible measures were deemed unsafe, they accepted the philosophy of the "fox and the grapes," and left the boy behind. But the difficulty was not so easily surmounted. The lad had become enamored with the wild life of the woods, and longed to be with his Indian friends. One day, when let out to play, his boy companion was instructed to watch him. He soon came rushing in saying that Nathan was going after the Indians. Mr. Brown, hastily going to the door, saw the boy a half a mile away, running with all his strength to regain his friends gone days before. With a sinking heart, almost in despair, he threw off his coat, and started in pursuit. The boy was finally recaptured, and, with the whole family, returned in 1783 to their friends in Pennsylvania. Seven years later, Mr. Brown came to Ohio, and,

in 1808, came to Berkshire Township, where he died April 24, 1840. His arrival in 1808 was followed very soon by the families of Joseph Cowgill and Oliver Still. The next most notable accession to the pioneer ranks of this township was that of the Carpenter families. Judge Benjamin Carpenter, with his family, came in about 1811, and settled a little north of Sunbury Village, while Gilbert Carpenter came about a year previous, and settled near Galena. The Carpenters came from Luzerne County, Penn., and were active leaders in the communities which they left. Judge Carpenter had been a member of Congress, as well as Associate Judge, and his brother Gilbert a prominent Methodist minister. The effect of such additions to the mental and moral forces of this community was soon made apparent. The whole machinery of society was organized and vigorously in motion, before the other townships about had fully recovered from the retarding shock of transplanting. For some time Berkshire afforded the only church and school privileges of any sort for miles around.

Up to 1808, when the county was formed and its offices located at the town of Delaware, Berkshire Corners continued to thrive as the probable location of the future county seat. Indeed, it was expressly promised by Col. Byrbe to the early settlers of Berkshire, and it had, doubtless, great weight in determining the settlement of many others. The formation of a new county, and the close proximity of its capital, offered peculiar inducements to the laudable ambition of the cultivated pioneer, and, although the county seat was located at Delaware, the county has honored itself and Berkshire in elevating several of its pioneers to positions of honor and trust. Hon. Ezekiel Brown was elected County Commissioner, and Thomas Brown as Associate Judge, at the first organization of the county. There had been some local consideration of the feasibility of removing the State capital to the Corners. It was shown with considerable plausibility that the location was central, it was as easy of access as any location, and the over-sanguine felt, that, with the county seat there, it was only a question of time when Berkshire would put off its rustic garb, and, donning urban habiliments, would grow prosperous and influential. What might have been can hardly be determined at this date. It is sufficient to say that the first requisite for such an event was wanting. The leading genius of the place had opposing interests to satisfy. After disposing

of his land in the vicinity of the "Corners," in company with Judge Baldwin, Col. Byxbe came into possession of some 16,000 acres situated about the present site of Delaware City, and at once transferred his family and interests to that place. Following the same line of action as at the "Corners," he called about him a colony which soon organized the county to their own liking, much to the dissatisfaction of the Berkshire community.

In 1808, Nathaniel Hall erected the first mill in that section of the county, on Alum Creek. The structure was a saw-mill, grist-mill and distillery combined, and was situated on the creek, near the place now spanned by the covered bridge, on the Delaware and Sunbury pike. This site, though situated within the present limits of Berlin, was essentially a Berkshire institution. The project, however, commanded the hearty co-operation of all the settlers around, who took their dinners with them one day and helped to build the dam. The science of engineering was in a crude state in the settlements at that time, and the dams constructed were rough expedients made tolerable only by the stern necessities of the situation. Log pens were constructed six feet square, roughly locked and pinned together at the corners. A succession of these constructions were placed across the stream at short intervals, and filled with stone. These were the anchors of the dam, which were further strengthened by a mass of stone placed in front. Behind these was piled a quantity of brush, which formed a support for the mass of earth which was placed upon it. Such a structure at its best estate could offer but little resistance to the dislodging power of a freshet, and required constant repairs, which made milling a discouraging business. This mill was situated on the main Indian trail which led up along Alum Creek from the south and east, and passed up the stream into Brown and on to Sandusky. Here the Indians brought their corn and traded for meal, but not always with complete satisfaction to themselves. They took some exception to the way of dealing and threatened to burn the mill, a threat they fortunately failed to carry out. The mill proved to be a great boon to the community. Heretofore, "going to mill" had been an arduous undertaking. Mills were at first from fifty to seventy-five miles away, involving a long, tedious journey through trackless woods and over unbridged streams. Such a journey took nearly a week's time, and, as but a small

amount of corn or wheat could be carried, it involved a cost of time which the busy frontier farmer could ill afford. To obviate such difficulties, the early settler had recourse to various expedients. A common one learned of the Indians was to cut off a stump level on the top and burn out a large basin in the prepared surface. A conveniently placed sapling was bent over and made to do duty as spring-pole, to the end of which was attached, by a grapevine, a heavy wooden pestle. With these crude arrangements the early settlers crushed bushels of corn and wheat. Gradually mills were built nearer the frontier settlements, and the boys, as soon as they could balance a bag of corn or wheat on horseback, were "sent to mill." Owing to the faulty construction of the dams, grinding could be relied upon only about six months in the year, a fact which proved a great inconvenience. It is related of an early settler, that, starting out with a bag of wheat to be ground, he went from mill to mill without success, and, after riding 150 miles, he reached his cabin with his wheat unground. At other times the crude machinery would get out of repair, or several bags of grain would be on hand, delaying the new-comer till late in the night. An incident of this nature is related by the widow of David Lewis, Jr., at this writing still living in Berlin, at the age of ninety-six. Going to mill with her husband one day, she mounted the horse and balanced the grain, while he led the way on foot. Arriving at the mill, they found themselves forced to wait until nearly night. Starting as soon as they could get their grist, they took the beaten track for home. After going some distance, and finding night fast approaching, Mr. Lewis desired to take a short cut across the untracked forest. To this Mrs. Lewis demurred, but finally, confiding in the judgment of her husband, at his suggestion, she headed the horse in the proper direction, gave him rein and trusted to his piloting them home. After proceeding in the dark for some distance, guided only by the instinct of the animal, they began to entertain some misgivings as to where they were going. Their fears were finally confirmed when the horse, turning into an open space in the forest, began to graze. They at once recognized the place as a favorite pasturage where their horses got the bulk of their living, and that there was nothing to do but to wait for the moon to rise, by which they could shape their course. They succeeded in coming out within a mile of their cabin, though obliged to



cross a stream on a log over which the water was flowing to the depth of eighteen inches, to reach it. This they accomplished in safety, Mr. Lewis supporting his wife, while he felt his way with his foot.

In 1811, Maj. Brown built the first brick house in the township, placing it southeast of the "Corners," where it now stands. There is a tradition that the walls were pierced by portholes for muskets, and certain marks are pointed out to the visitor as the traces of these holes. This is a mistake. The house is the immediate successor of the log cabin, and was built of brick made near the spot where the building stands. It was a peculiarity of Berkshire that brick houses preceded "framed" houses, but it is explained by the fact that there happened to be a brickmaker and mason in the community. During the war of 1812, this house was used as a rallying point, and a place of security, for the families of the little settlement, but it was never called to face the foe. The war of 1812 affected Berkshire not essentially different from the other townships of the county removed from the frontier. Judge Carpenter furnished a large quantity of oats for the army, and John B. Grist and David Armstrong, who had been drafted, were detailed as teamsters to haul them to their destination. After Hull's surrender, in common with the whole Northwest, the Berkshire community shared in the fear that the Indians, unchecked by the presence of an army, would pour over the boundary line and carry fire and bloodshed into every exposed settlement. Nothing, however, occurred to excite special alarm until the scare occasioned by "Drake's defeat." When this alarm spread, causing the people to forsake their homes, and, frantic with fear, to rush on blindly in search of safety, many took the main road through Berkshire Corners. When questioned, the terror-stricken refugees could give no intelligible answer save that the Indians were upon them. The alarm appeared to be so general that it excited some apprehension in the mind of Maj. Brown, and, in the course of a conversation with Crandall Rosecrans, the father of Gen. Rosecrans, he said he wished some one would go up the road and find out what the matter was. Rosecrans at once volunteered to go, and, setting out on foot, armed with a rifle, he prepared to meet the foe. He had got out about a mile, when he descried a horseman coming rapidly toward him. Stepping behind a stump, he awaited his approach. It proved to be an officer sent to inform the refugees that the

alarm was a false one. He delivered his message to Rosecrans and returned. This alarm, though it proved to be a false one, put the people in a chronic state of fear. At another time, two men, coming in from Mount Vernon, camped out in the woods near the Corners. Toward morning they were aroused from their sleep by an unusual noise, and they rushed forthwith into the settlement with the alarm of Indians. They declared that they had heard Indians singing their war songs as they danced, and begged the people to put themselves in a state of defense. The fighting force at once rallied, and a party went out to investigate the disturbance. After a careful examination of the whole ground, nothing of a suspicious nature could be found. A large hog's nest was discovered, and, as the night was cold, it is probable that they made this noise which the terrified imaginations of the travelers construed into Indian war songs. Not long after, another alarm was given, but not generally credited by the settlers. Two men by the name of Sturdevant had been out for some time in the woods of Kingston Township, ostensibly boring for salt, though generally believed to be engaged in counterfeiting. They came rushing into the settlement one day, declaring that they had been fired at, but had escaped, and, in returning the fire, had hit an Indian. To satisfy the timid, a party went out to look up the matter. The spot where the supposed Indian fell was found, and a single drop of blood, but nothing more. It was simply a ruse of these fellows to get a plausible reason for leaving. These alarms had but a transitory effect upon the settlement at Berkshire Corners or elsewhere in the township; not even the most timid entertained for a moment the thought of abandoning their new houses. Nor did it interrupt the regular business of clearing the forest or improving their farms.

The industrial enterprises engaged in by the early settlers were the outgrowth of their necessities and peculiar situation. The first great demand was for mills to grind their grain near at home, and others to furnish lumber with which to make homes and furniture and utensils of various sorts. Close upon these came the distilleries, which proved a mingled curse and blessing. Whisky was used with a freedom that would appear startling at this day, and was not essentially different in its effects then than now. The demand for these distilleries came not from the demand for drink, but from the demand for a market for their corn, which grew in such fruitful abundance.

There were, at different times, three "stills" in operation within the limits of Berkshire Township. A grist-mill had been built, about 1810, by Nicholas Manville, half a mile southeast of the present village of Sunbury, and, five years later, he added a saw-mill, and, a few years later, added a "still." It passed into the hands of Maj. Strong about 1817, and from him to Eleazer Gaylord in 1825. In its palmyest days, the business was carried on in a two-story stone building, about 25x35 feet. This sufficed to use up a large part of the surplus corn, or, rather, rendered it more to the taste of the pioneer. Here pure whisky was sold at 20 cents a gallon, and the settlers felt bound to support home institutions. Another "still" was erected just north of the village of Galena in 1820, by Joseph and Steven Larkin. This they soon after sold to George Vanfleet, an early settler in Galena, and built another just below the town, near the races which connect the Big and Little Walnut Rivers. A walnut tree and an abandoned well just south of the railroad depot in Galena, marks the site of the Vanfleet "still." The habit of using whisky without restraint was not contracted in the new country. The early settlers, many of them, brought not only the custom with them, but the means to maintain its practice. The Oosterhaus brothers brought several barrels of whisky with them from the East, and supplied their less fortunate neighbors at 3 cents a drink or 16 cents a gallon. It is said that Gideon Oosterhaus' books are still preserved, which show accounts for whisky at the current rates against many of the names familiar to the present citizens of Berkshire. Nor was this whisky shorn of its intoxicating qualities. A story is related of two intoxicated fellows who became enraged at each other, and proceeded each to "take it out of the other's hide." Long time the battle stood in doubtful poise. The combatants, with nothing in the way of clothing left but their pants, were captured and separated. No sooner were they left than they sought each other out and began their pounding. At last they were captured and put over the fence in fields on opposite sides of the road, and there, too drunk to get over the fence, they remained breathing forth defiance like two enraged bulls. But the society of Berkshire by no means tolerated such bestiality. The boys of Sunbury, for their own amusement, and to exhibit in some sense the feeling of the community, adopted a summary mode of punishing such delinquents. When found drunk upon

the ground, one would seize each arm and leg, and, laying the victim on a barrel face downward, he was rolled until his stomach yielded its contents, and he was sobered up. One or two applications of this treatment sufficed to keep the victim off the street when in an intoxicated state. One inveterate old case, who was familiarly known as Uncle Tommy, seemed to defy the correctional force of the old method, and more stringent methods had to be adopted. He was seized one time, thrust into a hogshead, and rolled some fifty yards into the creek. The treatment was severe, but the cure was radical for the time. Next in order came the establishing of tanneries. The distance of markets and the great cost of transportation made the tannery of prime importance to the early settler. All the material that entered into the making of shoes or harness, and for a long time a large part of men's clothes, called for a tannery to make it available. As early as 1816, William Myers sunk vats, and began to manufacture leather a half a mile southeast of Sunbury Village, across the creek from the saw and grist mill. Three years later, a Mr. Whitehead built a similar building at Galena, and did a thriving business. The business continued through a change of hands, and was discontinued in 1873. The building and tools are still there, near the mill-race, and are owned by Mr. Vanfleet.

Traffic in stock was limited by the necessities of the situation to the breeding and selling of hogs. These easily became acclimated and found a rich support in the nuts with which the woods abounded. Horses could not be raised fast enough to supply the home demand, and cattle were more difficult to keep, and for years were subject to diseases that took them off in herds. The hogs were of a half-wild breed, and were suffered to run at will in the woods. They were sold to dealers, and the whole neighborhood would turn out to drive them to the place of rendezvous. This was no easy task, but then the work was only half completed. Each hog had to be caught, his tusks—which frequently grew to the length of several inches—broken off, and then swung by a band to a pair of steelyards for weighing. A hog turning 200 pounds was considered a heavy weight, and a drove averaging this would be the pride of a dealer and the envy of his fellows. Steven Bennett and David and Joseph Prince followed this business for some years driving them to Baltimore. The task of driving such herds of swine as they took to market can hardly be appreciated at this day. The ani-

mals were more than half wild, and likely to stam-pede at the first opportunity, and numbers of them were lost on every trip. At an early day, Steven Bennett brought sheep from Kentucky, and traded them for hogs, and it took a good hog of those days to buy a sheep. This was the first introduction of sheep into the township.

There seem to have been two Indian thoroughfares through Berkshire when the red man roamed unmolested over the country. One led from a place known as Raccoon, in Licking County, north-west through Berkshire toward Sandusky. Another led from the east through the northeast corner of Berkshire to the salt licks in Brown Township, thence northward and west. The earliest of the settlers used these trails to a considerable extent when traveling on foot or on horseback, as the safest and most direct route. Much of the hardware and glass used at the Byxbe settlement was obtained at Sandusky, and these trails were used as the most distinct and plain to follow. The necessity for a wagon road soon caused the blazed roads to give way to more direct and more commodious thoroughfares. The road from Galena to Lancaster was an early one, and that from Columbus to Mount Vernon, passing through Galena and Sunbury, was laid out soon after 1810. The information as to particular dates in this matter is very unsatisfactory. Roads improve so gradually from trails to "cut-out" roads and then to graded thoroughfares, that even those who have seen the change almost forget that they were not always improved. As early as 1820, a line of four-horse coaches ran between the terminal points of this road, making the half-way stop at Sunbury. The coaches met daily near Galena, and constituted for that point the great event of the day. This was the main artery that connected the Berkshire settlements with the outside world, and the appearance of the passengers, the change of mails, and the marvelous stories of the drivers, afforded abundant material for gossip. The coaches were of the regulation pattern, so often seen in old prints. They were painted a fawn color, ornamented with red. The body was swung high above the wheels on heavy leather springs, so that every lurch of the coach seemed to threaten sure destruction to the passengers. Azel and David Ingham were the noted Jehus of that day, and their exploits were the theme of many a thrilling story told about the roaring fireplaces of the settler's cabin. The road was cut up at times so as to be almost impassable, and the theory of the

drivers seemed to be to gain sufficient momentum in rushing into these ruts to carry the coach out of them at the other end. The result of this theory to the passengers can better be imagined than described, and was endured with a patience that has not been handed down to the modern traveler. It was the delight of the young men to be invited by the driver to try their skill at handling a four-horse team. Hon. O. D. Hough relates an experience of this kind, where, just as he was congratulating himself on his success, he ran against a post and stuck fast. A tale is told of a driver who was given to drinking, and when in this mood was inclined to give an exhibition of his skill by some foolhardy driving. One moonlight night, having some one on the box with him whom he desired to startle, he whipped his team into a full gallop, and, taking to the woods beside the road, wound in and out among the trees and then to the roadway again without a mishap, enjoying only as such a character can the terrified expression of his companion. It is natural that such a road would be greatly prized by the fortunate communities through which it passed, and there was a continual strife between them and less fortunate villages to control the route. Below Galena there was a bad strip of road, which passed through a swampy piece of woods. Effort was made by those living along another and better road to divert the stage line from the old course. This appealed at once to the dearest interests of the people of "Yankee street," and a moonlight "bee" of all interested was made, and the road repaired. La Fayette, when visiting this country, took this stage line in June, 1825, and it is remembered that his cane, which had been lost, coming on a stage a few days afterward, attracted as much curious attention as did the distinguished visitor. The Delaware, Sunbury and Berkshire Pike is a much later corporation. The Company was formed in the county in 1868, and the road fitted up to furnish a good thoroughfare from Sunbury and intermediate points to Delaware. Some \$40,000 were subscribed, but little, if any, over \$35,000 was paid. There are two toll-gates, with receipts amounting to about \$2,000 per annum, which just about pays the cost of keeping up the road. No dividends have ever been paid, and none are ever expected. There has been of late some agitation to make it a free road, but the people along the line of road are not disposed to vote a tax upon themselves for that purpose. The Cleveland, Columbus & Mount Vernon Railroad came in 1873, and tapped the

trade which the pike was intended to convey to Delaware, leaving no good reason for its existence as a toll road.

The first tavern in the township was kept at Berkshire Corners by Adonijah Rice. He was also the first Postmaster, and kept the office in his hotel. Maj. Brown opened his house for hotel purposes about the same time. The prices charged in these primitive inns have a pleasant sound in these times. Board by the week was only from \$1 to \$1.50, and single meals from 15 to 20 cents. Rice's "hotel" was the great attraction for the loungers of the neighborhood, and many a tale is told where

"Care, mad to see a man sae happy,  
E'en drowned himself among the nappy."

At this time, the people who lived near Galena were obliged to come to the Corners for their mail, and some one of the neighbors would get the mail for the whole neighborhood. Mr. O. D. Hough relates that one cold afternoon he persuaded his father to let him get the mail. He is represented as being a bashful, timid lad when young, and, when he got to Rice's establishment, he found it crowded with a boisterous company of men, drinking, shouting and scuffling. This was more than he had counted upon, and the longer he stayed the more frightened he got. Finally, as the fun grew fast and furious, he incontinently broke for the door and made for home as fast as fear could impel his nimble feet, without so much as hinting his errand to any one. When he reached home, his pride returned with his courage, and he informed the expectant neighbors that there was no mail at the office. Other hotels were afterward erected at Sunbury and Galena, which are noticed hereafter.

The information in regard to the organization of the township of Berkshire, is very meager. The name was given by Maj. Thomas Brown from the county of which he and Col. Byxbe were formerly residents. For some years this name included considerably more territory than now, the community gathering at Joseph Eaton's house, in Berlin, to vote and afterward at Dr. Louf'bourrow's. Here was the general muster-ground in the palmy days of the early militia, the townships of Orange, Berlin, and Berkshire, uniting to form a company. Of the first township officers, it is known that Asa Scott, of Berlin was the first Treasurer, before the organization of that township, and Mr. David Prince was one of the Trustees. In 1819 Henry Hodgeson, now known as Squire Hodgeson, of

Galena, was Township Clerk, but who his predecessors were is not known. Maj. Brown was the first Justice of the Peace, followed by Solomon Jones, David Prince, and James Gregory. As to the first birth, there seems to be a diversity of opinion, but it is pretty well established in the minds of those who have carefully gone over the ground, that Albert Root, born in 1807, was the first white child born in Berkshire Township. A son of Ralph Slack was an early birth, and, when this boy was born, Mr. John Patterson, one of the earliest settlers, told Slack, if he would name the boy for him, he would give him three months' schooling, both parts of which contract were carried out. The boy died an old man some few years ago in Berlin Township. The first death was that of Mrs. Vining, wife of Elem Vining, Sr., in 1806. The incident in regard to her burial illustrates the straitened circumstances of the settlers in a very forcible way. Of course, undertakers and cabinet-makers were unknown in the woods, and, what was worse, there was nothing but the standing timber, with an ax and a cross-cut saw to supply their absence. These were made to furnish the burial casket, and Mrs. Vining sleeps, some forty rods south of the "Corners," as peacefully as though above her was reared the "storied urn or animated bust." Doctors and ministers were the only professional men that the earlier settlers had need of in their simple life, greater, perhaps, of ministers than of doctors. The earliest follower of Æsculapius was Dr. Lamb, who came from Worthington to the "Corners," and later to Delaware. Dr. Skeel is another name which appears early in Berkshire's history. The first improvement on log cabins was a brick house built by Maj. Brown. About the first frame house was built some five years later in 1816, by David and Joseph Prince. The work on this house was done by Lovell Caulkins, an early settler in Berlin, and now stands on property owned by Hon. O. D. Hough. Two years later David Armstrong put up a frame building. An incident connected with the digging of the well near this house illustrates the fact that all the marvelous stories are not of a latter-day growth. John B. Grist did the digging, and, in going down, struck a six-foot stratum of slate stone. About midway of this layer, Grist found, imbedded in the solid stone, a toad, to all appearances lifeless. He tossed it out upon the ground, where it soon showed signs of animation, and before long hopped off as natural as though it had never

been buried. But such dwellings could be afforded only by the well-to-do of the settlements. Iron latches and regularly made doors held together with nails were luxuries to be dreamed of by the masses, and to be indulged in only by the rich. The same state of things, in regard to the furniture and the culinary conveniences of the cabins, existed. The commonest iron utensils were more highly prized than those of silver at this time. The distance from markets and the lack of roads made the transportation more expensive than the original price of the goods, and afforded opportunities for traffic which were not left long unimproved. John B. Grist was among the first to take advantage of this fact, and for years supplied most of the staple articles to his neighbors. He drove to Zanesville, taking out grain and bringing back iron goods, salt, etc. A staple article was a certain make of skillet manufactured at Zanesville, and this article formed in many a family their only dish with which to accomplish the various culinary operations incident to the domestic life of the cabin. It was the only oven; in it the meat was cooked, the potatoes boiled, the tea made, and in it the cow would have been milked if one had been possessed. This state of things existed but a short time, for, as the settler prospered, the iron pot and tea-kettle were added, but, with these additions, many a housewife labored for years under disadvantages that would send a modern housekeeper to the insane asylum. Salt, which is such a staple article in the domestic economy, was in large demand and difficult to get. The indications of salt in the township north never proved to be of any considerable value, and this article was to be procured only at the expense of long, tedious journeys. Grist bought this by the bushel at Zanesville, and sold it in Berkshire at \$1.50 for a half-bushel. Even at such prices, it did not prove a very lucrative business. The trip to market and back, under favorable circumstances, took four days. In the mean while he camped out, cooking his meals in the inevitable skillet, frequently obliged to wait for a favorable opportunity to ford streams, and bringing home at last but a mere handful when compared with wagon loads of to-day. Under such disadvantages, it seems almost a marvel that the settlers were ever able to pay for their farms, even at the low price for which land was sold. It was years before any considerable quantity of grain could be sold, and then a market had to be sought so far away that the transportation robbed the

farmer of half the fruits of his toil. The explanation is that every settler supplied his necessities by the industry of himself and family. The little patch of flax supplied the coarse fiber which the busy wheel of the housewife prepared for the loom. From the loom it found its way to the dye-trough, where, in a decoction of butternut bark, it took on the fashionable color of that day. This cloth was made up of part wool and part linen, called "linsey-woolsey," and furnished the garments for both men and women. For hats, men wore fur skins fashioned at home, while the women wore such things as they could contrive out of the coarse materials at hand. Leather was procured in the annual trip to Zanesville, or of some nearer establishment where skins were tanned on shares. From this the shoes of the family were made by shoemakers who traveled from house to house, making up the leather in shoes or harness as desired. In the same spirit of economy the house was fitted up and furnished. Doors were put together with wooden pegs, tables were constructed of punch-eons laid upon pegs driven into the logs, and beds only differed from them in proportions and height from the floor. In the latter article of furniture a corner leg was found necessary, and is remembered now as the one-legged bedstead. But, even with such rigid economy as this, it was often almost impossible to meet the payments upon the little farm. It is related of one of the earlier settlers of Berkshire Corners, that he had failed to meet his payments to Col. Byxbe for his land. After considerable delay, the property was put in the hands of the Sheriff and advertised for sale. The distressed man sought everywhere to borrow money, writing to friends in the East in vain. Coming home disheartened and in despair the night before the sale was to take place, he learned that in the township north was a man who had a little money to lend. He did not wait for his supper, but started out, taking with him a friend to sign with him as security for the payment of the loan. He needed \$240, which he succeeded in getting, and paid to the Sheriff the next morning. The note given for this money was not so easily paid. For ten years, this debt, growing gradually smaller, hung over him, and was finally extinguished by turning over to his creditor five sheep, the whole of his flock, and his cow.

The Indian is often met with in the traditions of the earliest settlements of Berkshire. Their trails took them through this section, and, attracted

by curiosity and the results of begging, became frequent visitors at the settlements previous to the war. They seem to have accepted the logic of events with the unquestioning stoicism of their race, and were disposed to be on good terms with the whites without raising the question of proprietary rights in land or game. A marked characteristic of the Indian was his entire lack of anything like modesty in his demands. A story is told of one which sounds more like an exploit of a modern tramp than of the poetic red man of the forest. A pioneer, overtaken by night, had rolled himself in a blanket and lost himself in sleep, when he felt some one crawling under his blanket and making himself as comfortable as the situation would permit. There was nothing to do but to await quietly further developments. The Indian soon went to sleep and remained till morning, when he arose, expressed his thanks as best he could, and left the discomfited pioneer to regain his composure at his leisure. He considered it no breach of courtesy to enter a cabin unannounced, and it was no unusual thing for the settler to look up from his breakfast or supper and find in another room one or more Indians watching the family repast with greedy eyes. They expected to be fed, and the pioneers soon learned the wisest course to adopt. They supplied these aboriginal tramps with a generous portion of the meal in their hands, which they devoured with sundry grunts expressive of their satisfaction. This done, they departed with the same nonchalance with which they approached. Occasionally one was found who felt that some recompense was due for such favors and who seemed willing to make such remuneration as he was able. Such a one made the acquaintance of Mr. George Fisher in the usual Indian fashion. While busy at his clearing, he became aware of the presence of an Indian who was busily gathering brush and placing it in piles to be burned. He seemed to pay no attention to Mr. Fisher, nor to care whether he was observed or not. Finally, after doing as much as he thought would pay for a meal, he went up to the proprietor of the patch and made known his desire for something to eat. Mr. Fisher, probably desiring to encourage such industrious habits in his new-found assistant, promptly produced the wished-for meal. This maneuver was frequently repeated with fair satisfaction to both parties. Mr. Fisher had an occasion subsequently to reap the benefit of his wisdom in this case. This Indian absented himself after a little while, and had been entirely

forgotten. Subsequently, when Mr. Fisher was returning from Sandusky with goods, his wagon-axle broke near the Indian camp, on their reservation. The delay was vexatious, but the difficulty was greatly increased by the long distance from any workmen or tools to repair the damage. He learned, however, of an Indian who had a set of tools, but could not prevail on him to lend them. He was about giving up in despair, when he was approached by a native, who made signs expressive of the utmost good will. He turned out to be the Indian of the clearing, and, learning the difficulty, at once secured the tools and assisted him to get his wagon righted up again. There was an Indian camp about two miles north of the Corners, and this furnished almost all the loafers that the earlier settlements had. They were ever ready for sport, challenging the settlers to wrestle, shoot, jump or run. Occasionally, when a pioneer accepted the challenge and threw his antagonist, the vanquished brave jumped up with a laugh as hearty and good natured as that of his successful opponent. They watched the traps of the settlers, and were the first to bring information of the game caught. Those set for wolves were of especial interest to them as providing them with capital sport. These traps were of various plans; but a very common design was to build a log pen, six feet square and about three feet high, with a roof sloping up to a point some two feet higher in the center. The roof was supported so as to leave a hole in the center just large enough to admit the body of a wolf. The bait was fastened to the ground below the aperture. When once in, the animal found it impossible to jump up straight enough to effect his escape, and thus found himself entrapped. One of the settlers by the name of Helt had such a trap, and the Indians informed him of the capture of a wolf, at the same time asking the privilege of taking the animal out alive for their own sport. This was readily granted, and the braves proceeded to "beard the lion in his den." Cutting forked sticks, two Indians thrust them between the logs and pinned the animal by the neck and body to the opposite side of the trap. A third leaped lightly into the trap and skillfully muzzled the animal with strips of bark. The wolf's legs were then trammelled so that he could run, but threw himself when trotting or walking. He was then turned loose, and the Indians, like overgrown schoolboys, chased and sported with the terrified animal, until, completely exhausted, it refused to furnish further sport, when it was dispatched. The

intercourse of the whites with the natives were of a perfectly peaceful nature throughout, until the war of 1812 removed them from this vicinity. They were counted by the pioneers as generally well disposed and faithful to their friends, taking especial pains to manifest their loyalty on every occasion.

Of the villages in this township, Berkshire Corners, though not the most important, came first in point of time, and for a while promised to play an important part in the affairs of the county. Its history was the history of Berkshire Township, and has therefore been rehearsed somewhat fully in the foregoing pages. Its first settlement was the first settlement of the township, but in its most brilliant days it never approached the dignity of a village. It was dubbed the "Corners," and is that now and nothing more, a place where two roads cross. But influence is not measured by geographical boundaries, and in this respect the "Corners" in its time occupied a place not less desirable than the other villages. From this point went out at an early date the dominating spirit of the township, and to it is largely due the eminent characteristics which marked its early history. After the removal of Col. Byxbe, and with him the hope of its future greatness, the place languished, and its business was diverted to other places. It was never platted, and the suspicion is entertained that Byxbe never intended it should interfere with his further projects. The first store or, rather, the first goods offered for sale, was kept by Maj. Brown. His stock consisted of lead, powder, tea and coffee, with a few pieces of calico and cotton cloth. A quantity of brown earthenware was added, but cost almost as much as the ordinary stone china of to-day. These goods were brought by wagon from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, thence by boats down the Ohio to the Scioto River, and thence on pack animals or in wagons to the consumer. The prices charged for these goods are astounding when the prices received for grain and meat, the farmer's only resource, are remembered. Tea sold at \$2 per pound; coffee at 50 to 75 cents per pound; salt, at 10 cents per pound, and calico as high as \$1 per yard. Maj. Brown died in 1816, and was succeeded in trade by Flavius Fuller. The laying-out of Sunbury about this time began to attract trade and enterprise in that direction, and Fuller's business was but short-lived. S. S. Bennett was an active business man, and did much for the business growth of the "Corners." In company with a

Mr. Comstock, of Worthington, he bought hogs all through that section of the country, driving them to Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Baltimore. The hogs were taken in and weighed at the "Corners," and on such days made the little would-be village as lively as a bee hive. The hogs were paid for in goods, and thus added largely to the business attractions of the place. The former prestige has long since passed away, and a store, a blacksmith-shop, two wagon-shops and two churches, with a quiet cluster of homes, now serve to mark where the early metropolis of Berkshire flourished.

Sunbury, located southeast of the "Corners," and east of the central part of the township, is the legitimate successor of the "Corners" to metropolitan distinction. It was laid out by William and Lawrence Meyers on land formerly owned by a Mr. Alden, the original plat bearing the date of November 9, 1816. The site seems to have been admirably chosen for the future prospects of the village. It was situated near the conjunction of three counties—Knox, Licking and Delaware, and on the Columbus and Mount Vernon road, which was for years the only thoroughfare by which to reach the outside world. It was reasonable to suppose, that, with such natural advantages to attract enterprising men, the newly formed village might grow to considerable size and attract to itself the business of that part of the three counties which was so remote from any town of considerable size. It is quite probable that the changes wrought by the substitution of railroads for coach lines has somewhat modified the sanguine expectations of its citizens, but there is still enough truth in the theory of its location to make it now a very active village. Sunbury, at this writing, is not incorporated. Several efforts have been made to secure its incorporation, but the majority of those to be affected, overawed by fears of the burden of taxation, have opposed the measure. But the village has not on that account stood still. It has pushed improvements in schools, sidewalks, roads and public buildings, by private subscription, to an extent which reflects the highest credit upon the enterprise of its citizens.

About a year before the town was regularly laid out, the first store in Sunbury was opened by a Mr. Whitmore, from Worthington. He occupied a small brick house which stood on the spot where now stands the residence of Mr. Joseph Letts. He sold goods for a short time only, when he engaged in another enterprise, and was succeeded by Benjamin Webb, who opened up the first

regular business in the place. He occupied a small room on the corner of Columbus and Granville streets, and built a house near it. The two buildings have since been united by inclosing the space between them and tearing down partitions, and it is now used as a hotel. A third store was built by Steven R. Bennett, which was situated diagonally across from Webb's, establishment on the corner of what is now the public square, and occupied the site of the old log schoolhouse—the first one in Sunbury. He afterward built another, putting the first store in the rear for a warehouse, which may still be found, occupied by James Stockwell, where it was moved in 1837. Following close upon the building of the first store was the first tavern. This was a hewed-log building, and was placed on the lot adjoining Webb's, on the south. A Mr. Rogers kept hotel and accommodated the traveling public of 1816 with the best that the season afforded. There are those now living in Sunbury who remember the fare set forth in the old hotel, and who do not seem to think that hotel-keeping has improved any on the days of the old log house. In 1820, the stage line bringing more hotel trade to the town, naturally built up competition, and Lawrence Meyers put up the hotel which now faces the west side of the square. This was a frame building, and entirely eclipsed the Rogers house. Here the stage stopped, and it finally absorbed so much of the business that its humble competitor, accepting the logic of events, gave up entertaining strangers, and "kept boarders" at \$1.25 a week. About this time, B. H. Taylor and B. Chase built a fulling-mill, provided with apparatus for carding and pressing. The motor power was a tread-wheel worked by oxen, and is described as follows: the wheel was laid flat upon its hub, the axle being inclined a little from perpendicular so as to afford an inclined surface on the wheel. In place of spokes, the upper surface of the wheel formed an inclined platform provided with cleats, upon which the oxen traveled. The upper end of the axle was provided with a spur-wheel, which, acting upon gearing on horizontal shafting, communicated the motion to the machinery of the mill. The old mill is now the property of Mr. Joseph Letts, and is used as a stable. The curious will find there the pit in which the tread-wheel revolved, and the great timbers which once supported the heavy machinery of the mill. The establishment of this mill was a piece of enterprise which did much to stimulate the growth of the village. The people then made all their own

flannel, but it needed fulling, carding and pressing, before it was merchantable. This was the only mill of the kind for miles about, and naturally attracted a good deal of business to the town. It afterward passed into the hands of Bennett, and finally passed away with the demand that called it into existence.

Another old landmark is the old hewed-log schoolhouse, which stood on the southwest corner of the square. This was the first institution of the kind built in Sunbury, and served the public until 1831, when it was removed, and its successor built on the east side of the square. The new schoolhouse was about 20x30 feet, built of brick made by Rufus Atherton, on the place now known as the Widow Grist farm. This building served the community as schoolhouse and church for sixteen years. Under its sheltering roof the citizen of Sunbury became a cosmopolite in religious matters. Here the Methodist, the Universalist, the Baptist, the Presbyterian, the Episcopalian, the New Light and the Mormon worshiped in his own way, "with none to molest or make him afraid." In 1847, it was replaced by a wooden structure, 24x60 feet, which still remains.

The saw and grist mill and distillery, built by Manville, and the tannery which was erected across the stream from them, are noticed in another place. Later, another saw-mill was erected by Samuel Peck and T. P. Meyers; a half-mile due east of Sunbury. In 1848, six years later, it was sold to Bailey, who added a grist-mill. From his hand it passed through the possession of two other parties into that of Mr. Burr, who moved the mill, in 1875, to the village, and it is now an institution to which the citizen points with pride.

Berkshire's early settlement was peculiarly favored in the number of its skilled tradesmen, and the result appears in the substantial progress of the early community. Brick residences and schoolhouses succeeded the primitive log structures, and frame buildings appear to be only an evidence of the degeneracy of a later day, and, reasoning from analogy, it is but fair to suppose that the pioneers wore better-fitting clothes than did their cotemporaries. At any rate, it was not for the lack of tailors if they did not. As early as 1816, the Collum Brothers set up their business of tailoring at Berkshire Corners. They furnished the first tailor in Sunbury from their list of apprentices. Haultz Evans first let the "goose hang high" in this village about 1828, but left for Granville about two years later. He was suc-



ceeded by James Smith in 1831, who has remained in the village, though having laid by the goose and press-board.

About 1865, a company was formed to manufacture a general line of furniture. Machinery was procured, and the business got well a-going, but the project was marked more by the enterprise of the members of the company than by good management, and it failed in the crash of 1873, leaving a considerable loss to be shared by the stockholders. An attempt was made to manufacture extension tables exclusively. This promised well for a time, but eventually succumbed to the pressure of the panic.

In 1868, the large building which occupies the center of the public square was erected, at a cost of \$6,500, by public subscription. Fifteen hundred dollars of this amount was contributed by the lodge of Masons in the village, to build the third story, which they own and occupy. The building is about 35x55 feet, three stories high, and built of brick. Col. G. A. Frambes, who was teaching a select school in the village, originated the movement, and was ably seconded by Mr. George Armstrong and others, and the building was soon furnished for school purposes, and known as the Sunbury Institute. Since the erection of the special school district, in 1868, the second story has been used as a public hall, and the lower story for church purposes. It is now called the Sunbury Town Hall.

In October, 1872, the Farmers' Bank of Sunbury, with a capital of \$50,000, was organized. This is a joint-stock concern, and had for its stockholders some of the most substantial men of Berkshire. The original stockholders were E. Kimball, John Hall, Alanson Knox, George Armstrong, George Grist, E. R. Thompson, O. D. Hough and B. Moore. The first officers were: Elias Kimball, President; W. A. Thompson, Cashier; Elias Kimball, E. R. Thompson, Alanson Knox, O. D. Hough and B. Moore, Directors. On the death of Mr. Kimball, which occurred very soon after the formation of the bank, Mr. Moore succeeded him as President, and still holds that position. In January, 1875, Mr. O. H. Kimball succeeded as cashier, and still serves in that capacity with acceptance. Business was begun in a building on the east side of the square, built by Mr. Marble, but was afterward transferred to a building erected for the purpose by Mr. Moore, three years later, on the south side of the square.

In 1873, a number of the prominent citizens of Sunbury formed a stock company and furnished means to establish a weekly paper in the village; it was very appropriately named the *Sunbury Enterprise*, and was managed for some nine months by D. M. Pyle. It was expected that he would take the paper and pay for it as he could earn it out of the office. The people supported the project, but there was an evident lack of the right man in the right place, and it was sold to Mr. Wayman Perfect, who changed the name to the *Spectator*. In this gentleman's hands, the paper made rapid progress. It grew in popularity, and gained a paying subscription list of some six hundred, with an advertising patronage which afforded an ample support. In 1876, it was sold to J. S. Watson. He seemed to meet with the same success, but a better business arrangement being offered at another place, he suspended the publication of the paper in the spring of 1879, and moved the office and material out of the county.\*

The agitation in regard to the numerous grave robberies, resulted in Sunbury, as in many other places, in the formation of a Cemetery Association in the summer of 1879. This association bought about two acres of finely situated land, joining the old cemetery, and are just finishing a fine stone vault at a cost of \$750.

Located here is Sparrow Lodge, No. 400, of Free and Accepted Masons. The Lodge first worked under a dispensation from the Grand Lodge of 1867, and was chartered by that of 1868. There were eleven charter members, but the membership has increased to about eighty-five in the last ten years. The meetings were held twice a month during the first year, in the old "hotel building," but since then in their new rooms, in the third story of the town hall.

There are three general stores, two jewelry stores, one hardware store, two shoe-shops, a machine-shop, two carriage-shops, two harness-shops, two tailor-shops, two blacksmith-shops, two millinery stores, three saloons, to one of which is attached a bakery, a bank of discount, flouring-mill, warehouse, tin-shop, picture-gallery, barber-shop, drug store, gun-shop, three churches, Methodist, Baptist and Presbyterian; two hotels, and a handle factory. This factory is a recently established enterprise, but has been quite successful, shipping goods to California and Europe. Machinery for turning spokes is to be put in, and

\* Since the above was written, a weekly paper called the *Sunbury Monitor* has been established by J. G. Sharpe.

that feature added to the business. The school-building for the special school is an object of pride to every citizen of Sunbury. It occupies a commanding position on the hill north of town, and presents a very attractive appearance. Whatever may be thought of the future of Sunbury, it cannot be denied that there is a spirit of enterprise among its people which will carry it triumphantly over many an obstacle. In 1865, \$700 was raised by subscription and expended on the sidewalks; three years later, \$6,500 were raised to build the town hall; in 1869, \$20,000 was subscribed to the Delaware, Berkshire & Sunbury pike, and, in 1871, \$22,000 more was subscribed to build the Columbus & Mount Vernon Railroad, a total of nearly \$50,000 within some seven years.

South and west from Sunbury, on the southern boundary of the township, is situated the village of Galena. It is located between the Big and Little Walnut Rivers, near where they join, and is compactly built for a village of its size. It is reached from Sunbury by the Columbus & Mount Vernon Railroad, which touches the northwest corner of the village. From the depot, a long street passes through the center of the village, leading to one corner of the square in the south end of the place, and passing through it into Genoa Township, becomes "Yankee street" further down. The earliest settlers in the vicinity of Galena have been mentioned in the preceding pages, but who originally owned the property where the village now stands, is not so clearly known. The plat of the village was made by William Carpenter, of Sunbury, April 3, 1816, attested by Matthew Marvin, Justice of the Peace, April 20, 1816, and recorded on the 23d day of the same month, but has never been incorporated. Hon. Ezekiel Brown bought land on the Big Walnut River, northeast of the village, and it is quite probable that the Carpenters, coming in soon after, were the original possessors of the land. The Carpenter family was a large one. Gilbert settled at Galena, and his four sons—Benjamin, Samuel, Moses and Gilbert, Jr., the youngest of whom was thirty-eight years of age—with their families. These names, with those of Judge Carpenter's family, appear on every page of Berkshire traditions, and the traces of their activity are seen and felt yet in the southern part of the township. Other names closely associated with the history of Galena are those of Nathan Dustin and George Vanfleet. The latter brought in a family of five boys and two girls, about 1820. At that time

the public square bore a fine growth of bushes, which made admirable riding-whips. The earliest public building of which we can find information was an old log schoolhouse, which stood near the site of the present school building. This was used years before the town was laid out for both school and church purposes. Following close upon this was the erection of a saw-mill by Gilbert Carpenter, Sr. The location of the two Walnut Rivers is finely calculated for milling purposes. The larger stream is on a much higher level than the smaller one, and, taking advantage of this fact, he constructed a race from the one to the other, and got a motor power which is not excelled even at this day. This was done in 1809, and, nine years later, Benjamin Carpenter, Jr., the son of Judge Carpenter, constructed another race coming out a little south of the first one, and built a grist-mill, which, in the hands of Mr. George Vanfleet, still does excellent work. The construction of a grist-mill at that time was a great undertaking. Day after day, Mr. Carpenter saddled his horse and went with his tools to a place in Liberty Township, where he cut out the buhrs for his mill. These were called "nigger-heads," and served the public of their day with a flour that was quite as palatable, if not so fine, as now. Later, "raccoon" stones were put in. Since then, the old wheel and stones have given place to more modern inventions. The first store was kept about 1810, by one Manter, in a log cabin situated near the bridge leading east out of town. He was closely succeeded by Elias Murray, whose establishment stood on the southwest corner of the square, it is said, in the very house now owned by Chester Campbell. Mr. Gilbert Carpenter, Sr., is credited with building the first frame building. The earlier deaths are not remembered, but that of Mr. Gilbert Carpenter was early, though not perhaps the first one. The first marriage was the union of the two earlier and most prominent families of the settlement—the marriage of John S. Brown to Sarah, daughter of Judge Carpenter. This was in 1812. On August 19 of the following year, Nancy, the daughter of Hon. Ezekiel Brown, was married to Samuel Leonard, the ceremony being performed by Gilbert Carpenter.

The village was platted under the name of Zoar, probably because they felt it to be a city of refuge though a little one. About 1834, when a post office was established here, it was found that there was already an office called Zoar. To meet this emergency, at the suggestion of Nathan Dustin,

the name of the village was changed to Galena. The law required, that, in order to secure a post office, the signature of the nearest postmaster was to be secured. Marcus Curtis then was Postmaster, on "Yankee street," and responded to the request of the Galena people for his name, that "it was no use, they would always have to come to 'Yankee street' for their mail," and refused his signature. At that time the stage line passed at the place of Curtis, and a daily mail from both directions was received. The post-office business is on another footing now, and "Yankee street" comes to Galena, where there is a money-order office. The growth of this village has been gradual and without any special efforts to stimulate it on the part of its citizens. It occupies a high ridge of land between the two rivers, and, viewed from the rise of ground east of the Big Walnut, presents a very attractive appearance. The principal public buildings are the Episcopal church, a large Methodist church, and the school building. Most of the business houses of the place are clustered about the square or on the street leading to it. There are two general stores; a notion and millinery store combined; a drug store; a tin and stove store; warehouse; three blacksmith-shops; a harness-shop; shoe-shop; an undertaker's-shop; a tailor-shop; two saw-mills; a flouring-mill; a lumber-yard and a manufactory of agricultural implements, which is doing quite an extensive business. It should be mentioned as an evidence of the town's enterprise, that a subscription of \$13,000 was paid toward securing the location of the railroad which passes through here, in addition to three acres of ground given for depot purposes.

Galena was the place of the earliest organized Lodge of Masons in Berkshire. This was Charity Lodge, No. 54, a flourishing organization of some forty or fifty years ago, but it was allowed to die because the members, scattered about the country, found it impossible to get to the regular sessions. The Galena Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, No. 404, was instituted in 1868, with Thomas Vanfleet, Roswell Cook, W. E. Copeland, G. A. Frambes, J. P. Maynard, D. L. Ferson and others as charter members. They hold their sessions in the building formerly owned by Charity Lodge, which they bought in 1869.

Rome, in the western central portion of the township, is the last of Berkshire's village quadrilateral, but by no means the least. It has achieved a distinction which has been denied all the others. Its founder, Almon Price, was a man

who had studied Roman history. He had read of a couple of orphans, brought up by a wolf, who, with scarcely a suit of clothes to their back, had founded a town

"That sate on her seven hills, and from her throne  
Of beauty ruled the world."

Fired with a lofty ambition, he laid off his farm into lots, and in 1838 Rome was incorporated. Here he lost sight of his great prototype and branched off into the chair business. He was fairly successful in making the "Windsor" pattern of chairs, but it needed something more to stimulate the growth of his city. He disposed of his land, and the purchasers, after enduring the farce of city life long enough, by petition secured the annulment of the act of incorporation. The place then took on the less ambitious name of Rome Corners, and is now satisfied with the distinction of being the voting precinct of the township. Mr. Price was long known as the Pope of Rome, a name he accepted with the dignity of a prince. The old chair factory still exists, and is now occupied by Newell Carpenter. The place is made conspicuous by the meeting of five roads at that point, and, besides three or four residences, is marked by a church, the town house and a saw-mill. The place has given its name to Grange No. 741, which was organized here March 24, 1874. The Grange started with twenty-four charter members, G. D. Searles as Master, and Mrs. J. N. Dyer as Secretary. Some two years ago, this Grange organized a movement, which has resulted in establishing a Mutual Fire Insurance Company, with its principal office in Sunbury. The Company does not limit its risks to this township, but takes farm property wherever offered. It has an extensive business, which is rapidly increasing.

The history of the churches and of the religious work of Berkshire Township is an interesting study, and dates back to the arrival of the first settlers. They were a religious people, and needed missionaries not so much as material for missionaries to work upon. The family of Col. Byxbe was of the Presbyterian creed, that of Maj. Brown belonged to the Episcopal Church, together with the Princees, Plumbs, and Curtises. With the advent of the Carpenters in the southern part of the township came in the Methodist element. Gilbert Carpenter was a minister in that church, of an active nature, and it was not long before the first church was organized in that part of the town. There were about fourteen members, and meetings

were held in a large hewed-log schoolhouse that was erected not far from 1813. Gilbert Carpenter and his nephew, Benjamin, Jr., supplied the preaching, with occasional visits from itinerant ministers. Some two years later, the Methodists organized a church at Sunbury, holding their meetings during the winter in the cabins around the neighborhood, and in Judge Carpenter's barn in the summer-time. The people came from a distance of ten miles with ox teams, barefooted in summer, and frequently so in winter, to hear the Gospel preached. The ministers were not college-bred men, nor men marked with especial gifts for the ministry. They wore the same homely garb of the settler, and were often compelled to suffer privations which were seldom known in the settler's cabin. In the southern part of the township the larger gatherings of the church were held in the mill and barns until 1825, when the frame building now standing in Galena was erected. This is the largest church edifice in the township, and continues to be the rallying-point of that denomination. At Sunbury the church used the brick schoolhouse until 1839, when their present building was erected at a cost of \$1,500, which was built in connection with the Episcopal organization, each using it on alternate Sundays. The latter organization finally became extinct by removals and members changing their place of worship. To erect such a building in those days was quite a tax on the community, and there was a vigorous effort made to interest the outside community. James Smith, a young tailor, and full of life, took an active part, and rode three weeks to raise the subscription, starting the list himself with \$100, a sum greater than all his worldly possessions. Such interest is difficult at this time to explain, save on the theory of his own statement, that he had "got tired of seeing the girl's pretty faces in that old schoolhouse." The first circuit was established in 1831, with Rev. James McIntyre as Presiding Elder. The church has numbered as high as 140 members, but now numbers about 67. At the "corners," a Methodist church was organized in 1858, by Rev. Amos Wilson, with about twenty-five members. The organization now numbers about eighty-five. They erected a place of worship in 1860, where they have maintained a Sunday school summer and winter. Church services are held one half day only on each alternate Sunday.

The next church organization, in point of time, was the Protestant Episcopal. The first sermon was preached in Maj. Brown's house, at Berkshire

Corners, in 1818, by Bishop Chase, the first Bishop of the diocese. On Easter Monday, at the house of David Prince, March 23, 1818, those of Episcopalian belief met, and organized a church by the following election of officers: Clerk, Carlos Curtis; Wardens, Ichabod Plumb and Joseph Prince. Vestrymen—William Smith, Zenas Ross and Aaron Strong. Lay Readers, David Prince and Carlos Curtis.

It was not until some ten years later that they built their church building, and, in the mean while, they held their services in private houses with Rev. Mr. Stem and others as Rectors. The church building is a brick house with a large triple Gothic window in front, which was considered, at that time, a great achievement in the way of church ornament. This edifice is the third Protestant Episcopal building erected in the State, and among the very first of any denominational church buildings. The membership now numbers some twelve or fourteen persons, who maintain regular services and Sabbath school during the summer months. The leading church of this denomination, however, is at Galena, which was organized in 1875, by the Rev. John Ely, with eight or ten members. This drew a number of members from Berkshire Corners, and now numbers about thirty persons. In 1877, assisted by the community, they built one of the handsomest brick edifices in the county. It is small and plain, built from a plan drawn by a New Jersey architect, at a cost of about \$1,750.

Closely following the Episcopalians came the Presbyterian Church. There were at Berkshire Corners several families, Bennett, Gregory and Patterson, who went to services held in the old court house, by Rev. Mr. Hughes, a son-in-law of Col. Byxbe. Once in four weeks, Mr. Hughes came to the settlement and held services in the cabins. About 1818, Rev. Ebenezer Washburn, a Presbyterian minister, came to Berkshire Corners, and it is remembered that he drove into the settlement in a steel-shod sled, a circumstance that gave him no little distinction at the time. He held services in the cabins for two or three years, when he removed to Genoa Township. This denomination seems never to have gained a permanent home here until the organization of a church in Sunbury, in May, 1868. It started with a membership of some twenty-three, and now numbers some thirty-five. Rev. Robert Wiley was principally instrumental in organizing it. They have no church building, but rent. The

lower part of the town hall has been fitted up for their use and rented for several years. They maintain a Sabbath school the year round, which numbers about fifty.

The Baptist denomination was represented in Berkshire as early as 1812, by Elder Henry George. He was a Welshman, spoke with a marked brogue, and was a plain man of excellent common sense. A church was not organized, however, until 1835. This occurred in District No. 2, of Trenton Township, and was called the Walnut Creek Baptist Church. Here they occupied a log schoolhouse until 1837, when the church was moved to Sunbury, and in the succeeding year built their present place of worship. The church building was built at a cost of some \$2,000. The first Pastor after coming to Sunbury was the Rev. Mr. Gildersleeve, succeeded by a Rev. Mr. Roberts. It has a membership of some sixty persons, and maintains a Sunday school the year through. There is a church of the Free-Will Baptist denomination located at Rome Corners. In the winter of 1876-77, the Rev. Mr. Murray, of Sunbury, held a series of meetings which were crowned with abundant success, and he naturally sought to establish a church there. There did not seem to be a desire for such a church, and in a perfectly friendly spirit both minister and people joined in inviting a Rev. Mr. Whittaker to organize the church, which, in 1877, erected a place of worship at a cost of \$900.

Sunday schools as they existed in the days of the early settlements were not such as we have now. In many instances the rudiments of education were joined with instruction in the Scriptures. The first of this sort was opened by Julia Strong, daughter of Maj. Strong, in her father's house about 1814. The house stood on the Gaylord property, near the bridge east of Sunbury. Another school, akin to this, but rather nearer our idea of a Sunday school, was opened about 1816, by Miss Bowen, a sister-in-law of Ebenezer Washburn. Her method was to invite the little folks to her house on Sunday, when she would read them a passage of Scripture, then an historical sketch calculated to interest such little minds, and then asked them to learn a short passage from the Bible to repeat on the following Sunday. The Hon. O. D. Hough was one of her scholars, and believes this school to have been the first Sunday school ever held in the eastern part of Delaware County.

The early settlers of Berkshire appear to have been agreed upon the necessity of education, and the historian finds it difficult, with settlements at

three different points in the township, each one of which established a school at the earliest practicable moment, to determine the priority in the order of their establishment. The first authentic date we have been able to find is that of a school taught by Maria Denton, in 1810, in a log house near Hon. Ezekiel Brown's farm, now owned by H. Vanfleet. She had some ten scholars who paid for what they got, very much on the "European Hotel plan." This was not, however, the first school in the township. In the north part of the township, east of the Berkshire street, and a few rods south of the Granville road, stood an old round-log schoolhouse, built in the most primitive fashion. This was the first attempt of the Byxbe settlement toward advanced education. When it was built is not known, but it was very early. The first teacher in this schoolhouse was a Miss Thompson, from Worthington; she was succeeded by Cynthia Sloper, and by Solomon Smith in a winter school. Lucy Caulkins also taught here, but at a much later date. The first school at Sunbury is shrouded in obscurity. A hewed-log schoolhouse which stood on the southwest corner of the square is one of the oldest landmarks, but, to the date of its erection, or when first used for school purposes, the memory of man runneth not. Julia Strong was an early teacher, and perhaps the first, but there is no authentic information on that point. In the southern part of the township, Nathan Dustin was an early teacher. He had a very strict sense of propriety, and was wont to give his scholars short lectures on rules of behavior. On one occasion the "big girls" got very much interested at noon in a game of ball, and played with all the abandon of light-hearted girlhood. This was too much for Mr. Dustin's spirit of propriety, and, calling the girls in, he gave them a severe rebuke, imitating their appearance when running, and the unladylike style of the whole proceeding. It proved too much for one girl, and she broke out crying, which ended the discourse. It is not clearly explained whether it was on the principle of "if you won't cry I'll give you a stick of candy," or the natural inclination of his heart, but he made this girl the second of his five wives. Lexton was the name of another teacher in this part of the township, and it is said might well be taken for the original of the doggerel lines:

"Old John Cross kept a village day school,  
And a cross old man was he,  
For he spared not the rod as he taught the old rule  
Of a b c, a b c."

He was an Irishman, and had the bad habit of carrying his whisky with him to school, a circumstance which aggravated the natural severity of his temper. Partially intoxicated, he frequently fell asleep, and, on awaking, punished at random the first one his eyes fell on. It was in one of these moods that he called upon all the larger girls after recess one day, and distributed sundry blows of the "ferule" among them, much to the discomfort of their hands, because they had been sliding on the ice.

The Berkshire Academy was the first attempt in the way of more advanced schooling. This was a chartered institution, located at Berkshire Corners, and was established in the winter of 1840-41. The building was a small frame, costing about \$300 or \$400, the expense of which was defrayed by the sale of shares of \$10 each. The first session was held in the following winter, with an attendance of about thirty scholars, and G. S. Bailey, from Oberlin, as teacher. This was in the time of the anti-slavery agitation, before Ohio had been largely won over to the cause of human rights, and Oberlin was not a good place to hail from. Bailey was discreet, and said nothing of his future intentions, or of his antecedents, until the last week of the school term. The announcement of his opinions took the community by surprise, for, like the men of old, they looked for nothing good to come out of Nazareth, and, liberal as the old New England settlement was in the matter of education, they could not reconcile themselves to the thought that they had so long harbored an Oberlin agitator in their midst. This school was maintained for some fifteen years, when it was discontinued for lack of support. The building still exists, and is now used as a residence, just east of the Episcopal church. The influence of this academy upon its patrons and the township at large cannot be easily estimated. It is a noteworthy fact, however, that the number of its pupils who have achieved more than ordinary distinction is large. Among their number is a Governor, a congressman, and a banker, and one whose active participation in the temperance and anti-slavery work upon the lecture platform has gained for her a wide circle of admirers.

There are two special school districts in this township, organized in 1868, both of which are furnished with fine buildings. The one at Sunbury is a brick structure, somewhat in the form of a cross. The main arm, extending from east to west, is about 38x18 feet; the arm

crossing this at right angles in the center is 13 feet wide, and projects 24 feet in front and 13 feet to the rear. There are accommodations for four departments, but only three have as yet been used. The building stands upon a prominent site, north of the town, is ornamented with colored brick, contains a cellar under all, and is considered by the enthusiastic citizen as the finest school building in the county outside of Delaware. It cost \$5,000, and was built in 1878. Just before the building was completed a fire broke out in it and threatened to destroy it, occasioning a loss of some \$400 to the contractor. The enumeration of the district is 181. The average attendance in the winter is 120, and about 100 in the summer. A gentleman is employed as Principal, and two ladies as assistants in the other departments. The salary of the former is fixed at \$600 for the school year of nine months. The other teachers are paid \$30 per month.

The building in the special district of Galena is situated near the square on a dry knoll which commands a fine prospect of the Big Walnut and the range of hills beyond. It is a square building, surmounted by a cupola. There are three departments, with a Principal and two assistants, who receive \$70 and \$30 per month respectively. The latest enumeration showed 145 persons eligible for school privileges. The enrollment reaches 125, with an average attendance of 110.

There are besides these special districts six districts in the township, which are all supplied with brick houses save Districts Nos. 3 and 4. In these, neat frame buildings, supplied with modern furniture and conveniences, are provided. The first brick schoolhouse was erected in District No. 1, at a cost of \$1,000, in 1871. A similar schoolhouse was built in District No. 2 in 1873, at a cost of \$900. Districts Nos. 5 and 6 are also provided for in like manner. They are all supplied with improved school furniture, and are up to the most advanced schools of the time in this respect. The enumeration combined in these districts reaches 194. The average salary paid is \$35 per month to male teachers and \$20 per month to female teachers, teachers boarding themselves. The majority of the teachers throughout the township are females. The town hall proper is located at Rome Corners. For some years, the schoolhouse was used for voting purposes, but when a new schoolhouse was built, the old school building was purchased at a cost of \$100.

## CHAPTER XVI.

## BERLIN TOWNSHIP—THE GREAT SCARE—HISTORICAL SCRAPS—HISTORY OF VILLAGES, ETC.

"A man, that fortune's buffets and rewards,  
Hast ta'en with equal thanks."—*Shakespeare*.

IT was all woods about here." Such is the expression which invariably meets the ear of the one seeking information in regard to the early settlements. To the generation of to-day the phrase has become trite and nearly meaningless, but the thoughtful observer cannot fail to notice that it is far otherwise to the man who knew the country at that period. To him the phrase presents in one vivid flash all that history tells of the stern, inevitable experience of the pioneer. Like a bugle blast of Roderick Dhu in Clan-Alpine's glen, it calls up the trackless forest, the unbridged streams, the pangs of hunger felt, days of toil and nights of fear, and

\* \* \* "Most disastrous chances,  
Of moving accidents by flood and field."

And to get any adequate idea of pioneer life we must put ourselves with him, and then the phrase will mean something. In the whirl and bustle of the nineteenth century, with one invention hurrying another out of date, we are apt to forget that there was ever any need of pioneers. The pioneer of to-day is unworthy the name. Seeking a home in the West, he travels with the rapidity of steam and the ease of a railway car. Set down in some thriving village, he goes not into an unknown country. The great newspapers of the day have been before him; a special correspondent has been over the spot and has collated the evidence as to soil, water, products, transportation, markets, social privileges and the thousand things affecting the emigrant's business and pleasure. His pockets are crammed with maps and information of the great railroad corporations, which offer him land on "long time and easy payments." Deciding to buy land, his household goods and a house framed and ready to put up are shipped at reduced rates, while improved implements and all the advantages of a pioneer experience of a hundred years, unite to make his work effective. In ten years he is in the center of a civilization combining more privileges than the proudest and oldest community of New England knew when the pioneers of this land

were young. What difficulties they encountered and with untiring fortitude overcome, it is the purpose of these pages to relate. When they sought the untried country of the West, they launched out like a mariner on an unknown sea. Following a wagon track until that ceased, they passed the frontier and entered an unmapped wilderness, guided only by compass and deed. Arrived at their destination, they found themselves alone, in a forest that practically had no limit, with not only a house to build from such material as they could secure unassisted by mill or machinery, but they had to quarry out of the forest a spot on which to place it. The log house, with mud to make it tight, the rude doors and windows, the chimney made of a tottering mass of mud and sticks, the remains of which here and there are yet to be seen, was their home. The fitful flame of the hickory brand was their light and defense by night, and the household dependence by day. The babbling brook furnished a doubtful supply of water until the creaking "sweep" drew from the surer resource of a well the all-important factor in human economy. But all this has long since passed away "like a tale that is told." About us are gathered the fruits of their toil in a civilization to which the world elsewhere is a stranger, and, looking back along the way the guiding hand of Providence has led the pioneer, we can but with the poet Bryant say,

"What cordial welcomes greet the guest  
By thy lone rivers of the West;  
How faith is kept, and truth revered,  
And man is loved, and God is feared,  
In woodland homes."

Township 4, Range 18, of the United States Military Survey, was divided between the townships of Berkshire, Delaware and Liberty from 1806 to 1820. In 1806, Sections 1 and 4 were, with the rest of Berkshire Township, as it then was, erected into a township. This was the shape of Berlin when the first settlers came here. Col. Byxbe owned Section 1 of the fourth township in Range 18, a fact which probably accounts for the strange division of townships when Berkshire was laid off, and it was not until January 8, 1820, that Berlin

Township was erected, taking from Berkshire the first and fourth sections, from Delaware the second section, and from Liberty the third section. Asa Scott is credited with starting the petition and with giving the name to the newly formed township. The township thus formed retains its shape to the present time, bounded on the north by Brown, on the east by Berkshire, on the south by Orange, and on the west by Liberty and Delaware Townships. Alum Creek, which rises in the southern part of Morrow County, passing through Brown, takes a southerly course through the eastern part of Berlin. This stream affords drainage for a wider area of country on the east side than on the west, which makes it almost a dividing line between the dry soil of the eastern part of the township and the swampy land on the west. Along the eastern bank of the creek the surface is inclined to bluffs near the stream, and is somewhat broken as one proceeds back. Going south on this side, below the middle line, the land becomes less broken, and fine bottom lands are found, which abounded in an early day with basswood, butternut, buckeye, walnut and a sort of burr-oak timber, with an underbrush consisting principally of spice-bush and papaw. On the high land there is the usual variety of oak, hickory and maple. The line between the high and low land of the township is that which divides the township through the middle from north to south. West of this line was at an early date an almost continuous elm swamp, bearing burr oak and elm timber. As the land has been cleared, the swamps have gradually dried up, but not without a large amount of ditching: some of the ditches being seven feet deep and from sixteen to twenty feet wide. The soil in the eastern part is the usual mixture of clays well adapted to grass and corn. The low land in the other part of the township is rich soil, but a large part of it has, until recently, been covered with stagnant water. The system of ditching carried on by the township trustees is rapidly draining this land, which will add greatly to its productiveness. Considerable stock is brought in to feed for market, and some attention is paid to stock raising, farmers showing some fine-blooded animals. The township has two centralized communities, the one about Cheshire, a small hamlet on Alum Creek, a little south of the middle line of the township, and Berlin Station, on the Columbus Division of the Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati & Indianapolis Railway, in the western part of the township, a short distance north of the middle line.

The first purchaser of land in Berlin was Joseph Constant, of Peekskill, N. Y. He bought Section 4 from the Government, paying two dollars per acre, and receiving a deed signed by John Adams. He was known as Judge Constant. Whether he received his title from a popular feeling that he was good as a judge or because he had enjoyed that honor, is not clearly known. He is said to have been a colonel in the army, and engaged in the war with the Seminoles in Florida, where he contracted an illness which terminated in his death. Some time before his death he gave David Lewis, Sr., fifty acres of land in his section on condition that he would settle on it, a condition that he at once proceeded to fulfill. The first settlement, however, was made by George Cowgill, who located in November of 1805, about a mile above where Hall's mill stood. Closely following him came David Lewis, Sr., with his daughter Hannah, and sons John and David, Jr. The latter was married, and, on September 29, 1806, had a son born, whom he named Joseph Constant Lewis, for Judge Constant. This was the first birth in the settlement. On their way to their new homes the Lewises had come through Berkshire Corners, and, leaving their families there, proceeded to their claim to erect a home. Starting from the center line of the township on the line of the section, they followed west to Alum Creek, then south, getting their direction by a pocket compass and making their measurements with a bed-cord. Reaching, as they supposed, the point described in their deed, they put up a cabin into which they moved their family. On surveying the land a short time afterward they found themselves too far south by some thirty rods. They at once built another cabin on the hill, across the creek from Cheshire, on the spot now owned by Mrs. Platt, which they occupied about the 10th of January, 1806. The following spring saw the arrival of Joseph Eaton, Sr., and John Johnston, with their families, from Huntington, Penn. They settled on the west side of the creek on the Byxbe tract, near a tributary of Alum Creek, called Olive Creek or Big Run, about two miles above Cheshire. Later in the year came David Isaac, Philander Hoadley, and Chester Lewis, with their families, from Waterbury, Conn., and settled on Section 4. In 1807, two more families came, those of Philo Hoadley and Asa Scott. James Kilbourn became agent for the Constant property, and sold all that remained in New Haven County, Conn. The Hoadleys and Scott, anxious to secure a soil less sterile than their native



State presented, were glad to believe the exaggerated description of the West, and, purchasing their land, started in two wagons. Philo Hoadley, besides his wife and three boys, afforded accommodations for Lovell and Lucy Caulkins. Brother and sister went to work, he to clearing a place to raise a support for his father's family, which was to come, and she to teaching school. After clearing some three acres, raising a crop of corn and planting seeds for fruit trees, he set about returning home. This he did in 1808, and, accompanied by a younger Lewis, went to Fredrickton the first day, thence to Jerometown Indian Camp, thence a third day's journey to a camp in the wood, and from there by way of Cleveland to Connecticut. His report of the country soon raised the Western fever to the highest pitch among those who had known no soil better than the stone-fields of Connecticut. A company of emigrants was immediately made up, consisting of four families, including those of Roswell Caulkins, Samuel Adams, Jonathan Thompson and John Lewis—in all forty persons. On the 20th of September, 1809, the little colony set its face toward the Hudson River and commenced its tedious journey to the West. Mrs. Ripley, known then as Julia Caulkins, has left an interesting account of their journey to Berlin, which we quote: "The crossing of this river was to us an object of terror. We arrived on the second day at Fishkill and took passage in three boats. The one taken by our family proved a leaky affair, the water pouring in on all sides, and it was only with the utmost difficulty that we reached the other shore. At that time I saw a boat slowly moving down stream, without sails, from which issued a dense column of black smoke. 'See! father,' I cried, 'there is a boat on fire!' He replied, 'That is the great wonder, Fulton's experiment, that we have read so much about in the papers.'

"On reaching the Blue Ridge, the first range of the Alleghany Mountains, the ascent was found so difficult, and the roads so cut up by the heavy teaming, that it was found necessary to lighten the teams as far as possible. The men stayed back with the teams, which, forced to stop frequently to breathe, made slow progress. The women formed the advance guard, carrying rifles and shot-guns all the way over the mountains. What added to the difficulties of the journey was the frequent meeting with the immense wagons that transport goods over the mountains. Three small bells worn in a brass frame above the head of each horse,

announced the approach of these land-ships. On our journey we often fell in with other emigrants, and sometimes saw the adventurous bridegroom walking beside his hopeful bride, mounted on a pack-saddle which contained all their earthly treasure. From Zanesville to Newark, and thence through Granville, we reached a cluster of cabins called the Welsh settlement, on the border of the 'long woods,' where we prepared for a night in the wilderness. We at once plunged into the forest with no guide save the blazed trees, starting up, as we traveled, flocks of wild turkeys and numbers of deer. Our camp was pitched on the bank of a brook, where the gay attire of the leaves combined with our brilliant camp-fires to render the scene a grand one. The wolves did not seem to approve of our demonstration, and made the woods vocal with their howling. We proceeded early next morning, and before sunset on October 30 we reached our destination, having been forty days on our journey."

Capt. John Lewis, of this party, was the first permanent resident in the southeast quarter of the township, east of the creek. From time to time, others arrived to gladden the hearts of the settlers, and to help bear the burdens of frontier life. In 1806, Berkshire, of which Berlin was then a part, took on the functions of a township as a part of Franklin County. The post office was at Franklinton, and the place of voting at Worthington, then at Berkshire Corners, and later at Joseph Eaton's and Dr. Loofbourrow's. There were small stores of groceries and dry goods within eight miles, where British calico might be purchased at 50 cents per yard, and common tea at \$1.50 per pound. During the war of 1812, and afterward, these goods advanced to almost double this price, while wheat sold for only 37½ cents per bushel, and dressed pork sold for only \$1.50 per hundred weight.

A prominent factor in the society of this community, at this time, were the Indians. To express it in the language of one of the pioneers, they were "thick as blackbirds," and, while they never disputed the settler's right to settle and shoot the game, they felt that they had a right to a part of the corn and vegetables grown in the settlement. It was some time before the early settlers could look upon them with equanimity. The stories of the horrible massacres during the early history of the New England States were fresh in their minds, and the unprotected situation in which they found themselves gave rise to not unreasonable

apprehensions. A longer experience and judicious treatment of the savages did much to allay these fears. The Indians accepted the intrusion of the white man as a part of fate, and made a virtue of necessity. A remarkable instance of their tractability is related by Rev. John W. Thompson, which we give from an historical sermon, preached in Berlin in 1858. Not long after the arrivals in 1809, "an Indian committed some depredation on Mr. Cowgill's family. The inhabitants from other neighborhoods came to their assistance, and at once proceeded to the Indian camp. The criminal, seeing them approach, and being left to his fate by the rest of the tribe, retired to his wigwam, and covered his head with his blanket, expecting immediate death. The whites instead took him a prisoner to Berkshire. The next morning his tribe came, with their faces painted red, in token of peace. As nothing was done with the prisoner, they soon left, but returned in the afternoon tattooed with black, as a declaration of war. Said they, 'Kill him, we nothing say, but no keep him to torture.' The settlers considering discretion the better part of valor, dismissed him on condition never to come back again. He was never seen there afterward." Another incident illustrates an unusual feature of the Indian. A company of them came one time and pitched their camp within a few rods of the cabin of Jonathan Thompson, who lived on the east side of the creek, on the Constant tract. They were of a generous turn, and made friendly advances to the "stranger," sending him a choice piece of meat when they killed a deer, and lending assistance frequently. Mr. Thompson, noticing that they remained near their wigwams on Sunday, asked them why they did not hunt on that day. The answer came, "No good Indian hunt Sunday; the Great Spirit see." There were numerous parties of these Indians attracted hither by the game or the maple trees, which afforded an excellent opportunity of making sugar, of which they were very fond. It was a great source of entertainment to the settlers to go to these camps in the evening, and visits were frequently made. The Indian had his own way of entertaining company, and was quite "put out" if his efforts to make himself agreeable were slighted. This was usually a banter to wrestle. His "hold" was neither "square" nor "side," nor "back hold," but a sort of back and side hold combined, which the settlers called Indian hug, and many of them became very proficient in it. On one occasion, old man Lewis, who was a vigor-

ous man, with several others, was at the sugar camp. One of the braves bantered one after the other of the young men to wrestle, but got only excuses, and finally came to Mr. Lewis. He plead his age as an excuse, but the Indian was not to be put off, and they clinched. The story goes, that, after a vigorous tussle, Lewis got his foot well braced, and threw his antagonist heavily to the ground, who got up laughing as heartily as though he had been the victor. Joe and George Bigtree were Indians who were familiarly known in the Berlin settlement, and, during the war of 1812, were frequently there with faces painted red, indicative of their peaceful intentions.

The seeds which had been so thoughtfully planted by Lovell Caulkins sprang up into a fruitful orchard—the only one in the settlement—and proved a boon to the whole community. Venison and turkeys were abundant, and the commoner sorts of vegetables; but there was a lack of salt, leather, cooking utensils and iron goods, that proved a source of great privation. The markets were at Zanesville and Chillicothe, over a tedious path but imperfectly blazed out. The Alum Creek furnished an easier route that was considerably used by the settlers, though it had the same inconvenience with "sliding down hill"—the necessity of walking back. But half the way was a good deal to ride in those days, even at the expense of a canoe. On one occasion, three men made a canoe and went down the river to Chillicothe. On their return they walked, one carrying a back-load of salt, another bringing an iron pot, while the third shouldered a roll of leather. A similar undertaking, by David Lewis, Jr., did not result so successfully. Cutting down a large butternut on the banks of the creek, at the foot of the hill in front of his house, he fashioned a canoe and launched out for Chillicothe. He had loaded his craft with skins and furs, proposing to buy salt with the proceeds. He was successful so far, and started home, carrying his precious load on his shoulder. It was no small undertaking, and each mile seemed to add weight to his load, but the thought of the comfort it would bring, and his near approach to home, made the burden lighter. This was then the time when the scriptural injunction, "Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall," would have been most profitable. Crossing a stream on one of the impromptu bridges of that time—a tree fallen across from bank to bank—he lost his footing, and, with his salt, fell into the water. His perishable load

dissolved in the stream, and, with his shoulder chafed with the burden, and smarting with the brine, he struggled empty-handed to the shore. His feelings at this loss can better be imagined than described. At another time three men went to Zanesville with three yoke of oxen, drawing a load of beef. They were destitute of money, and camped out, depending upon their flint and tinder for fire. Their hardships and difficulties were almost incredible, but by indomitable pluck and a perseverance that conquers all things, they returned with a load of hollow-ware, which was like a glimpse of civilization to the little settlement.

Just here let us relieve the stern aspect of frontier life by a glimpse of life in the cabin. In the hurried review of the progress of the early settlements, we are apt to forget the cabin, where the "busy housewife plies her evening care," and so lose sight of the romance that goes hand in hand with sterner facts. We venture to quote a further passage from Mrs Ripley's manuscript, prefacing it with the remark that the "Clara" referred to, is another name for Miss Julia Caulkins. "One of our number found a devoted lover awaiting her coming. Previous to leaving Connecticut, she had been selected by an aged couple as the companion for a favorite grandson in Ohio, to whom they had willed their large estate, and who was expected to return to cheer and comfort their old age. Clara remembered him only as a noisy schoolboy, who loved play much better than study. She was not a little surprised, therefore, when she found him a tall young man, with an altogether prepossessing appearance. Of a family of six girls and one boy, and he engaged in the care of his own little family, Clara was glad to avail herself of so useful a companion, and thought it right to take such opportunities as were afforded to judge of his character. Frequent rambles in the woods led to thoughts above the sordid cares of life, but, while she quoted her favorite Thomson—

"These as they change, Almighty Father, these  
Are but the varied God. The rolling year  
Is full of Thee. Forth in the pleasing spring  
Thy beauty walks, Thy tenderness and love —"

his conversation inclined to such themes as catching coons and possums, and on the probability of their being plenty of 'shack'." Not to prolong the story, Clara was sent to the Berkshire Academy. A misspelled declaration and proposal soon followed her, which brought in return an expression of thanks, but regrets, etc. William,

not utterly cast down, went East to enter upon his inheritance, and soon wrote back that he had found a lady who was ready and willing to marry him on short notice.

The years of 1811-13 brought to this community, as elsewhere in the Northwest, days of anxiety and nights of fear. After Harrison's brilliant victory over Tecumseh at Tippecanoe, there was a temporary feeling of tranquillity only to be disturbed by the declaration of war with England. The foe was aware of the unprotected nature of the frontier settlements, and knew too well the inflammable material which could easily be kindled into a devastating flame of rapine and massacre in the most vulnerable part of our land. The danger proved in the event to be one of apprehension rather than reality, but it was none the less trying to the courage and fortitude of the settlers. Other counties have events in their history which loom up out of the past as great landmarks by which their progress is measured. In one it is the "deep snow," another dates before or since the "great epidemic," but Delaware County refers to the "great scare," and shows results only less terrible than death. There is something almost ludicrous in the story of "Drake's defeat," of one man stampeding a county with a joke, but when we note the incidents of men, women, and children frantic with fear, there is no space for levity. The alarm was not puerile nor unfounded. Hull's surrender had removed the last restraint upon the savages, who needed none of England's emissaries to incite them to deeds of blood. This ignominious surrender had inspired them with a disrespect for the manliness of the American army, and it was but natural to expect that the unprotected settlements would offer a tempting prize to the savage mind. The report of Drake's defeat was, therefore, not entirely unexpected, and with it the settlements in Berlin knew their last defense on that line was gone. The report spread like wildfire among the settlers, whose anxious forebodings disposed them to accept it without question.

"Ah! then and there was hurrying to and fro,  
And gathering tears, and tremblings of distress,  
And cheeks all white which but an hour ago  
Blushed at the praise of their own loveliness;  
\* \* \* \* \*  
And there was mounting in hot haste."

The creek, unbridged, floating nearly banks high, seemed no impediment in the way of these fear-impelled fugitives. Timid women for the nonce were bold as lions, and fearlessly plunged into the

stream only to be rescued from dangers that required experience not less than bravery to conquer. But when the re-action came, when the report of Drake's defeat was explained, the scene was not less disheartening. Articles of value, of clothing and food, were found indiscriminately jumbled together. One woman, even in the extremity of her fear, did not forget her silk dress, but, wrapping a package of candles in it, carefully, bestowed it in the bottom of the wagon. When it was afterward found, the difficulty was to discover which was dress and which candles. The wicks were there, but the tallow had been ground into the dress, leaving only an enormous grease spot to account for their absence. Another woman found a bag containing old boots and a confused mass of pies, bread, etc., which she had put up in case of need. Others had no wagons, or did not wait for them, but, making up bundles, put them on their shoulders, and forded the creek. The wife and children of Asa Scott carried so much in this way that it took a wagon to return the goods to the cabin. It was not until the settlers returned to their homes that the full extent of the disaster was realized. The residents had been absent for one, two and three days, and meanwhile the open doors and gates gave stock free access to corn-field and larder. Bed clothing, wearing apparel, furniture, dishes, the whole domestic economy of the cabin, was found in inextricable confusion. The loss experienced in various ways added a heavy burden to those already felt to be sufficiently severe, and gave rise to the determination to thereafter face the enemy on their own ground. Preparations were made at once for a suitable defense. The valuables of each family were buried in deep holes in the ground, care being taken to obliterate any traces of the cache.

The community then determined to erect a block-house to which they could resort in times of special alarm. A site was chosen on the road passing along the west bank of the creek, on a rise of ground just south of where the roads cross near Cheshire, where the old cemetery now is. This structure was forty feet square, with two stories; the upper story projecting over the lower one some two feet, afforded opportunities of defense against close attacks or attempts to fire the structure. It was built of hewed logs, a foot square, the ends securely joined so as not to leave the smallest crevice between the logs. There was no opening in the lower story save that of the door, which was made of a double thickness of

three-inch planks, barred and cross barred. The upper story was furnished with rifle embrasures in the side, and convenient apertures in the floor of the projection for purposes of defense in a close attack. When built, the fort was well stocked with provisions and ammunition, so as to be ready at a moment's warning, and signals were arranged that the remoter settlements might learn of their danger.

It was about this time that a party of settlers were out in the woods some distance from the "improvements," clearing up a spot to build a cabin for some new arrival. Among the party were Chester and John Lewis, David Lewis, Sr., and Asa Scott, beside some boys who were there to look on or pile brush. As was the custom, each man had his gun near him, leaning against a tree, and David Lewis, Sr., was on duty as scout to note the approach of Indians. It was arranged that if he saw any he was to return and report "bears" in the woods. Sometime after noon, he was observed coming rapidly toward the party, and, as soon as he got within hearing, he said, "There are bear tracks in the woods, so fresh that the water has not yet settled in them." The men quietly ceased their work, took up their guns and prepared to put things in a state of defense. The boys were sent home, and, not to alarm the settlement, all but Chester and John Lewis slowly sauntered to the settlement. Then the state of the case was explained, and those families which were situated near at hand were escorted by the old men into the block-house. Blankets were hung up to divide off the space for families, guns were carefully scrutinized, and by nightfall everything at the fort was in readiness for an attack. But the cabins of some of the party of choppers were too far off to make it prudent to try to reach the fort in the dark. Scott's cabin was some distance to the north of the road crossing, and the cabin of Jacob Aye was still further to the north and east of Scott's. There was a large family of boys and girls of the Ayes, and they felt reasonably secure, or had not learned of the discovery. Late that night, after the boys had gone to bed, one of the sisters, delayed by some household care, heard the dogs making a disturbance as though the cattle or hogs were prowling about. Soon she heard some one trying to quiet the dogs, and she at once concluded it was Indians. She made every preparation against being taken by surprise, but did not summon the boys, lest in their fool-hardiness they might rush out and be killed. The dogs finally

became quiet, and the Indians, going toward the block-house, came upon Scott's cabin. Here the dogs, who had an instinctive hatred of the savages, commenced rushing out into a corn-field near, and then back again against the cabin, growling, manifesting symptoms of rage and fear. Old Mr. Scott knew what such conduct on the part of the dogs meant, and, calling up his two boys, prepared for defense. The windows were only closed by greased paper, and, stationing one with an ax at each of the two windows, he gave them instructions to split the first head that came through. Putting out the glowing embers on the hearth, he barricaded the door with what movable furniture he could reach, and took a position with his rifle commanding all points of entrance. Here the Indians endeavored to pacify the dogs in vain, and finally passed along. Soon after, the Scott family heard a rifle shot, followed by a rapid succession of lighter guns, and then came, one, two, three in measured succession, the warning guns from the block-house. Meanwhile at the fort another scene was enacting. The little band cooped up in their narrow quarters momentarily expected an attack. After waiting for some time in such suspense, David Lewis, Sr., accompanied by Philo Hoadley, started cautiously out to reconnoiter. The night is described as admirable for this purpose. Clouds heavily veiled the moon so that an object standing out clear could be readily discerned, while one groping in the shadows and along the ground could be discovered only by close scrutiny. The land sinks from all points at the road crossing, forming there a sort of basin. South of the east and west road, a tree had been felled parallel with the road, and, falling down hill, had left some space between the butt of the tree and stump. Across this road was Hoadley's corn-field, divided from other land by a brush fence. Coming down to the crossing, a suspicious noise was heard in the corn-field, and Lewis remarked to Hoadley that there were either hogs, cattle, or Indians in his field. Listening attentively for a moment, he exclaimed, "There goes another ear; Hoadley, it's Indians!" Lewis, who was an excellent shot, and an intrepid man, told Hoadley to remain at the crossing, and, taking shelter behind the trunk and top of the fallen tree, he would gain the rise of ground by the stump, and scan the corn-field situated across the road and on a little lower ground. Lewis succeeded in reaching the stump, and, ensconcing himself among the shadows between the tree and stump, awaited the issue of events. Soon he

saw a dark body jump upon the brush fence and over, and then another, but his practiced eye had seen the second one over the sights of his gun, the report of which was followed by a heavy falling of the body. Lewis immediately made for the fort as fast as his feet could carry him, with Hoadley just in advance. There was a discharge of several guns in rapid succession from the corn-field, and Lewis, striking his knee against the stump of some sapling that had been cut off, went sprawling to the ground. He imagined himself shot, but, regaining his feet, made for the fort. Within the fort everybody was on the alert, and Roswell Caulkins stood sentinel at the door. As Lewis and Hoadley came rushing up to gain entrance, Caulkins hesitated to unbar the door. David Lewis, Jr., who was celebrated as a keen hunter and woodsman, recognized the steps of their comrades, and cried to the sentinel, "Roswell, unbar the door, unbar the door! Those are shoes that are coming. It's father and Philo!" and, before the sentinel comprehended the force of what young Lewis was saying, the bars had been taken down by others, and the two men, half out of breath, admitted. The feelings of those within the fort can be better described by one who was there, and we add from Mrs. Ripley's manuscript: "An attack was every moment expected. The alarm guns were fired. The horrid work of the scalping knife and uplifted tomahawk was, in imagination, ready to be executed. There was neither shrieking nor fainting, but the women stood at their posts in the upper story, prepared for defense." Happily their expectations were not realized. The next morning broke on their anxious hearts calm and bright, and, as no traces of Indians could be discovered from the block-house, a party went out to see if the settlers in isolated cabins had been massacred. They were found, as we have related, frightened but not harmed. In the corn-field were found moccasin tracks with considerable traces of blood. The trail led off to the northwest, and indicated that one of their number had been carried. Who they were or what was the reason of their visit, has been the subject of considerable conjecture, but it has never reached a satisfactory explanation.

In recalling the experience of the pioneers, it is necessary to call the attention of the reader to the fact that these men and women, who braved the untried difficulties of the woods, were people not unlike ourselves. It is a common mistake to imagine that they were of a ruder sort of people,

akin to the foreign emigration of to-day. There could be no greater misapprehension. They came from the proudest stock of New England, from homes of refinement, sometimes from homes surrounded by all the luxuries that culture and wealth could bestow; and it is one of those mysterious ways in which God moves, "His wonders to perform,"—this providential adaptation of means to ends. At that time, our civilization was on a less secure basis than now. The pioneer was not only the architect of his own fortune, but of that of the State which grew out of his pioneer efforts, and the pressing demand was for stanch men, from the lowest rank up. Every man was a hero in the strife, and the result is the civilization of which we boast to-day. With this fact in mind, we get a deeper realization of the privations of the pioneer. The roughest work was to be done, and they did it. The closest economy was to be enforced, and they practiced it. The hidden mystery of the woodman's craft was to be learned, and they sounded it to its lowest depth.

In the Berlin settlement there were some who bought as much as 1,000 acres of land, others 250 and 100 acres of land, but all were on the same level of social equality. There was a novelty at first which dispelled discontent, and, later, the pressing duties of the settlement gave it no place. All wore the same kind of home-made clothing, made in the cabin from the flax of their own growing. In their amusements, they accepted the traditions of the settlements, and made no efforts to transplant the effeminate customs of a less hardy community. Weddings, huskings and logging bees afforded occasions for romping games, and the rustic dance,

"When toil remitting lent its turn to play,  
And all the village train, from labor free,  
Led up their sports."

There was a more serious side to this life in the woods as well. The scarcity of society knit the settlements, for miles around, in a common bond of friendship. Journeys of miles were undertaken through the woods to interchange greetings, and were often the result of experiences that would scarcely be braved now in the path of duty. Mrs. Ripley relates an instance of her going, in company with a girl companion, to visit friends in another settlement. Returning home, they found themselves deep in the forest when the night closed in upon them. With no guide but the blazed trees, they found themselves in a frightful

dilemma and without a resource. They dismounted and sought the signs of a habitation far and near, without success. "At length," she writes, "ascending an eminence, we discovered sparks of fire rising above the trees at a distance, and, hastening to this faint light, we found a man piling and burning brush. Amazed at our appearance, he listened to our story, and, taking a torch, found our horses. Lighting another brand, he kindly offered to pilot us home. Galloping rapidly in advance, he held the torch high above his head, and we as rapidly followed, reaching our home in safety. Gratitude to our kind deliverer from a night of terror, was equaled only by our joy on reaching home." But all experiences were, unfortunately, not so happily ended. Mrs. Ripley relates one, which we give in her own words: "Early one morning, a young woman came on horseback to our door, with disheveled hair and torn dress, looking the very personification of despair. 'Oh, my God!' she cried, 'I have been lost all night in the woods!' Riding alone the preceding day, she accidentally lost the path, and rode on without knowing in what direction, until she saw the dark shadows of night closing around her. After tying her horse, she found a tree which she could climb, and ascended it almost to the top. Fearful of falling, she tied her bonnet and long hair to a branch, and, grasping another with both hands, passed the long hours before dawn. During the night a storm came up, and with the drenching rain came the flashing lightning and the thunder's roar, rendering her nearly frantic with terror. In her despair she saw the glaring eyes of wild beasts, while the pawing of her snorting horse added confirmation to her fears. The shipwrecked mariner never beheld with more joy the coming day, but her limbs were swollen and she found herself unable to mount her horse. She led the animal, and, striking a wagon trail, she came out ten miles from her home, whence she was escorted to her friends." Such experiences were not confined to the women. Men were lost, and, at times, the whole settlement was called out, with guns and horns, to bring them in.

There were one or two hunters in the Berlin settlements who gained considerable local popularity. Among these were David Lewis, Jr., Thomas J. Scott, and Hiram and Walter May. Game was abundant, and the hunting adventures of these men were the theme of many an interesting tale. They are all gone save Scott, who lives his life

anew, in telling of the game that once stalked through the woods.

The period after the war was one of severe hardship to the new settlements in Berlin. During the war, though the settlement was in a chronic state of fear, a condition not calculated to increase the prosperity of the young community, yet the demands of the army offered a market which stimulated production, and, at the same time, gave them a taste of comforts which soon became necessities. The cessation of hostilities cut off this market, and left the surplus accruing from this over-stimulated production on their hands. There was no market for what the settlements had to sell, money ceased to circulate, and a season of privation set in which proved the harder to bear from the fact that they had begun to enjoy some of the commoner comforts of older communities. Farmers now found it almost impossible to secure enough currency to pay their taxes. Wheat, corn, furs, beef and pork, they began to have in abundance, but, no market. Before the war they only thought of living and making their homes comfortable, but, under the stimulating influence of the war, they had largely increased their power of producing, and now the cry was for a market. Trade among themselves had been reduced to the primitive system of barter, and money was to be got only from outside parties. An incident related of these times illustrates this money stringency very forcibly. A traveler passing through the settlement, one May day, stopped at a house for refreshments, for which he paid 12½ cents. The host remarked as he received the silver in his hand, "This must be laid by toward paying our taxes in the fall." A woman went to Columbus with produce to trade for household necessities, taking, among other things, sixteen pounds of butter. All she could get for this was a cotton pocket-handkerchief which could now be bought for a shilling. Another instance is related of a man who had a letter in the post office, the postage on which amounted to 12½ cents, and was unpaid. Destitute of money, he took a bushel of wheat and offered it to the Postmaster for the amount due on the letter, but was refused. Corn was worth 12½ cents per bushel in trade, and was not readily disposed of at that. Staple goods rose to a fearful price, which almost drove them out of the market. Salt, a commodity which all must have, cost \$18 per barrel, and one man gave 150 bushels of corn for one barrel of this article. Maple sugar could be got in abundance, and was a luxury in which the settlers in-

dulged without stint. One woman, at an early date when household utensils were more scarce, made 250 pounds of sugar in one season, in a six-quart kettle and a frying-pan. Its very abundance, however, spoiled any market it might have had, and it proved no source of revenue. About 1830, the influence of the canal which connects the Ohio River with the lake began to be felt, and business began to revive.

During the money stringency succeeding the war, another disaster overtook the frontier homes. Heretofore the community had known but little of sickness. In ten years there had been but six deaths, four children and two adults. Now a miasmatic epidemic spread over the frontier, which visited every cabin, and few families were so fortunate as to escape without losing a member. The epidemic took on the nature of a plague, many deaths occurring under distressing circumstances.

At the end of the first decade of Berlin's history there were about forty families in the township. About twenty of these had come from Waterbury, Conn., and settled on the Constant purchase in the southeast part of the township. Among these there had been eight marriages, the first of which, as well as the first occasion of the kind in the township, was that of Elias Adams to Harriet Lewis, by the Rev. Joseph Hughes. On the Byxbo purchase there were some ten families from various places, several of them being from Virginia. In the northwest quarter there were some eight families, the rest of the township being too low and swampy to attract settlers. During this decade there had been but six deaths, four children and two adults. The first event of the kind in the township was the death of Elanson Lewis, who died in 1807, and was buried in the old burying-ground where the block-house once stood. The next adult was Emma Lewis, who died in 1811, and was buried east of the creek.

In the historical sermon delivered by Rev. John W. Thompson, we find the following in regard to the increase of population after this time: "It is," says he, "doubtful whether there are as many inhabitants on the eastern half of the township as there were ten years ago. During the last twenty-five years the southwest part, which hitherto had remained an unbroken forest, has been filled up with inhabitants, thus maintaining the average 10 per cent increase in the population of the township. The present number of families in the township is not far from two hundred and fifty, probably a little over, making an increase of five

families per year from the first settlement. The first vote, which was in the fall of 1820, was 72. The average vote for the succeeding five years was 71, the highest number of ballots cast being 79, and the lowest number 48. From 1825 to 1835, the whole vote was 743, making an average annual vote of 74, with the highest number of votes cast 79, and the lowest 66. For the decade ending 1845, the highest number of ballots cast at any election was 185, the lowest, 123, making an average of 140. During the last decade the average has been 172, with the highest and lowest number of votes cast at 210 and 109 respectively. Not one man has voted at every State election. Two men have missed only two State elections, Allward Smith and Lovell Caulkins. Of the seventy-two who voted at the first election, only eight are now (1858) living in the township. Of the twenty families who came out during the first decade and settled in the southeast quarter, only nine of the parents remain—Jesse Armstrong and wife, David Lewis and wife, Lovell Caulkins and wife, Mrs. Chloe Scott, Mrs. Lois Dickerman, and Mrs. Betsy Thompson. Of those who came and settled in this quarter (near Cheshire) of the township previous to 1807, only David Lewis and wife remain. Of those who came in 1807, the widow of Asa Scott is the sole survivor. Of the five families who came in 1809, Lovell Caulkins and wife are all that are left. These stand while all the rest that were twenty years old or upward have passed away."

In 1820, Berlin was organized according to the original survey, and received its name at the suggestion of Asa Scott. He was at the time Treasurer of the section of country known then as Berkshire, which included Berlin. On looking over the subject he discovered that there were inhabitants enough to warrant a separate organization, and at once headed a petition to the Commissioners to that effect. Dr. Loofbourrow was made Township Clerk, and Joseph Eaton Justice of the Peace, while Scott was continued in his position of Treasurer for Berlin at the first election. The first mechanic in the township was Roswell Caulkins, who was skilled in carpentering and joining. While he gave much of his time to clearing up his farm, he still found time to devote to his trade. One of his first pieces of work was a loom made for Mrs. Chloe Scott. He did also the most of the hewing on the block-house and superintended its construction. The first frame dwellings were erected in 1820, one by James Eaton, and another

by Daniel Nettleby, both east of the creek, near Cheshire, Eaton's being nearer the town line. The first store, or place where goods were offered for sale, was located south of Cheshire, in a cabin, and kept by Nathan Sherwood. Up to the time of the epidemic, about 1815, there had been but little sickness, but the presence of so many swamps hidden from the purifying action of the sun, gave rise to considerable miasmatic fevers. Such ailments the "folk lore" of the pioneers found no trouble in curing with sundry decoctions of herbs. Occasionally they had recourse to a Dr. Hanley, who had been formerly a surgeon in the Revolutionary army, and had settled in Berkshire.

In the matter of pioneer industries, it was the demand for them which regulated the order of their establishment. First came the mills, saw and grist, both coming close together. The demand for a mill located near the settlement to grind the wheat and corn, was a very pressing one. Almost every settlement sooner or later, had a grist-mill, but, owing to the crudeness of their machinery, and its limited grinding power, there never was any danger of the business being overdone. A few bags of grain stocked the mill, and later comers from a distance were obliged to camp out, while they waited their turn to be served. Closely disputing precedence with this came the saw-mill. The first home depended principally upon such furniture as could be made in the woods. The way was too long, and transportation too meager, to bring it from the East. Floors, when any were had, were made from puncheons, logs split up into sections, two or three inches thick. Of this material were tables, seats and all this class of furniture made. Bedsteads were constructed with one leg, which supported one foot and one side rail, the other ends finding support in holes bored in the logs of the house. This frame, united by a bed-cord brought from the East, or a grapevine which served the same purpose, made the foundation for a superstructure of skins, blankets, etc. Under such circumstances the saw-mill would find patronage second, at least, only to the grist-mill. The first of these mills was built in Berlin, by Nathaniel Hall, in 1808, on Alum Creek, near the Delaware and Sunbury pike. In 1814, Joseph Lewis built a grist-mill and a saw-mill, near Cheshire. The demand for a market for the surplus crop of corn brought in response a distillery in almost every settlement. There were two established at an early date in Berlin. One was built by Hall, near where his mill stood, and



another near property owned by E. P. Sanders. The one erected near Cheshire was built by Isaac and Chester Lewis about 1816. The business was conducted by Armstrong and Frost, who made it an attractive resort for those who had time and inclination to loaf there. They did not last long, however; trade was poor, as the habit of drinking was not as generally practiced here as elsewhere. The tannery was prominent among the established industries of the early settlements. There was an ample demand for leather, but, like the Israelitish brickmakers, they found it difficult to furnish the material without the means of making it. Hides were difficult to obtain. The settlers had no more cattle than they needed for the working of their farms. Hogs were in abundance, and, running wild for six or seven years, had hides of remarkable thickness. These when killed were skinned, to furnish a sort of tough, coarse leather, which supplied harnesses and horse collars. Later, a murrain got among the cattle, and carried them off in large numbers, furnishing plenty of good leather, but at a serious loss to the pioneers. The first tannery in the township was built by Wilbur Caswell in 1817, on Alum Creek, at Cheshire. The tannery first stood down on the flats, near the stream, for some years. It was then moved on to the hill, near where he now lives, and continued until 1858. A tannery was built at an early date, on the Berkshire road, by the Dunhams, but the time is uncertain. Berlin is situated away from any direct line of travel, save the Delaware, Berkshire and Sunbury pike, and, consequently, had no call for a tavern, though there is said to have been one at Cheshire when it was first laid out.

Alum Creek Post Office is a point of interest, located on the pike between Delaware and Sunbury. A post office has been located here for years, at a private house about half a mile west of the place, which affords the chilled traveler in winter a comfortable place to warm while the mail is sorting. A church building adds dignity to the name, and serves to mark the place.

Cheshire, located east of the central part, is the only village in the township. Samuel Adams owned the farm on which the village now stands, and laid it off into lots. The first store was a room about seven by nine feet, and was kept by L. R. Ryant. He bought his goods in Columbus and brought them here in a wagon on the 15th of October, 1847. A few years afterward, he added another room for a shoeshop, where he

sold ready-made goods and manufactured to order. Mr. Ryant was also the first Postmaster, his commission being dated August 10, 1851. The post office is called Constantia, from Joseph Constant Lewis, the first child born in Berlin. The village is located on a barren clay knoll, a location which gave rise to a name which attained quite a local popularity. Jesse Hultz gave it the name of Peth, from a place similarly situated in New York, "for," in explanation, said he, "what don't run away will starve to death." A saw-mill and grist-mill combined was built here in 1855, by Daniel Nettleton. The structure is much smaller than originally constructed. Mr. Nettleton intended to add a carriage factory, but the excitement brought on by the undertaking prostrated him with a nervous disease which put a stop to the enterprise.

A fine cemetery ground is located just south of Cheshire, which was laid out by the "Nettleton Grove Bank Cemetery Association," organized October 10, 1853. The first officers were Joel Cleveland, President; Lewis Thompson, Clerk, and Vinal Steward, Treasurer. The oldest cemetery is the one where the block-house stood, on the west side of the creek, but it is rapidly going to decay. Another, near the town hall, on the road to Berlin station, contains many of the first settlers. Here an old storm-beaten stone bears the legend—

Here rest the remains of  
JOSEPH EATON,  
who departed this life  
Feb. 8, A. D. 1825,  
aged 59 years.  
He emigrated from the State  
of Pennsylvania, A. D. 1805.  
He was the son of  
DAVID, EATON;  
which was the son of  
JOHN, EATON;  
which was the son of  
JOSEPH, EATON;  
which was the son of  
JOHN, EATON;  
who emigrated from  
Wales, A. D. 1686.

The village is made up of two country stores of the smaller size, the post office, a saw and grist mill, a slat window-shade manufactory and two churches.

Berlin Station is simply what its name implies, a railway station. The first agent put in a stock of groceries and was the pioneer in both respects.

There is now a grocery, a saw-mill, a wagon-maker's shop, a post office, a church building and a tile factory, at this place. The latter enterprise bids fair to reach large proportions. There is a large demand for drainage material, and the proprietors are active business men, who are well calculated to achieve success. The business has already developed a vigorous growth, and Berlin Station can well afford to nourish such an enterprise in its midst.

Another place should be mentioned, which, though it does not now appear on the map of the county, promised at one time to rival the larger villages of this section. It was laid out, in 1850, by J. R. Hubbell and Thomas Carney, just where the railroad crosses the Berkshire pike. At that time, the railroad did not go to Delaware, and it was expected by the founders of this village that a depot would be established there. Some eighty lots were laid out and sold, a warehouse was built, and efforts put forth to stimulate the growth of the town. The railroad, however, had a larger town to deal with, and, in compromising with Delaware, placed its depot about two miles south, in the woods. Soon afterward, the curve was built to Delaware, which gave a finishing blow to the new venture, and, about ten years after its founding, "Berlin" returned to its rustic pursuits.

The Baptist Church was the first to take the field in Berlin, in the person of a Rev. Mr. Wyatt. A church of this denomination had been formed in the Olentangy Valley, in Liberty Township, as early as 1806. Mr. Wyatt was their Pastor, and he came into this township about once a month to preach in the cabins about. He carried on his work as far east as Trenton, receiving such as wished to join the church into the organization at Liberty. From time to time, as the membership in the various localities would warrant, they were set off from the parent church at Liberty, into separate organizations. This distribution of churches, together with the increase of like faith in Berlin, made Alum Creek the central point for meetings. In 1816, they met for the first time in the block-house, which, having served the community in time of war, was called upon to play a nobler part in time of peace. For eight years the Baptist Church held its meetings here, when it was voted to change its name to the Berlin Baptist Church, and, in that year, erected the frame building, where lies the burying-ground on the road to Berlin Station. This building is now the town hall. Among the members, at that time,

were Isaac Monroe, David Lewis, Sr., Joseph Eaton, and their wives; John Johnson, Sarah Brandy and Polly Noko; the two latter were colored women. Sarah Brandy died at the age of 114 years. She had been a servant in George Washington's family, and been for a long time connected with the family of Gen. Sullivan, of Revolutionary fame. It was the habit of Gen. Sullivan to send to Joseph Eaton a small sum of money each year, to provide Sarah with such comforts as tea, sugar, coffee, etc. In 1854, the Baptist church building now standing in Cheshire was built, at a cost of some \$700. Rev. Philander Kelsey was the first Pastor in this edifice. It was dedicated on the last day of the year, and a bell was hung in it the following year. Elder Jacob Drake was early on the ground, and co-operated with Mr. Wyatt. He was a surveyor, and was much among the people. He preached in the cabins, especially in those of Mr. Lewis and Russell Caulkins. An incident is related which shows that "chickens" were not considered then the only thing fit for a minister to eat. He came out from Delaware one morning, in 1808, before breakfast, and a meal was prepared for him. The table was a puncheon, neatly smoothed off on the upper side, supported by pins driven into the logs of the cabin. When the meal was announced, he sat down to a single baked potato, with salt in a clam shell, and water in a gourd. This was the fare offered a minister, who had walked seven miles for his breakfast, and it is said he seemed to relish it as well as though it had been a fine dinner.

The Presbyterian Church came second in chronological order, its first minister being a Mr. Stevens, who came to Berlin on a missionary tour of exploration. Rev. Ebenezer Washburn, of Berkshire, was on the ground at an early date. Revs. Matthews, Taylor, Hughs and Hoge were contemporary with him. At an early time an organization of a Presbyterian church in Berkshire was called the Berkshire and Kingston Church, with a constituency extending from Kingston to Orange, and this continued to be the center of this denominational influence until 1828, the year of the great revival, when that part of the church south of Berkshire was set off and formed into the Presbyterian Church of Berlin. Among the number set off there were four elders, John Roloson, Paul Ferson, Milton Sackett, and Stephen Chandler. These composed the session of the new church, which at once proceeded to build a place of wor-

ship. The building is situated just south of Cheshire, and is a neat frame building, which cost some \$700. The minister at this time was the Rev. Ahab Jinks. This man was peculiar in more respects than in his name. It is said, that, when a boy, he was the leader of a godless band of young ruffians, for whose sport he would mimic the preachers he heard, giving, their sermons verbatim. Going to hear Dean Swift, his course of life was changed, and he turned his ability toward the right. His trick of memory never left him, and led to some contretemps in which he was the least confused party. On one occasion he preached from Isaiah i, 2, an especially brilliant sermon to his parishioners in Berlin, which greatly impressed them, and it was generally remarked, that the minister had outdone himself. One of his parishioners went to Genoa in the afternoon, where he heard, to his utmost astonishment, the same identical sermon, delivered by Rev. Mr. Judson, the earliest of the Sunday-school agents. At another time, desiring to get up a camp-meeting in Berlin, Mr. Jinks preached a sermon which carried every obstacle before it, and aroused the people to the pitch of camp-meeting fervor. The arrangements were made for the meeting in the Dickerman woods, and it was carried on with great success. Near the close, Mr. Jinks invited a Rev. Mr. Pomeroy to assist in conducting the meetings. He came and delivered for his first effort the very sermon which had so aroused the people some time before. When asked to explain these coincidences, Mr. Jinks quietly remarked that he had heard them delivered, considered them good sermons, and thought he would give his parishioners the benefit of them. In 1832, Rev. Calvin Ransom was installed Pastor of this church. Five years later Rev. D. C. Allen succeeded him, and he in turn, after a few months, was succeeded by Rev. H. Shedd. In 1844, Rev. A. S. Avery was called, and in 1845, Rev. John W. Thompson was installed Pastor, and continued for a long time as Pastor of this church. Another church of this denomination was established at Berlin Station in 1876. The church was organized January 16, 1876, with nineteen members, and, in the fall of that year, a church building, costing some \$1,700, was built. The church edifice is a neat one indeed, furnished with inside blinds, and presenting a very attractive appearance. The membership is now about sixty-nine. Rev. Thomas Hill is Pastor.

The Methodist Episcopal Church is the next organization in point of time in this township.

Rev. Vinal Steward was the first minister of this denomination in the township. He came in 1814, and soon after organized a class, composed of Jacob Aye and wife, and his children—John, Jacob, Jr., Henry, Betsy, Katie, Polly and Peggy; Lewis Sherwood and wife, and John Lewis and wife. About 1829, they put up a hewed-log meeting-house, a little north of Cheshire Corners, in which they worshiped until 1845, when they held their services in the Presbyterian building. Some three years later the church erected their present place of worship in Cheshire at a cost of \$500, dedicating it in 1849. In 1878, the society added a bell. The Cottonwood Wesleyan Church is located in the southwest corner of the township. It was called the Fairview M. E. Church about 1854, and continued for some twenty years. This organization died out about 1874, when the Christian Union occupied the building for about five years. On March 20, 1879, the Wesleyan Methodist Church was organized with fifteen members, and occupied the church. Mrs. Jacob Colflesh is Class Leader, and B. Hartley, Steward. Rev. Mr. Teter preached for two years here before the organization of a church, and was succeeded by Rev. L. White. Services, Sunday school and prayer-meetings are maintained throughout the year. The church has a seating capacity of one hundred and fifty, where services are held every alternate Sunday.

The Peach Blow Church, in the southern part of the township, belongs to the United Brethren denomination. It was organized in 1857, with about twenty members. Their meetings were first held in the schoolhouse on the west side of the township until the following year, when the present place of worship was erected on land belonging to G. A. Stover. The building, a neat frame, cost about \$700. The first Pastor was Virgil Pond; the present one is Rev. Daniel Bonebreak. A good Sunday school is maintained the entire year. The tradition in regard to the name of the church is an interesting one. It was dedicated as Berlin Chapel. The trustees who had the matter in charge, decided to have the church painted white, but a third trustee, when the painter came on the ground, directed him to paint it red. So sash and woodwork, and altar soon glowed in that sanguinary hue. The astonishment of the majority of the Trustee Board can be better imagined than described. The minority member explained that he had a preference for the delicate tint of the peach-blow, and had thus changed the instructions

of the painter. The final upshot of the whole matter was that the peach-blow member retired from the unappreciative church, and the color of the church changed to white, but the name of peach-blow still adheres to the church. A few members of this denomination were settled about Alum Creek Post Office, and, previous to 1860, held meetings at the residence of O. R. May. About this time the project of building a church was inaugurated, and, with the earnest support of such men as Mr. May and Nathaniel Roloson, soon became an accomplished fact. The church is known as the North Berlin U. B. Church, although it was one of the conditions of Mr. Roloson's aid that it should be open to the use of all denominations. This gentleman gave the land on which the building stands. The first Pastor was Rev. William Davis. They maintain Sunday schools in the summer.

The Universalists, in 1820, made a short-lived attempt to gain a foothold for their doctrines. They held a camp-meeting in a grove near the bridge, south of Cheshire, a Mr. Rogers conducting the services. The effort created some little excitement among the evangelical organizations, but produced no permanent results. An incident is related in connection with this effort, which, for the time, created quite an animated discussion in church circles. One Sunday morning as the people assembled it was discovered that there was no pulpit. Of course, one must be had, and tools and axes were brought out to supply the missing enginery of the church. It is said that some from the evangelical churches aided in this work on Sunday, much to the scandal of the Christian community. Some ten years later a Mormon missionary made a visit and held a few meetings, but made no impression on the steady-going people.

In the matter of temperance, the first agitation was begun in public in 1832. A meeting was held in the brick schoolhouse across the street from where the Presbyterian church now stands, just south of Cheshire. A pledge had been proposed with two or three names attached, and at the meeting some eighteen more names were secured. A society was formed, and many more united. This pledge, however, did not exclude vinous or fermented liquors. About 1840, the movement in favor of total abstinence became general throughout the country, and the result in Berlin was to drive a good many out of the temperance society here. With the progress of

thought, the sentiment of this community has advanced, and Berlin is abreast with the rest of the world in matters of temperance. Not a drop of liquor is offered for sale within her borders. About 1840, the proslavery sentiment in Berlin was very pronounced. No discussion of this absorbing question could be calmly carried on, and the presence of an "Abolitionist" created more excitement than the passage of a show now does among the children. Later, when antislavery sentiments had reached a larger growth, the flight of fugitive slaves was only conducted in safety when the darkness of night afforded concealment. But, notwithstanding these untoward circumstances, the "underground railroad" passed right through the village of Cheshire. From Orange along Alum Creek the fugitive from bondage made his way with the friendly aid of earnest men to Cheshire, thence to the Quaker settlement, and then on to Oberlin, or some other outlet. But all that has long since changed, and every honest man now goes his way without let or hinderance.

Sunday schools were early established, though not of the form we know in these days. The first effort in this respect was probably in 1815, by Mr. Goodhue, in the cabin occupied by the Widow Byxbe, sister-in-law of Col. Byxbe. There is no tradition in regard to its character or its results. Later, James and Paul Ferson, of Orange, taught a Sunday school. Mrs. Gregory, who lived at Berkshire, had an occasion to go East about the time when the interest in Sunday schools was at its highest there, and became greatly interested in the subject of introducing them in the West. On her return home, she communicated her enthusiasm to the Ferson brothers, who became prominent in Sabbath-school work, establishing at various places schools on the plan inaugurated at the East.

The first school in this township was taught by Joseph Eaton, in a cabin which stood west of Alum Creek, and a half or three-quarters of a mile north of the old Baptist meeting-house. The second was taught by Lucy Caulkins, in a cabin near where the block-house stood, about 1810. The first schoolhouse was built just south of the block-house, on a ridge of land which overlooks the creek, but was not much used. It was of the rudest sort, built of round logs, with paper windows, bark roof and puncheon furniture. A school was taught in a cabin near the bridge, opposite the place of John Jones. After this, the block-house furnished good accommodations for school as well as church, and was used for some years. There

were, in 1818, but four schoolhouses in the township, with an enumeration of about 100. They were distributed as follows: one in the northwest quarter, two in the northeast quarter—i. e., one in the Durham settlement, and the other in the Eaton neighborhood—and one in the southeast quarter, situated across from the Presbyterian church, south of Cheshire. Peletier Morgan, an old Revolutionary soldier, was one of the early teachers in this latter schoolhouse. He carried his whisky in a wooden bottle regularly to school, and divided his attention between that and his pupils. A brick schoolhouse was substituted for this old one in 1826, with Joseph P. Smith as first teacher. The children of that day were not different from those of to-day. Full of mischief, they watched the teacher's eye, and were on furtive mischief bent at all times. An anecdote is told of Thomas Scott and Harry Hoadley getting bumped against the logs of the block-house by the teacher for punishment. The justice of the punishment they never questioned, but they sought to evade it in the future by having their heads literally shaved. At another time, a boy of eight years was observed weeping bitterly, and leading a youngster of some four years, who evidently did not comprehend the disturbance. On being asked the cause of his grief, the boy blubbered out that his brother "didn't seem to feel the importance of business, and he was afraid he never would." What solace could be offered to a mind thus stricken with grief, it is hard to conceive, but of such were the boys of the pioneers. Spelling-schools and singing-schools were engaged in at that time with far more zest than has come down with those institutions to us. And in the part not laid down in the programme—the going home with the girls—there was a zest which shows itself in the very stories of the time. Milton Sackett relates an incident which pictures forth the society of that day in a vivid manner.

As is often the case nowadays, two boys had their hearts and attentions set upon one girl, and both proposed to himself to escort her home. While one of the contestants was lighting his torch of hickory at the old block-house fire-place, his rival, who had been quicker than he, just placed his torch in close proximity with the other's coat-tail. Of course there was a sudden hurrying about to extinguish the blazing coat-tail, but, in the mean while, the shrewd incendiary had gone off with the girl, leaving his rival to grieve over the lacerated state of his feelings, as well as that of his coat-tail.

Since the earliest authentic data at command—1837—the yearly increase in school population has been from 10 to 12 per cent. In 1837, the enumeration was 340; in 1858, about 530. The number in the last enumeration has fallen to 288. In 1837, there were seven schoolhouses; in 1845, there were ten; in 1853, there were thirteen; now there are but ten. Of these ten, all but two are good, substantial brick structures, furnished with improved school furniture. Ladies are largely employed as teachers, receiving from \$18 to \$25 per month. Gentlemen receive \$35 per month. These prices are without board.

In compiling the above pages we have been greatly indebted to the manuscript of Mrs. Ripley, and to an historical sermon by the Rev. J. W. Thompson. These papers were written during the life of some of the original settlers, and clothe the scenes of long ago with a romantic interest that can be felt but not copied. To those whose ancestors came here as early settlers, as they trace their history in these pages, there must come as to no one else a feeling that

"Something beautiful is vanished,  
Which we sigh for now in vain;  
We behold it everywhere,  
On the earth, and in the air,  
But it never comes again."

