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The Beginnings of Ohio Cities

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FIRST PRINTING

Soon after the founding of Marietta, three other important settlements were begun farther down the Ohio. These settlements were known as Losantiville, Columbia and North Bend. They were located in what is known as "The Symmes Purchase" and marked the beginning of the great commercial metropolis of Ohio, the city of Cincinnati. The large tract of land bordering on the Ohio, lying between the two Miamis, and extending north to the line forming the western extension of the north boundary of the Marietta purchase, constitutes the original Symmes purchase.

MAJOR BENJAMIN STITES VISITS THE MIAMI VALLEY

In the spring of 1786, Major Benjamin Stites, an old soldier of the Revolution, who had become a trader to the west, was near Limestone, Kentucky, (now Maysville) with a cargo of whiskey and flour. He joined an expedition of Kentuckians who went in pursuit of some Indian horse thieves. They followed the fleeing savages as far as the Little Miami and then gave up the chase. They then crossed over to the Big Miami and Stites thus got a view of the amazing beauty and fertility of the Miami valley. Stites at once hastened to New Jersey and impressed upon John Cleves Symmes, an influential member of Congress, his story of the wonderful lands and magnificent forests of the Miami valley.

JOHN CLEVES SYMMES PETITIONS CONGRESS FOR A LAND GRANT

In order to confirm Stites' account, Symmes made a journey himself to the Miami country and in August of 1787, with twenty-three associates, petitioned Congress for a grant of the lands, lying between the two Miamis as above described. Symmes assumed that Congress and the Treasury Board would grant him the same terms as had been given the Ohio Company in the Muskingum purchase, and without waiting to have his grant confirmed, at once entered into a covenant with Stites to convey to him ten thousand acres of the best lands in the valley fronting on the Ohio and lying near the mouth of the little Miami. These lands were sold at sixty-six and two thirds cents an acre, to be paid for in certificates of the public debt. Symmes also issued a prospectus stating that a contract had been made between himself and Congress for two million acres and inviting settlers to enter upon the lands at two thirds of a dollar per acre. After May first, 1788, the price was to be one dollar per acre. Purchasers were not wanting. Mathias Denman of New Jersey took the whole section lying opposite the mouth of the Licking river, a tract destined to be the site of Cincinnati. But while eager settlers were hastening to the lands of the Miami country, it suddenly developed that the Treasury Board had made no contract at all with

Symmes, and that he had been proceeding upon what he credulously supposed would be done.

SYMMES SECURES 250,000 ACRES BETWEEN THE TWO MIAMIS

At length, by the intercession of Symmes' friends in Congress, it was arranged with the Board that he should have twenty miles front on the Ohio, measured "along the several courses thereof" from the mouth of the Big Miami, and bounded by a north line which would limit the purchase to about one million acres. This left out the lands of Stites and many others.

For a long time Congress and the courts were vexed with complaints and litigation growing out of the disappointments and violated contracts caused by Symmes' lack of business method and judgment in disposing of lands in the Miami purchase. The whole trouble was finally adjusted in May, 1792, by an act of Congress which extended the purchase along the Ohio the entire distance between the two Miamis, but bounded by a line on the north which limited the whole purchase to about 250,000 acres, this being the quantity of land for which Symmes and his associates had actually paid the stipulated price.

NEW JERSEY COLONISTS FOUND A SETTLEMENT ON LITTLE MIAMI CALLED COLUMBIA

In the latter part of September, 1788, a party of colonists were assembled at Limestone. These pioneers had been gathered together in New Jersey by Symmes and Stites and had come over the mountains in eight large wagons for the purpose of founding a settlement in the Miami valley. On the sixteenth of November, 1788, Major Stites set out from Limestone with a party of twenty-six persons in large flat boats. On the eighteenth of November, they landed on the Ohio shore just below the mouth of the Little Miami. The women and children were hidden in a pawpaw thicket, sentinels were placed to guard against the Indians and the rest began the building of a blockhouse. Log cabins were then built, the boats being broken up to furnish boards for doors and floors, and the various families were soon safely and comfortably housed.

This rude village was given the name of Columbia. It's site has become a part of Cincinnati, lying five miles east of Fountain Square.

The Indians gave the colonists little trouble at first, as most of them had been drawn away to Fort Harmar, upon invitation of Gov. St. Clair, for the purpose of making a new treaty, and the few who remained for a time proved friendly. But the settlers had a hard struggle with flood and famine.

COLONISTS STRUGGLE WITH FAMINE AND FLOOD

When the spring of 1789 came, the settlers who still remained at Columbia and who had braved the winter's cold and floods, were hard pressed for food. It was several months before corn could be grown in the rich river bottoms which had long been cultivated by the Indians and which, it is said, were "mellow as ash heaps." So the women and children gathered the bulbous roots of the bear grass, washed and dried them, and then pounded them into a sort of flour upon which the settlers sustained life until the abundant corn crops matured in the fertile river bottoms. The tradition goes that the famous "Turkey Bottom" produced the first season, from nine acres, nine hundred and sixty-three bushels of corn.

COLONISTS ABANDON COLUMBIA AND MOVE TO LOSANTIVILLE

Unfortunately the colonists had located their buildings on low ground, not being acquainted with the variable moods of the Ohio river. The great flood of 1789 spared but one house. Some of the people took refuge in a blockhouse. The flood drove them from the ground floor into the loft from which they escaped amid floating ice into their only remaining boat, when they paddled away to the commanding plateau of Cincinnati, which was then the site of the budding hamlet of Losantiville.

This latter village has an interesting history in itself. It was the second settlement within the Symmes purchase. It was founded about one month after the settlement at Columbia.

MATHIAS DENMAN, ROBERT PATTERSON AND JOHN FILSON, JOINT OWNERS OF LOSANTIVILLE

In the winter of 1787-8, Mathias Denman, of New Jersey, purchased of Judge Symmes seven hundred and forty acres on the north bank of the Ohio, opposite the mouth of the Licking river. He bought this land for five shillings an acre, the whole tract costing less than nine hundred dollars.

Denman's purpose was to lay out a town and establish a ferry. He doubtless little dreamed that within a single century, a mighty city of a half million people would stretch twelve miles along the valley and crown the surrounding terraces and hills. He afterwards formed a partnership with Col. Robert Patterson of Kentucky and John Filson, a school-master from Pennsylvania, who had turned surveyor. Denman, Patterson and Filson bound themselves by a written agreement, each having a one-third interest in the projected village.

Patterson was a man of character and ability. He had been a gallant fighter in the Indian Wars and was the founder of Lexington, Kentucky.

Filson is a somewhat obscure and mysterious figure whose fame as an explorer and writer has arisen mostly in recent years through the historical researches of the Filson Club of Louisville. Filson appears to have been a tireless wanderer along the streams and through the forests of the Southwest for the purpose of gathering historical material from the first pioneers and Indian fighters. He wrote the first history of Kentucky and also the first life of Daniel Boone, gathering his data from Boone's own lips.

To Filson, as a surveyor, was allotted the task of planning and laying off the projected town on the second terrace of the Ohio opposite Licking river. By the articles of agreement, this town was to bear the name of Losantiville, a ridiculous compound of Latin, Greek and French, translated as "the town opposite the mouth of the Licking." Filson has been held responsible for the laborious pedantry discernible in this name.

On the twenty-second day of September, 1788, a body of Kentuckians, among them Patterson, Denman and Filson, met Judge Symmes and others on the spot which is now the grand quay or landing place of Cincinnati. But nothing could be done toward laying off the town until it was first determined whether Denman's purchase was within the twenty mile limit decreed by Congress and which was to be measured from the mouth of the Big Miami.

ISRAEL LUDLOW ACQUIRES FILSON'S INTEREST IN LOSANTIVILLE AND LAYS OUT THE TOWN

Israel Ludlow, surveyor for Symmes and his Miami associates, was sent to take "the meanders of the stream," which he accomplished in a few days, finding that the proposed site of Losantiville was fortunately within the line.

While Ludlow was engaged upon this task, Symmes, Filson and the Kentuckians left their camp and rode away some twenty miles into the forest to see the country. They came suddenly upon a large camp of Shawanese Indians near the Big Miami, and the Kentuckians, as usual, were for instantly attacking them. But much to their disgust and indignation, they were restrained from their bloody purpose by the humane and peace-loving spirit of Judge Symmes.

Filson is said to have always had a presentiment that he would be slain by savages. On this occasion, becoming alarmed at the imminence of a fight, he separated himself from his companions and endeavored to make his way back to camp alone. He was never seen or heard of more, and probably met the fate he had always dreaded somewhere in the lonely wilderness. The actual settlement of Losantiville did not occur until some time after these events.

At the time of his tragic disappearance, Filson had paid nothing of the "twenty pounds in Virginia money" for his third interest in Losantiville. It thus became an easy matter for Denman and Patterson to substitute Israel Ludlow in Filson's place as a partner. And it was Ludlow, in fact, who laid off the thirty half-acre inlots and the thirty-four-acre outlots of the village which proved to be the germ of Cincinnati.

FIRST ACTUAL SETTLEMENT AT LOSANTIVILLE

The party of twenty-six men, including Denman and Patterson, who actually made the settlement, left Limestone in flat boats on December twenty-sixth, 1788, and about two days afterwards, (the exact date is unknown,) landed at a little inlet, later called Yeatman's Cove, at the foot of what is now Sycamore street.

NAME CINCINNATI SUBSTITUTED FOR LOSANTIVILLE

In January, 1790, Gov. St. Clair came to Losantiville on executive business. Upon his suggestion, the name Losantiville was dropped and that of Cincinnati was adopted instead. The Society of the Cincinnati was an order composed of officers of the Revolution. It had been so named in honor of Lucius Quintius Cincinnatus, who, in "the brave days of old," saved Rome and then went back to his plow. From the name of this society, St. Clair, who was a member, chose the name for the future commercial emporium.

NORTH BEND, THE THIRD SETTLEMENT ON SYMMES' PURCHASE

The third settlement of the Miami valley was North Bend, so called by Judge Symmes, because at that point the Ohio river makes its most northerly bend west of the Kanawha. This settlement was made under the immediate leadership of Symmes himself. He had tarried at Limestone until the latter part of January, 1789, waiting for the treaty of Fort Harmar to be concluded and for the arrival of one of his contractors with supplies.

On the twenty-ninth of January, the great flood, which had submerged Columbia, subsided somewhat and Symmes, with his adventurers, set out in flat boats for the site of the great city which he had planned and which was to be the county seat and metropolis of the Miami valley. He was accompanied by a guard of forty-eight soldiers from Fort Harmar under command of Captain Kearsey. The turbid river was still swollen and filled with masses of floating ice, which rendered the voyage one of peril and anxiety. Symmes and his party, on the way down, landed at Columbia, the greater part of which was still under water.

Captain Kearsey and his soldiers had expected to occupy Fort Finney, already built at the mouth of the Little Miami, but the fort, too, was surrounded with water and proved untenable, much to the disgust of the Captain who had not come provided with implements for building another. Losantiville alone, on its high terrace, says Symmes, "suffered nothing from the freshet." The party passed on down the river and when they reached the intended site of the great city, they saw only a wide and dreary reach of muddy backwater. The site of Symmes City, as it was to be called, had vanished beneath the waters of the "amazing high freshet."

It is related that the great city of Symmes was very beautiful and imposing on paper, and that in the year after his landing it was even marked out over many acres, but that city was a dream never to be realized. The settlement always retained the name of North Bend and always remained a village, gaining its chief celebrity from being the home and burial place of William Henry Harrison, who became a son-in-law of Judge Symmes.

ABANDONMENT OF NORTH BEND

After the landing at North Bend, the hopes and prospects of Symmes were further dashed by the fact that Captain Kearsey and the soldiers, after remaining with him but thirty days, abandoned the feeble settlement and passed on down the river to the Falls of Louisville.

The cup of bitterness and disappointment for Symmes was now nearly full. He was a man of great influence in Congress and had secured in February, 1788, the appointment as one of the three judges of the Northwest Territory, but he had no control over the military, and he could not prevail over flood, storm, ice and the natural disadvantages of low-lying lands. He wrote a letter to Major Willis at the Falls, bitterly censuring Captain Kearsey and setting forth the urgent need of immediate protection for the Miami settlement from hostile Indians. This letter met with a prompt response and Ensign Luce was sent up from the Falls with a command of eighteen soldiers.

But another obstacle arose in Symmes' pathway, which congressional influence could not operate upon. The young ensign suddenly became deeply enamoured of the charming face and dark eyes of a certain beauty of the Bend, whose name is lost to history. This enchantress was hastily removed to Losantiville by her alarmed husband, to secure her from the clandestine attentions of the gallant young commandant.

Ensign Luce had been instructed to build a blockhouse and stockade at some point which he deemed most suitable. Symmes urged its immediate construction at the Bend. But Luce replied that he must compare the relative military advantages of the Bend and Losantiville. In spite of the protests and entreaties of Symmes, he repaired to Losantiville and soon decided that no commander of prudence and discretion could for a moment doubt the superiority of Losantiville as a military position.

Symmes then wrote to the Secretary of War and depicted the defenceless situation of the settlements in the Miami valley and justly complained that so large a garrison should be kept at Fort Harmar, (Marietta), while the Miami valley was in such extreme peril from almost daily outrages by savages. This complaint resulted even more unfavorably for Symmes.

CONSTRUCTION OF FORT WASHINGTON

Major Doughty was sent down in August with seventy soldiers to select a location and build a new fort to protect the settlers between the two Miamis. The Major spent three days going up and down the Ohio between Columbia and North Bend, seeking an eligible site. He then reported to Col. Harmar that he had "fixed upon a spot opposite to the Licking river, which was high and healthy, abounding with never failing springs, and the most proper position he could find for the purpose." The site thus selected lay just east of the original town plat of Losantiville upon a fifteen acre tract reserved by the government. The fort occupied about an acre and spacious gardens were laid out in the rear of it for the officers. The Lorraine Building of Cincinnati now occupies a part of the site. The fort was an imposing wooden structure built of hewn timber. It was one hundred and eighty feet square and two stories in height, with blockhouses at the corners. It was named Fort Washington in honor of the President; and because of its superior excellence, its frowning bastions, its cannon and its white-washed walls, it presented a noble and formidable appearance, and was regarded as the most impregnable military work in the Northwest Territory.

END OF RIVALRY BETWEEN COLUMBIA, LOSANTIVILLE AND NORTH BEND

On December twenty-ninth, 1789, Col. Harmar occupied the new fort with all his regiment except two companies which he left at Marietta. This settled the rivalry between the villages of Columbia, Losantiville and North Bend and put an end to the vexed question as to which of the three towns was to be the future emporium of the valley.

The great flood of 1789, the fascination of the young commandant for the dark-eyed beauty, and the erection of Fort Washington, all combined to make Cincinnati the fortunate site of future wealth and greatness. It now became the depot of supplies for the army, and when the Courts of Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas were established in 1790, Cincinnati became the county seat of Hamilton County. It was a garrison town and was almost destitute for a time of the highly moral and enterprising class of citizens who had come to Marietta, Columbia and North Bend.

WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON SETTLES IN CINCINNATI

William Henry Harrison, then a youth of eighteen, came to Cincinnati in November, 1791, just as the remnants of St. Clair's routed army were straggling in from the north. He says that at this time there were only twenty-five or thirty log cabins in the place and that rooms and material comforts for the dispirited and wounded soldiers were very scarce. He adds, however, that the army sutlers, as well as the inhabitants, had ample supplies of whiskey and that drunkeness abounded everywhere.

CINCINNATI, THE SECOND PERMANENT SETTLEMENT IN OHIO

The three colonies in the Miami valley, so near together in time and place, may be regarded as one, the second permanent settlement in Ohio, the beginning of Cincinnati.

The third settlement was begun much higher up the river, nearly opposite the mouth of the Kanawha. This settlement was called Gallipolis, (the town of the Gauls), and it was made by men, women and children from far off France, who were lured from their sunny land into the savage western wilderness of America by extravagant representations and delusive promises of not overscrupulous land speculators.

GALLIPOLIS, THE THIRD PERMANENT SETTLEMENT IN OHIO

The story of the founding of Gallipolis, in the present county of Gallia, is a romantic tale of blended pathos and humor, but with the element of tragedy greatly predominating. It will be remembered that when Manasseh Cutler sought to purchase the Marietta lands for the Ohio Company, he was compelled at the same time, in order to get his scheme through Congress, to make a contract for about 3,000,000 acres lying between the Scioto river and the Marietta purchase. This contract was made for the benefit of certain land speculators in and out of Congress, headed by Col. William Duer, Secretary of the Treasury Board. This arrangement, which had in it "some of the principal characters of America," was to be kept a "profound secret." Both contracts were duly ratified by Congress and on the day after the ratification, Cutler and Sargent assigned the contract for 3,000,000 acres lying between the seventeenth range and the Scioto river, to Duer and his associates, known as the Scioto Company.

JOEL BARLOW SENT TO PARIS TO SELL LANDS AND SECURE COLONISTS

Joel Barlow, the poet and diplomat, having an interest in the speculation, was sent to Paris to dispose of lands for the company. He was well equipped with alluring pamphlets and maps setting forth the attractions of lands in the new republic of the West. Barlow at first met with but poor success, but in 1789, he associated with himself William Playfair, an Englishman of a "bold and enterprising spirit and a good imagination." The descriptive maps and pamphlets were reproduced in French and disseminated in the principal cities of France.

The country was then on the eve of the Reign of Terror, and many Frenchmen were ready to escape from the impending storm of violence and find peace and plenty in the new Arcadia portrayed by Barlow and Playfair. The seductive pamphlet set forth the charms of the new lands in this fashion; "A climate wholesome and delightful, frost even in winter almost wholly unknown, and a river called "The Beautiful," abounding in excellent fish of a vast size; noble forests, consisting of trees that spontaneously produce sugar, and a plant that yields ready-made candles; venison in plenty, the pursuit of which is uninterrupted by wolves, foxes, lions or tigers. A couple of swine will multiply themselves a hundred fold in two or three years without taking any care of them. No taxes to pay, no military services to be performed."

FIVE HUNDRED FRENCH COLONISTS ARRIVE IN AMERICA

Charmed by this portrayal of a western paradise, some five hundred tradesmen, coachmakers, gilders, friseurs, wigmakers and other artists, with less than a dozen peasant farmers, sold out their little possessions, and with worthless title deeds in their pockets, crowded into ill-appointed ships bound for the new world. They landed at Alexandria in May, 1790, and with the help of Duer and his agents, after long and vexatious delays, succeeded in making their way over the mountains and down the Ohio river to the present site of Gallipolis. They arrived at their destination in October and found a double row of eighty log cabins awaiting them, situated on the high bank of the river and closely surrounded on three sides by the dense and gloomy forest.

RUFUS PUTNAM ERECTS EIGHTY CABINS, FOUR BLOCK HOUSES AND A STOCKADE

In the preceding June, Rufus Putnam, by contract with Duer and his "principal characters," had sent a company of forty men from Marietta under Major Burnham to make this clearing and erect these eighty cabins with four blockhouses and a stockade. Putnam expended a large sum of money in this work, which the Scioto company never repaid him.

The French immigrants began to suspect, even before they arrived at their log cabins on the Ohio, that they were victims of a fraud, but after reaching their wilderness homes, they were powerless to help themselves. Many of them were poor, their slender store of money was fast disappearing, they could not return to their native land and could not even communicate with their distant kindred.

FRENCH COLONISTS UNFITTED FOR WILDERNESS LIFE

For about six months, the Scioto Company made attempts to keep their contract with the helpless band of foreigners, who, unlike the hardy and enterprising settlers of Marietta and Cincinnati, were totally unfitted by nature and training to grapple with the hardships of the wilderness. For a time, Duer and his associates provided hunters who kept the French settlers supplied with fresh meat, and American laborers were employed to cut away the gigantic trees and tangled undergrowth of the forest.

The Frenchmen seemed to have no conception of the method to be pursued in clearing the land. It is told by a writer of those days, that five or six Frenchmen would surround a big sycamore with axes and after hacking it all around would pull it down with ropes at the imminent danger of their lives. They would then chop off the branches and bury the denuded trunk in a giant grave.

They attempted a little gardening and agriculture, planting a few seeds they had brought with them, guided by information gleaned from French books in their possession.

VIVACITY AND GAIETY OF THE FRENCH

Their loneliness, helplessness and isolation could not repress the natural vivacity and gaiety of their Gallic natures. From the time of their arrival, they held balls regularly twice a week. Boatmen descending the Ohio at night, saw the gleam of lights from the hall of one of their two-story log houses, heard the merry scraping of fiddles and the rythmic sound of dancing feet. In spite of their depressing circumstances, the French immigrants seem to have been a jolly, light-hearted crew, and they lived in great harmony with one another and endeavored to have as good a time as possible. Some of them came of good families, were well educated and possessed, on their arrival, considerable means, while many of them were poor and had contracted to work for the company for three years for which they were to have fifty acres of land, a house and a cow.

Among the settlers was Count Malartie, a captain of the guard of Louis XVI. He joined St. Clair's expedition as an aid-de-camp of the general and was present at the disastrous battle in which he was severely wounded.

Many of the French settlers knew trades and possessed manual skill which would have been useful in a great city, but which was almost worthless in a raw wilderness. Some of them were mere philosophic dreamers and theorists. It is related that Dr. Saugrain, a vivacious and pleasing little French physician of the colony, was one day in a boat on the Ohio with two of these visionaries, who professed profound faith in the natural innocence and goodness of men, and contended that Indians would not harm those who treated them kindly. Dr. Saugrain was skeptical of this theory and kept his pistols loaded and ready for use. In turning a bend of the river, they came suddenly upon a group of Indians, when the philosophers tested their theory by beckoning to the savages and inviting them to come into the doctor's boat. The Indians came only too willingly. Having arrived, they tomahawked the philosophers and made for the little doctor, who shot two of them with his pistols and leaped overboard. Diving like a duck at the flash of the Indian's guns and swimming rapidly in the interval of loading, he made his way safely to land.

COLONISTS SUFFER FROM COLD AND HUNGER

Although the Frenchmen supposed themselves to be in a climate where "frost even in winter was wholly unknown," the creeks and the Ohio river froze solidly over, the first winter after their arrival and deep snows covered the ground. The hunters employed to provide meat, although certainly not interrupted in the chase by "lions, tigers or foxes," were able to bring in but little venison and several families nearly starved to death. Many suffered severely from chills and fever bred from a swamp which lay just back of the settlement.

Although living in constant terror of the Indians, they were not seriously molested, the savages shooting but one Frenchman, mistaking him for an American, and stealing a number of their cattle. Their immunity from Indian attack was probably due to the traditional friendship existing between the French people and Indians.

SOME FRENCHMEN LEAVE GALLIPOLIS FOR DETROIT, ST. LOUIS AND NEW ORLEANS

When at last the whole bitter truth dawned upon the French settlers, that the Scioto company could give them no valid titles to the farms which they had bought with their money, toil and suffering, they began to wander away from the settlement on the Ohio. Some went to New Orleans, some to St. Louis and others to Detroit and the French villages in Indiana and Illinois.

THE "FRENCH GRANT" OBTAINED FROM CONGRESS

Those who remained at Gallipolis set forth their wrongs in a petition to Congress, which generously responded with a gift of 24,000 acres, known as the "French Grant." But by the time this grant became available, only ninety-two of the original five hundred settlers remained to share in it.

Duer and his associates have been severely condemned because of the suffering and misfortunes of the French settlers of Gallipolis. But there can be little doubt that the Scioto Company meant to deal fairly and honorably with the French immigrants. The company was unfortunate in the choice of its agents in Paris, who finally ran away to England with all the funds they had collected. When the new constitution was adopted in 1789, and it was resolved to pay in full the indebtedness incurred by the government under the Old Articles of Confederation, the certificates of the public debt rose to par value. These certificates had before been worth about one tenth, or less, of their face value and it was with these that the Scioto Company had contracted to pay for their lands. The company, of course, failed miserably and its ruin involved the French settlers at Gallipolis, who were not, even under the most favorable circumstances, the stuff from which great states are made.

FOUNDERS OF GALLIPOLIS, MARIETTA AND CINCINNATI COMPARED

The men who founded Marietta and Cincinnati built their own homes, swung their own axes, secured their own food and wielded their own weapons against wild beasts and savages. They had been schooled in peace and in war, and were men of dauntless resolution and heroic energy. Wild beast, wild Indian and gloomy forest fell before them, and peace and plenty at last rewarded their unremitting toil.

MANCHESTER, THE FOURTH OHIO SETTLEMENT

The fourth permanent settlement in Ohio was established at Manchester, Adams County, in the Virginia Military District. It will be remembered that when Virginia ceded her claims to western lands to the general government, she reserved 150,000 acres near the falls at Louisville for George Rogers Clarke and his soldiers who had conquered and held the Illinois country in troublous times. She also stipulated that in case the lands in Kentucky and southeast of the Ohio river should not prove sufficient to pay the bounties of continental troops of the Virginia line, a large portion of land lying between the Scioto and little Miami rivers and bordering on the Ohio should be used for this purpose.

GENERAL NATHANIEL MASSIE BRINGS A COLONY OF KENTUCKIANS TO MANCHESTER

In the winter of 1790, Congress consented that Virginia should utilize these lands and Gen. Nathaniel Massie, who was now a land surveyor for the government, determined to make a settlement in the military tract in Adams county that he might be in the midst of his land-measuring operations. He offered one inlot and one outlot of the projected town and one hundred acres of farm land to each family that would join him. Thirty families, mostly from Kentucky, immediately came to him, risking the perils of a wintry wilderness and the horrors of the Indian war then raging.

Massie and his followers decided to build their town on the bottom land just opposite the Three Islands. They cleared away the heavy forest, erected their cabins and enclosed all with a stockade of strong pickets firmly planted in the ground with a blockhouse at each angle. They cleared the lower island and planted it with corn and vegetables, securing heavy crops from its fertile soil.

The men and women who founded this settlement were among the best and bravest of the pioneers. They were versed in all the wiles and stratagems of Indian warfare, and were always alert and watchful against their red foes. Their unerring rifles provided plenteous game from the surrounding forest which abounded with deer, elk, bears and wild turkeys. Because of their strength and watchfulness, the Manchester settlers were not greatly molested by the savages, although they founded and developed their settlement in the midst of the hottest Indian war of the old Northwest. From this settlement of splendid fighters and strong, high-minded men and women, have come descendants who have made their impress upon the life and character of the state and nation.

CAUSES OF DELAYED SETTLEMENT OF NORTHERN OHIO

The northern portion of Ohio was far more backward in the formation of settlements than the southern. This fact was due mainly to two causes: first, the stubborn tenacity with which Connecticut held on to her claim upon northern Ohio, thus delaying the surveyors and causing a fear among emigrants that they could not secure a good title to lands; second, the presence of hostile British and Indians on the soil adjacent to Lake Erie. Indeed, it was not until after Wayne's victory and the Treaty of Greenville that anyone with agricultural propensities would venture into the gloomy and mysterious wilderness bordering on the lake. It is true that Evans' old map of 1755 shows that some sort of a French trading station existed at that time on the western bank of the Cuyahoga near its mouth, and it is known that at a later date two traders, Duncan and Wilson, erected a log warehouse near the same place for the business which was carried on between Pittsburgh and Detroit by pack-horse trains. It is recorded, too, that Zeisberger and his little band of refugee teachers and Christian Indians, landed at the mouth of the Cuyahoga in 1786 on their way from Detroit and passing on up the river about ten miles to an Ottawa camp, lived there for a few months. But down-east Yankee enterprise and hardihood did not make any attempt upon the inhospitable shore of Lake Erie until the summer of 1796.

WESTERN RESERVE AND FIRE LANDS

We have seen that in 1786, Connecticut ceded to Congress all her claims to western lands except that portion of Ohio lying between Lake Erie and the forty-first parallel, and extending one hundred and twenty miles west of the Pennsylvania line. The westernmost 500,000 acres of the Western Reserve, comprising the present Huron and Erie counties, was given by Connecticut in 1792 to such of her citizens as had suffered the loss of their property by depredations of British soldiers during the Revolutionary war, and was known as the Firelands.

In 1795, Connecticut sold all of the remaining lands to the Connecticut Land Company for one dollar an acre. This land company was an organization very similar to Cutler's Marietta company. It consisted of three hundred members and its affairs were managed by seven directors with headquarters at Hartford, Connecticut.

GENERAL MOSES CLEAVELAND COMMISSIONED AS AGENT FOR THE CONNECTICUT LAND COMPANY

In 1796, the directors commissioned Gen. Moses Cleaveland, a lawyer of Canterbury, an able, brave and dignified man of scholarly attainments, to conduct a surveying party to the Reserve, survey the lands, conciliate the Indians and arrange for locating permanent settlers. In the month of June, 1796, Gen. Cleaveland led his party of fifty persons across New York to Buffalo. At this place he found a remnant of Iroquois, mostly Senecas and Mohawks, under the leadership of Red Jacket and Brant, who haughtily asserted their claim to the Ohio domain. As the Iroquois had from the days of LaSalle, claimed the Ohio country by right of conquest and had not been a party to the Treaty of Greenville, Cleaveland did not wish to incur their enmity by entering the Reserve without their consent. After several days of pipe-smoking and speech-making, Cleaveland quieted their objections by paying them twenty-five hundred dollars in cash, two beef cattle and one hundred gallons of whiskey.

CLEAVELAND ARRIVES AT CONNEAUT

He then embarked his whole party for the Reserve and coasting along the lake, landed at the mouth of Conneaut Creek on the Fourth of July, 1796. At the mouth of the little stream, upon the densely wooded shore, near where now stands the town of Conneaut, the party of patriots proceeded to celebrate the day by firing salutes from their muskets and by spreading beneath the forest shades, a banquet from the best their commissary's store afforded. Says Cleaveland in his journal, "The men under Captain Tinker, ranged themselves on the beach and fired a federal salute of fifteen rounds, and then the sixteenth in honor of New Connecticut, drank several toasts, closing with three cheers, drank several pails of grog, supped and retired in good order." This company consisted of forty-seven men, two women and one child.

On the next day after their landing, the men cut down trees and erected a log building which they facetiously named "Stowe's Castle" in honor of their sturdy commissary, Joshua Stowe. This log structure served as a storehouse for their provisions and tools, and also as a home for two families with the party.

The surveyors with theodolite, compass and chain then passed into the wilderness south of Lake Erie, where for ages only savage feet had trod and wild beasts had roamed, and where the Iroquois and the ancient Andastes had fought out their blood feud. Preliminary surveys were made, locating the Reserve, and the southern line along the forty-first parallel was run from Pennsylvania to the Indian line on the portage between the heads of the Cuyahoga and Tuscarawas rivers.

SITE FOR CAPITAL CITY OF NEW CONNECTICUT CHOSEN

The surveyors then returned to the Conneaut camp and Cleaveland began to cast about for a site for the capital city of New Connecticut. It had long been known to men like Franklin and Washington, that the mouth of the Cuyahoga offered a fine location for the founding and development of a great commercial city. Cleaveland and his party embarked in their boats and coasted westward along the southern shore of Lake Erie, and on the twenty-second of July landed at the mouth of the Cuyahoga and clambered up the high eastern bank to the breezy plateau, where now the palatial buildings of Ohio's largest city rise. So pleased were these pioneers of the north, with the enchanting prospect of the great blue lake, the clear river and the mighty forest, that they determined to locate there the chief city of the Reserve. Cleaveland directed his surveyors to measure off one square mile and subdivide it into streets, squares and lots. Two immense maps were then drafted showing all the inviting features of a great city on paper.

CITY NAMED AFTER GENERAL CLEAVELAND

The name of Cleaveland was bestowed upon the city in honor of the distinguished leader of the party. The name of the city was spelled with an "a" in the first syllable until 1830 when the "Cleveland Advertiser" was first issued. The editor found his type too large, (or his sheet too small), to print the name in

full across the page, so he secured a fit by dropping one letter, and thenceforth, the name of the city has appeared as Cleveland.

The beginning of this great city is full of interest. The reader who will delve into the old historical records of Cleveland's early days, will find much to entertain and instruct him. His heart will swell with mingled admiration and pity as he learns of the bravery and suffering, the perils and hardships of the earliest settlers who rooted and maintained themselves in the inhospitable wilderness that Cleveland was before the year 1800.

LIFE IN EARLY CLEVELAND

The life of the earliest Clevelanders is a pathetic story to the average Ohioan of today, a story of toil, sickness, destitution and famine; shipwreck and death on the lake, fever, loneliness and danger in the forest; the log cabin and the hand mills; battles with wild beasts and wild men, with now and then gleams of fun and amusement,—the creaking fiddle and the scamperdown on the puncheon floor, and the whiskey sweetened with maple sugar. But through it all looms the forms of patient, wise, determined men and women, who leveled the forest, constructed the roadways, plowed the lands, dredged the harbor, built the ships and founded the commerce, which made possible the comforts and prosperity of these latter days.

THE FIRST FIVE OHIO SETTLEMENTS

The origin of Ohio's first five settlements, Marietta, Cincinnati, Gallipolis, Manchester and Cleveland, has now been imperfectly and meagerly sketched. While the first four of these settlements were struggling for existence, important events were occuring elsewhere in which rifle and bayonet, tomahawk and scalping knife were deciding whether Ohio should remain a hunting ground or become the home of happy and prosperous millions.

ORDINANCE OF 1787 AND TREATY OF GREENVILLE

The Ordinance of 1787 and Wayne's Treaty at Greenville were the great instruments which paved the way for the final settlement of Ohio and its admission into the union of states. They were the absolutely necessary forerunners of law and peace in the savage realm of the western woods. The great ordinance provided a government for the widely scattered settlements of the territory. Wayne's treaty removed the danger of attack by savages, who for five years had retarded emigration and had constantly threatened the pioneers with extinction.

INDIANS ARE PEACEFUL AND WHITES RESUME NORMAL OCCUPATIONS

After the signing of the treaty at Greenville, almost a year passed before the people could fully believe that peace and safety had really been secured. At length, the Indians, in a peaceful, submissive spirit, began to come among the whites to trade and hunt, as they were permitted to do under the treaty, and gave convincing assurances of peace. The settlers slowly and cautiously emerged from their blockhouses and stockades, and resumed the cultivation of their neglected lands, most of which had been only partially cleared before the beginning of Indian hostilities. The wooden fortresses in the wilderness, so long isolated from civilization, had been wearisome dwelling places. The imprisoned women and children had suffered most. Without, the walls had been the implacable savage with rifle, knife and firebrand; within, had reigned famine, diphtheria, smallpox and fevers, which had especially decimated the children.

But with the dawn of peace, new hope and courage animated the hearts of the settlers. They could now leave their weapons at home, and plow their fields and cultivate their crops without fear of the deadly bullet and without stationing sentinels to guard against the sudden onset of the lurking foe.

MANY IMMIGRANTS COME OVER THE MOUNTAINS

Soon, an endless procession of covered wagons, bearing pioneer families westward to Ohio and Kentucky homes, began to sweep over the old Cumberland road and through the passes of the Alleghanies. The Ohio river was again

thronged with great, clumsy arks and flat boats propelled by long sweeps and oars, or floating with the current. This rude water craft carried innumerable families, together with their horses, cows, pigs, chickens and household utensils, westward to the new lands that had, at last, after long years of bitter strife, been securely and permanently wrested from Frenchman, Britain and Indian.

An army of surveyors, with compass and chain, and land locators, soon appeared in the Ohio forests, north of the settlements along the river, from the Great Miami to the Pennsylvania boundary. Rufus Putnam, surveyor general, laid off the military bounty lands lying between the Western Reserve and the Seven Ranges, and allotted them as homes. Nathaniel Massie and Duncan Mc Arthur surveyed the Virginia Military District. In the Miami region, Israel Ludlow, Daniel Cooper and others were busily engaged in locating purchases and surveying lands of the Symmes tract.

GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHES LAND OFFICES IN NEW YORK, PITTSBURGH AND CINCINNATI

In the four or five years succeeding 1796, a vast tide of emigrant population from the eastern states flowed into southern Ohio, composed of farmers, mechanics, traders, doctors, lawyers and preachers. A great stimulus was given to this emigration by the opening of government land offices at New York, Pittsburgh and Cincinnati. At these sales, purchasers could buy a section of land directly from the government without the mediation of land jobbers.

In 1800, Congress passed a law permitting lands to be sold in as small tracts as quarter sections. This was a wise and beneficent measure, and proved highly promotive of rapid settlement. In the ten years succeeding its enactment, it brought into Ohio an additional population of over 200,000 people. Steadily a line of thriving and vigorous towns rose in the wilderness north of the older settlements on the Ohio river. The earliest as well as the most promising and conspicuous of these towns were, Dayton, Chillicothe, Lancaster and Zanesville.

FOUNDING OF DAYTON

The present site of Dayton was selected for the location of a town as early as 1788, but no settlement could then be made, because of the impending Indian war and the boasted determination of the savages that no white man should plant corn north of the Ohio.

Soon after Wayne's treaty was made in 1795, Generals Johnathan Dayton, Arthur St. Clair, James Wilkinson and Col. Israel Ludlow purchased of Judge Symmes the exceedingly fertile and beautiful lands surrounding the confluence of the four streams of Mad river, Stillwater, Wolf Creek and the Great Miami. On November fourth, 1795, Israel Ludlow surveyed the town at the mouth of Mad river and called it Dayton, after Jonathan Dayton, one of the proprietors.

In March of 1796, a number of families left Cincinnati for the projected town of Dayton. They were divided into three parties. The first, led by William Harner, traveled in a two-horse wagon over a road partially cut through the forest the preceding autumn.

The second party, led by George Newcomb, walked through the woods and was two weeks on the way. The children, too small to walk, together with provisions, stoves, cooking utensils and farming implements, were carried in large baskets or panniers made of hickory withes and slung across the backs of horses. On the journey, the horses and cattle swam the streams, while the women, children and household goods were floated across on improvised rafts.

The third party, conducted by Samuel Thompson, voyaged slowly up the Great Miami for ten days to the mouth of Mad river in a large pirogue, encamping at night in the forest on the shore of the stream and feasting upon the eggs of wild fowls and the savory game which their rifles procured.

Early in April, 1796, the pioneers reached the site of Dayton, in the lonely and uninhabited wilderness and began the construction of their rude log dwellings. Says one writer, "The unbroken forest was all that welcomed them, and the awful stillness of night had no refrain but the howling of the wolf and the wailing of the "whipoorwill." Such was the beginning of the wealthy, populous and beautiful Dayton.

FOUNDING OF CHILLICOTHE

The town of Chillicothe was founded in the autumn of this same year. It was laid off by Nathaniel Massie in the dense forest of the beautiful valley which curves between Paint Creek and the Scioto river. Massie, with others, had explored the Scioto country in 1792 while the Indian war was raging, and glowing accounts of its richness and beauty had reached the Kentuckians of Bourbon County. Uncertain of their land titles in Kentucky, and impelled by their dislike of slavery, a party of about sixty Kentuckians assembled at Manchester and under the lead of Massie went upon an exploring expedition to the Scioto region with the intention of locating homes in that country of beauty and fertility. They divided into two parties, one of which went across the country to "the Prairie Station" on the Scioto at the mouth of Paint Creek. The other party went by water, ascending the Ohio and the Scioto in large pirogues, and joined Massie's party at Paint Creek where they all engaged in planting and cultivating, through the summer of 1796, a crop of three hundred acres of corn on the rich prairie.

In August, Chillicothe, meaning in the Indian tongue, a town or place, was laid out on the western bank of the river. Massie gave a lot in the town to each settler and by the end of autumn, an imposing array of log cabins dotted the forest valley.

Men of intellect, enterprise and high character came early to Chillicothe, and the town played an important part in the political history of the state. Among its first citizens were such men as Edward Tiffin, Thomas Worthington and Duncan McArthur, all of whom afterwards became governors of Ohio.

At this time, there were no roads in the territory connecting the widely scattered settlements. The streams, the old Indian trails and a few obscure paths through the thick woods, marked out by blazings on the trees, afforded the only facilities for communication. Wide openings in the wilderness northward had, of course, been made by the military expeditions of St. Clair, Wayne and others.

ZANE'S TRAIL FROM WHEELING TO MAYSVILLE

In 1796, Congress made a contract with Ebenezer Zane to open a road from the Ohio shore opposite Wheeling, to the northern shore of the Ohio river opposite Limestone, (Maysville), a distance of about two hundred miles in an almost direct line through the primeval Ohio forest. For this work, Congress granted to Zane three sections of land, which he might select anywhere along his road. Zane's slight opening in the dense woods was but a continuation Southwestward of the old Cumberland road, which afterwards was extended into the western country and dignified by the name of the National Road.

The way opened by Zane was long known as "Zane's Trace," since it was at first but a mere bridle path winding around gullies, ravines and the stumps of trees. It was in time cut out, straightened somewhat and widened for wagons. The trunks of saplings were laid transversely in the low, marshy places, forming sections of what was called "Corduroy Road."

BEGINNINGS OF ZANESVILLE AND LANCASTER

Zane chose his three sections of land very wisely. One section which he gave to Johnathan Zane, his brother, and to John McIntyre, his son-in-law, for assisting in cutting the road, he located at the falls of the Muskingum river, the spot which soon became the site of Zanesville. Another, he located at "the crossings of the Hockhocking," where the town of Lancaster promptly rose. The third section he chose on the eastern bank of the Scioto just opposite Chillicothe. By the year 1800, these three towns were well established and were beginning to grow rapidly in population.

East of Zanesville the lands were hilly and less attractive to settlers. But from Zanesville westward to Dayton, a long range of fertile and well-tilled farms began gradually to emerge from the forest.

GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY

Early in 1798, a census of the Northwest Territory was taken and the whole region bounded by the Ohio, the Mississippi and the Great Lakes was found to

have a population of five thousand free white males of full age. This entitled the Territory to enter upon the second grade of government, provided by the Ordinance of 1787.

Up to this time, during a period of about ten years, the first grade of government as organized at Marietta in 1788 had been in force. This government was administered by Gen. Arthur St. Clair as governor, Winthrop Sargent as secretary and by the three judges of the territorial or Supreme Court.

The government, conducted by these five persons, all of whom were appointed by the national executive, crude and unsatisfactory as it was in many ways, answered it's purpose fairly well. No legislative power had been given this government by Congress. The Governor and the Supreme Court could only select or adopt, such statutes as they needed from the laws already in use in the states. Most of the statutes put to use were selected from the laws of Pennsylvania, and one, adopting the common law, was taken from the code of Virginia.

As there was no tribunal having equity powers, the courts of law were obliged to assume these powers. From sheer necessity, there naturally occurred a great deal of legislating on the part of the judges, both in their decisions and in their adaptation of existing laws of the Eastern States to local conditions. Much doubt arose among the members of the bar as to the validity of these garbled and adapted laws, and when the first territorial legislature met, one of it's earliest acts was a law rendering valid the statutes framed by the Governor and judges.

Another difficulty, regarding the laws enacted, instead of adopted by the Governor and judges acting as a legislative council, was due to the fact that under the ordinance, such laws were to be submitted to and approved by Congress before becoming operative, whereas, many of the laws in force in the territory had either been rejected by Congress or had never been submitted to that body.

THE MAXWELL CODE OF LAWS

The Governor and judges, discovering or remembering that fact, finally began to doubt the validity of many of their own laws. To correct this evil in their jurisprudence, they met in the summer of 1795 and formed a code of laws adapted from the statutes of the original states, which, being approved by Congress, superceded most of the enacted statutes. This book of laws was printed at Cincinnati in 1795, by William Maxwell, and was called the Maxwell Code. This was the first book printed in the Northwest Territory and it is said a few copies are still in existence.

Midwest Historical Notes

Jefferson, Ohio, Dedicates Ten Memorial Tablets, September 17, 1932, bearing following inscriptions, viz:

1. FOUNDED by Gideon Granger, Postmaster General, under President Thomas Jefferson.

Township surveyed in 1800, Village in 1805.

Village incorporated April 15, 1836, Jonathan Warner, Mayor.

First log cabin built on Lot 3, Northwest near Mill's Creek by Eldrad Smith in 1804.

John Udell and wife were first pioneers to cross by covered wagon to California, by the Southern route, 1859-1860.

W. F. Babcock was third to ride a bicycle from the Pacific to the Atlantic.

E. T. Fetch drove the first automobile from coast to coast.

Mark Cummins was first to operate an electric street car in the United States.

(Five pioneers in transportation).

Seven residents have served in Congress.

An inspiring past, a worthy present, a confident future.

2. JOSHUA REED GIDDINGS, here wrote the Republican party's First National Platform, adopted at Philadelphia, June 17, 1856.

Member of Congress, 1838-1859—In 1842 he defied the Atherton Gag Rule, prohibiting discussion of slavery on the floor. Censured by the House, given no opportunity for defense, he resigned. His overwhelming reelection five weeks later and renewed defiance, restored constitutional freedom of speech in our American Congress.

Pioneer, soldier, author, patriot and statesman. A founder of the National Republican party.

3. CAMP GIDDINGS—The 29th Ohio Volunteer Infantry left this camp for the front on December 25, 1861. Discharged July 22-23, 1865. Total Muster Roll 1,532. Casualties, 540.

Chief Battles: Winchester, Kernstown, Port Republic, Cedar Mountain, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Lookout Mountain, Ringold, Dug Gap, Resaca, Pumpkin Vine Creek, Pine Knob, Kenesaw Mountain, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Sherman's March to the Sea, Savannah, and many skirmishes.

"Never driven from its position by direct assault."

Grand Review at Washington.

4. THIS SOLDIER'S MEMORIAL, erected by Brig. Gen. Charles R. Howland, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, a native of Jefferson, Ohio.

Office of U. S. Senator Benjamin F. Wade, 1851-1869.

5. HOME OF BENJAMIN F. WADE—A vigorous defender of human rights; U. S. Senator, 1851-1869; acting Vice-President under President Andrew Johnson.

Had one more Senator voted for impeachment, Senator Wade would have become President of the United States.

Also, home of Maj. Gen. James F. Wade, Military Governor of the Philippines, and member of the Cuban Evacuation Commission. His son, Maj. Ben Wade, was in command of the troops on the "Tuscania," torpedoed by a German submarine off the Irish coast. The last soldier to leave the sinking ship.

6. BIRTHPLACE OF SENATOR THEODORE E. BURTON, 1851-1929; in Congress 1889-1929.

7. UNDERGROUND RAILWAY STATION, ANNO MUNDI—Built in 182[illegible] by Quintus F. Atkins, First Sheriff of Ashtabula county.

8. FIRST WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE CONVENTION, held in this church in 1844, by Ashtabula County Women's Anti-Slavery Society.
John Brown spoke here, May 27, 1859.

9. THE MCKINLEY ELM—Gov. William McKinley spoke under this elm in 1892. Elected President in 1896.

10. OWEN BROWN, SON OF JOHN BROWN—Protected by the "Black Strings," a secret society of over 1,000 armed men, here described the Battle of Harper's Ferry, Va., the night after his father was hung at Charlestown.

Owen Brown, Barclay Coppic, Francis Merriam, Osborn Anderson, refugees, and James Redpath, came to this section for protection.

Capt. John Brown, Jr., of the Kansas border warfare, then lived on the Dorset road.

Dangerfield P. Newby, of Dorset, was killed at Harper's Ferry.

Several of Brown's men left this county, in 1859, directly for the Maryland rendezvous. The federal government made little effort to arrest any person in Ashtabula county, as a conspirator or witness, for fear of invoking civil war.

Indiana Day—By act of the General Assembly in 1925, December 11, is to be observed each year by the public and by the schools with appropriate exercises. It is the anniversary of the admission of Indiana into the Union in 1816. This year an elaborate eight-page program for the occasion has been prepared by the Historical Bureau.

"I Saw Lincoln," was the testimony of many aged persons at the dedication of the statue at Ft. Wayne, Ind., September 16, 1932. Among these were the following, now living in Northwestern Ohio, viz:

Moyer, William, 93, Houston—"I saw Lincoln at the White House in Washington."

Schaefer, Henry, Sr., 90, New Bremen—"I saw Lincoln after he was assassinated."

Hartman, Rufus R., 90, Rawson, "I saw Lincoln during a leave of absence from the army, as he came from the White House and walked down to the street."

Clark, Mrs. L. A., 85, Port Clinton—"I saw Lincoln at Washington, D. C. in 1861, after he had issued the first draft."

Fisher, Joseph, 80, Toledo—"I saw Lincoln in 1858, at New Philadelphia, O., when he spoke to all the children under ten years of age."

Werner, Ernest, 79, Spencerville—"I saw Lincoln as he rode past my father's store in Cincinnati."

Dome, Lewis, 79, Toledo, "I saw Lincoln at Mansfield, Ohio, in 1863 and several times in 1864, making speeches."

Shaffer, Theodore J., 78, Toledo—"I saw Lincoln when he passed through Pittsburgh, on his way to Washington in February, 1861."

Northrup, Edgar J., 78, Toledo—"I saw Lincoln at my father's house in Binghamton, several times in 1860 and 1861."

Kilmer, Henry A., 69, Oak Harbor—"I saw Lincoln while his body lay in state in Cleveland."

Pontius, G. C. (age not stated), Fremont—"I saw Lincoln after he was assassinated."

—"Lincoln Lore," September 26, 193[illegible]

The Fort Necessity Memorial Tablet, recently placed by the Sons of the American Revolution, bears the following inscription, viz: "Here, July 3, 1765, Lieutenant Colonel George Washington fought his first battle, which marked the beginning of the French and Indian War in America and started the seven years war in Europe. 'A cannon shot fired in the woods of America,' said Voltaire, 'was the signal that set all Europe in a blaze. This affected not only England and France, but Russia, Prussia, Austria, Sweden and other continental powers. It gave Lord Clive the opportunity of winning India from the French. Made Canada a British possession. Wrested this Western territory from the French and the burden of taxes imposed on the colonies to pay for this war had an important part in bringing on the American War for Independence.'"

This tablet dedicated July 13, 1932, the Bicentennial Year of the Birth of George Washington, by the National Society Sons of the American Revolution.

Chief Wah-ca-co-nah—In a small cemetery in the southern part of Wabash county, rest the remains of Chief Wah-ca-co-nah, a Potawatomi Indian, who deserted his tribe when it marched westward and joined the Miami Indians. This old Indian chief once possessed several thousand acres of land in Wabash county. The old church in which he formerly preached is still standing.

Memorial to Frances Elizabeth Willard—In the rotunda of the Indiana State Capital, the Women's Christian Temperance Union dedicated a memorial bronze tablet to Frances Elizabeth Willard, September 22, 1929. The tablet was executed by the well known sculptor, Lorado Taft, who contributed his services.

Memorial to Albert Bettinger, of Cincinnati—In the entrance hall of the public library at Tell City, Ind., where Mr. Bettinger was born, a tablet has been erected by his widow, on which appears the following inscriptions: "Albert Bettinger, of Cincinnati, 1854-1922, one of the pioneers of Waterways Improvements throughout the United States and an especially earnest and eloquent advocate of the canalization of the Ohio river. He blazed the trail that those who followed him might find the path easier. Great was his faith."

Milan, Ohio—The birthplace of Thomas Edison, is one of the most beautiful villages in the state. It was founded in 1816 on the site of an old Indian village, called Petquotting, situated on the high bluffs of the Huron River at this point. The enterprising villagers in 1839 built a three mile ship canal to deep water in the Huron river, also, eleven warehouses for the winter storage of grain. At the peak of the prosperity which followed, as many as 600 wagon-loads of grain would frequently arrive in a single day. Some of them from a distance of more than a hundred miles, and as many as twenty sailing vessels, grain laden, would depart for Lake Erie. Until the building of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway in 1854, Milan was the largest export market for grain in the world, with the single exception of Odessa, the great Russian seaport.

The "Return of the Killed, Wounded and Missing of the Federal Army, (a photostat) commanded by his Excellency, Major General Anthony Wayne, in the action of the 20th of August, 1794, fought on the banks of the Miamis, at the foot of the Rapids in the vicinity of the British Post," has recently been presented to the Library of the Historical Society of Northwestern Ohio by Mr. Randolph G. Adams, Director of the William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor, and Mrs. Ralph H. Upton, a lineal descendant of General Barbee, whose orderly book now in her possession, contains the return. This return shows 26 killed from the legion and seven from the volunteers from Kentucky, a total of 33 killed. There were 87 legionnaires wounded and 13 volunteers, or a total of 100. There were 9 legionnaires who died of wounds and 2 volunteers, a total of 11. The total dead and wounded was 133. The names of officers killed included; Capt. Robert Misscampbell of the Dragoons, Lieut. Henry B. Towles of the Fourth Sub-legion. The wounded included: Capt. Rawlins, Lieut. W. Kenney, Ensign Duncan. The names of officers wounded included; Capt. Jacob Slough of the 4th Sub-legion, Capt. Solomon VanRensselaer, Dragoons, Capt. Abner

Prior, first Sub-legion, Lieut. Campbell Smith, 4th Sub-legion, acting as an extra aide-de-camp to Brig. Gen. Wilkinson. The return was made by John Mills Major of Infantry and Adjutant General to the Legion.

Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Indiana, celebrated its 100th anniversary in October, 1932. Although founded by a group of Presbyterian ministers, the college has never been officially a Presbyterian institution. The founders and the early faculties were nearly all New Englanders from Yale and Dartmouth, and ardent advocates of abolition, while the town, settled as it was by Kentuckians, Carolinians and Virginians, was out of sympathy with the collegians. This resulted in a schism, with a Presbyterian church for the townspeople and another for the abolitionists, though when the Civil War broke out, nearly all the students entered the Federal Army. Established as a liberal arts college for men, Wabash is one of the few west of the Alleghanies, where women are not admitted. All juniors and seniors must specialize in one of the following departments, viz: (1) Natural Science, (2) Foreign Languages, (3) Social Science, (4) English and Speech. —New York Times, October 23, 1932.

Pandora and Minster, Ohio, have each recently celebrated the one hundredth anniversary of the founding of the municipality. —Museum Echoes.

Camp Dennison, the largest civil war training camp in Ohio, was located near Milford in Hamilton county. Marking the site of the camp, the G. A. R. on October 2, 1932, dedicated an impressive monument. —Museum Echoes.

A River Pageant, arranged by joint state commissions of Ohio and West Virginia as the major celebration in the Middlewest of the George Washington Bicentennial, was begun, Friday, October 21st, north of East Liverpool and followed George Washington's journey down the Ohio river as far as Point Pleasant, West Virginia, a distance of 232 miles. Ten men portraying Washington, his aides, and Indian servants, re-enacted George Washington's down river trip made in 1770, as described in his diary. Over night stops were made at each of the known camp sites of the Washington party and appropriate ceremonies were arranged by local agents at each station.

The New State Library and Historical Building at Indianapolis is expected to be completed in July, 1933. It will house the State Library, the Historical Bureau, the Public Archives and the William Henry Smith Memorial Library. —Indiana Magazine of History.

"Long-Knives," applied by the Indians, first to the Virginians and finally to the whites generally, had its origin in an engagement between Col. John Gibson of Ft. Pitt and a small party of Mingoes under Little Eagle. When the latter fired at Col. Gibson, the ball passed through Gibson's coat but without injuring him. With the quickness of a tiger, he sprang upon his foe and with one sweep of his sword, severed the head of Little Eagle from his body. Two other Indians were killed; the remainder escaped and reported that the captain of the whites had cut off the head of a chief with a "long knife."
—C. W. Butterfield in "Crawford's Campaign Against Sandusky."

The Western Pennsylvania Historical Society made a two day pilgrimage in July, 1932, over the route followed by Washington in 1753 from Fort Pitt (Pittsburgh) to Fort LeBoeuf (early Venango) via Economy (Ambridge), Logstown (where Wayne camped in 1792), Baden, Conway, Freedom, Rochester, Fort McIntosh (Beaver), built in 1778, New Brighton, Unionville, Zelienople, Harmony, Eidenau, Anderson's Bridge, Prospect, Grove City (birthplace of Albert Bushnell Hart, official historian of the United States George Washington Bicentennial Commission), Venango (Franklin), Meadville and Fort LeBoeuf; thence, to Fort Presque Isle (Erie), built in 1753. Here was shown a replica of the block house, where General Anthony Wayne died in December, 1795, while returning to Philadelphia after his victories over the western Indians and their British Allies and the hull of the "Niagara," the flagship of Commodore Perry.
—The Western Pennsylvania Magazine of History.

A Syllabus of Michigan History comprising 12 pages of the Michigan History Magazine, Autumn number 1932, prepared by Prof. James O. Knauss of Kalamazoo, should prove of great value to students.

Michigan Pioneer Lumbermen have been memorialized in bronze on the banks of the Ausable, at the end of the Thompson Trail. The dedication occured July 16, 1932. The artist was Robert Aitken. The monument site is in the Huron National Forest of more than 500,000 acres.

—Michigan History Magazine V. 16 No. 4.

Herds of Buffalo roamed over the prairie upon the borders of Lake Erie as late as 1720, says the "History of Michigan" by Lanman, pages 26-27. Cadillac in his report to the London Company from Fort Ponchartrain, Detroit, says, "If you desire to purchase more skins of buffaloes, you will have to pay the Indians more than $1.00 a piece, as they now have to bring them from the River Raisin, some distance from Detroit." Mr. Norman A. Wood, of the University of Michigan Museums, says that the American Buffalo was very abundant in Northern Ohio and in Indiana late in the 17th century.

—Michigan History Magazine V. 16 No. 4.

The Wilderness Trail of the original Transylvania Company, through the forests of Kentucky extended from the Block House (Fort Watauga) on Watauga Creek, a branch of the Holston river, in Carter county, Tennessee, at the junction of the road from Virginia and Pennsylvania on the northeast with the road from North Carolina on the southeast to the mouth of Otter Creek (Fort Boonsboro), on the Kentucky river. It was later extended to the Falls of the Ohio, where Louisville now stands. The Cumberland Gap and the Pine Mountain Gap were controlling points through the mountain. Dr. Thomas Walker is credited with the discovery of the route in 1750 and Daniel Boone with laying out the trail in 1775. Boone's work was so well done that it remains to this day as a permanent highway and the general route of rail traffic. An heroic statue of Daniel Boone is now being erected in Clark county, Kentucky, near Boonesborough Bridge over the Kentucky river. The sculptor is Mr. Albert Daniel Fisher of Winchester. The statue is done in Bedford limestone.