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HISTORY OF TURTLE ISLAND IN LAKE ERIE

By Leslie E. Thal, Secretary

Associated Yacht Clubs of Toledo

The first men to venture on water were primitive people who, at times, had to cross some stream; but later voyagers crossed open water because on the horizon some island fascinated them. With the passing of years, and the gradual civilization of the people, life has changed, but even in this day an island beckons with a voice as strong as that heard by ancient man.

In Lake Erie, north of Maumee Bay, lies Turtle Island, now the summer home of the Associated Yacht Clubs of Toledo, a charming little island, circular in shape with an area of approximately one acre. No one can pass it or romp upon it without wondering from whence it came and what its story. So that we may know more about it, this history is written.

The Great Lakes a Product of the Ice Age

Many centuries ago, so the geologists say, during what was known as the Ice Age all of this section of the country was covered by the great glacier that pushed its way south as far as Lancaster, Ohio. Later the earth's temperature warmed and the ice fields receded. When the ice had disappeared it was found that the glacier had scooped out what we now know as the Great Lakes.

In Lake Erie it left the group of islands known collectively as the Islands of Lake Erie. This group includes the Bass Islands, Rattle Snake, West Sister, and many others. These islands are composed of hard rock. Turtle Island cannot claim similar parentage because it is composed only of clay and could not have survived the incessant pounding of the seas as have the others. It must therefore have come into existence as an island at a comparatively recent period.

Turtle Island May Once Have Been the Tip of Cedar Point

One school would have it that the island was at one time connected with the mainland in a south-easterly direction toward what is now known as Cedar Point and that a long narrow peninsula extended across the mouth of Maumee Bay, with the only opening in the Bay being the water between the island and Bay Point to the west. In some prehistoric age it is believed

that the water broke over this narrow neck of land, and as time passed the breach was widened until it isolated the north west tip which we have come to know as Turtle Island. Some credence must be given this theory as an examination of a chart shows that even today shoal water extends from the island to Cedar Point, and there is more than a faint suspicion on the chart of the former shape and size of the island. Definite knowledge of the island's origin, however, cannot now be furnished.

Origin of the Name

A glimpse of the island's history can be had in "The Early History of the Maumee Valley," by John E. Gunckel, where the following statement is made, "The island was the home of sea gulls, and annually visited by the Indians who secured hundreds of dozens of eggs in season. Turtle Island was named after Little Turtle, the great Chief of the Miamis, whose wigwam was located under the elms on Presque Isle."

The British Occupy Turtle Island

No part of American history is more fascinating than the campaigns of General Anthony Wayne and the winning of the Northwest Territory. In this part of America's historical drama Turtle Island played an important role—the role of an enemy of the United States.

On July 28th, 1793, Alexander McKee, the British Trader at the Foot of the Rapids wrote Lieutenant Governor Simcoe—"In consequence of an express from Lieut. Col. England, signifying your Excellency's anxiety for the return of the "Ottawe" to Fort Erie and his directions for her to proceed thither, I have sent down to have the cargo landed on Turtle Island, that his instructions may be complied with . . . ." Apparently Gov. Simcoe looked with favor on the fortification of Turtle Island, for on March 14, 1794, he wrote Lord Dorchester from York (Toronto) ". . . . at present it appears to me that Turtle Island may be rendered safe, but that any port on the continent, if attacked, must be considered as necessarily sacrificed."

Fort Turtle Island Built

In April of 1794, the British rebuilt Fort Miami and according to Charles Elihu Slocum in his book "The Ohio Country": "The British also built another fort twelve or fifteen miles within American territory, situated on Turtle Island, just outside of Maumee Bay, twenty miles or more northeast of their Fort Miami." In the Fall of that year, after the Battle of Fallen Timbers the British strengthened Detroit River forts and "six gunboats were constructed for patrolling the river and communicating with Forts Turtle Island and Miami." Some idea of the type of fort which was erected on the island can be gained from a letter written by Lieut. Governor Simcoe to Lord Dorchester on April 29, 1794:

> " have directed a Log House defensible against musquetry to be built at Turtle Island, and another at the River aux Raisins, and merlons of Logs in the Hog pen manner to be provided at those posts which being filled as occasion shall require will give the means of speedily erecting adequate Batteries, and in the mean time these houses will be intermediate deposits, absolutely necessary to the security of the navigation."

Command of Fort Offered to Henry Dundas

Lieut. Gov. Simcoe to Henry Dundas, Secretary, from Navy Hall, Upper Canada, June 21st, 1794 . . . . "I also offer you one of the posts at the Miamis. It includes Turtle Island which I mean to occupy and to combine all the defenses of land batteries, gun boats, and the shipping to prevent, if possible, Mr. Wayne from obtaining any supplies from Presque Isle, or elsewhere by that channel, and it exhibits the islands in the Erie, and shows their very great consequence to the future navigation to the lake." This letter is accompanied by two sketch maps—the one of General Wayne's route and the other by the lower part of the Maumee River showing Turkey Point as our old Presque Isle was called. It shows a "proposed fort."

A letter from Simcoe to a Henry Dundas dated August 13, 1794, evidences the fact that the island was actually garrisoned by British troops:

> "The report in Wayne's army is that he has positive orders to reduce our posts at the Miamis and in the ensuing spring to attack Detroit. I have detached Captain Bunbury of the 5th Regiment to occupy Turtle Island at the entrance to the Miamis Bay, hoping by a combination of our Gunboats and Vessels at that place to prevent any access to the Miamis River or egress from it." Lieut.-Gov. J. G. Simcoe to Henry Dundas, Secretary "Upper Canada"

Navy Hall, Aug. 30, 1794 . . . . "The sickness of the garrison has been universal, so that it was by great exertion and unremitting attention that Lieut.-Col. England in a manner dismantling Detroit could place the Miamis in a state of defense. The Canadian militia for the greater part have shown themselves not to be depended upon. I reinforced Turtle Island from hence and was preparing all the little force I could muster to proceed to the Miamis. I have thought it prudent not to discontinue these preparations, and shall immediately embody 200 militia of this district." About this time Lieut.-Col. England at Detroit wrote Francis Le Maitre: "I have with the approbation of Col. Simcoe agreed to pay the garrison at Fort Miami and Turtle Island a dollar a chord for cutting and piling the firewood necessary for those posts for the winter."

The British Strengthen Fort Miami

Ten days after Wayne's victory at Fallen Timbers over the Indians and their British allies Lieut.-Col. England wrote Lieut.-Gov. Simcoe, from Detroit, Aug. 30, 1794: ". . . . as the 'Dunmore' is once more in sailing order and I have ordered the 'Chippewa' to return here from Miamis Bay after she has forwarded to the fort all the stores she has on board that were intended for it, and I have directed a proper officer to be left at Turtle Island with the charge of the gun boats and stores there."

Lieut.-Col. England to Francis Le Maitre, Detroit, June 13, 1795 . . . . "the charge of 5 pounds 7 shillings and 6 pence was occasioned by removing on sleighs, provisions and stores from Turtle Island to Fort Miami, when the troops were ordered by his excellency, Lieut.-Gov. Simcoe to be withdrawn from that post." Francis Le Maitre was Millitary Secretary. Historians fail to state what eventually became of Fort Turtle Island. It was probably abandoned to the elements and soon disappeared.

The United States Government Builds a Light House on Turtle Island

The subsequent recorded history of Turtle Island begins in 1827. It was at that time the property of the U. S. Government and was sold at

public sale in Monroe, Michigan, on July 10, 1827. It is interesting to note that at the time of this sale the island was computed to contatin 6.68 acres.

Shortly after this sale the government realized the necessity of improving navigating conditions on Maumee Bay which even at that early date showed signs of becoming a thriving lake port. By deed dated May 25, 1831, Edward Bissell, of Lockport, N. Y., who then had title to the island, sold it back to the government for the sum of $300.

Immediately after its purchase the government began the erection of a light house on the property. On March 3, 1931, Congress appropriated $5,000 for this purpose and $2,000 for shore protection.

Destructive Erosion by the Lake

Apparently it was not long before the elements threatened to destroy both the island and the light house. Samuel Allen, the editor of the Toledo Gazette, on July 2, 1836, made the following statement in that connection:

> "Turtle Island, upon which the lighthouse is erected at the entrance to Maumee Bay, was since our recollection, sufficiently large for a farm of moderate size, and a considerable portion of it covered with wood. Before the erection of the lighthouse (in 1831), it was reduced to about two acres. Notwithstanding, the government has been vigilant in fortifying it for the past two or three seasons, it is now reduced to somewhat less than an acre, and is gradually wasting, in so much that the structure is in danger, without the immediate care of the government. The immense increase of commercial business in this (the Maumee) River demands some prompt action on the part of the citizens of Toledo".

This editorial was not written in vain, for on March 3, 1837, $8,000 was appropriated for its protection. In great haste the board of navy commissioners sent its experts to the island to plan ways to secure it against the destructive washing of the lake.

Plans For Protection

Two plans were suggested for its protection. Wrote Lieutenant G. J. Pendergrast, U. S. Navy on June 4, 1837:

> "I have been at some pains to ascertain the best and cheapest mode of arresting the destructive washing now going forward at the island, and have no hesitation in recommending that the island (or part of it at least) should be surrounded by crib work, raised about ten feet above the level of the lake, and filled in with good hard stone. On the side where the washing away is most felt there should be spar cribs run out to induce deposit".

The second plan, and the one adopted, was proposed by Isaac S. Smith, superintendent of public works at Buffalo, after he had inspected the island and noticed the action of the surf upon it. He proposed to "drive a continuous row of piles around the island, in close contact, and to fill in behind with stone and brush for the space of twenty feet inward, the island to be reduced in size, and the sand from the area outside of the piles to be thrown over to the area inclosed, and the whole to be covered with good soil".

Cost of Protection

Government works then as now cost more than anticipated and on July 7, 1838, Congress granted the further sum of $6,700 to protect the lighthouse. So in four years time $16,700 was spent to keep this little island from being destroyed. This money it seems was considered well spent for in the government's report is found the following:

> "This light is situated at the entrance of Maumee Bay and is highly useful. It is advantageously situated for directing vessels into this important bay, and no pains or expense should be spared in securing the small island on which it stands from being destroyed by the action of the lake".

The water level attained by Lake Erie in 1838 was the greatest ever reached according to government records. This fact accounts, in a large measure, for the unprecedented erosion of the island during this period.

Equipment of Light House

By 1839 it was believed that the major difficulties had been overcome. The following report was sent to the Washington headquarters in 1838:

> "Turtle Island lighthouse is lighted with eight lamps fixed. The number belonging to the establishment is eleven, with as many bright reflectors. The lamps are in bad condition from long use. The tender seems to have performed his duty faithfully. This is certainly one of the most important lights on the lake, not only on account of its proximity to the Maumee River, without which it would be difficult to approach the ports of Toledo and Manhattan (both thriving villages, which, possessing the advantage of exceptional harbors, and with the internal improvements of railroads, etc., some of which are already in operation, must soon acquire a rank among the most favored ports on the shores of Lake Erie) but as a general landmark to the mariner on his passage through the lake.
>
> The measures already taken by the government for preserving this island will undoubtedly be amply adequate to the object. The work is progressing rapidly, and will soon be completed. The island does not at this time embrace more than three-fourths of an acre of ground. The new channel into the Maumee Bay, which is on the south side of this island, has of late been surveyed, and buoys have been planted, designating the channel, by Capt. Dobbins, of the U. S. revenue cutter. The best route through the bay has also been buoyed out".

Area of Island Greatly Reduced

Time had not treated Turtle Island kindly. Samuel Allen could remember when it would have supported a moderate sized farm. In 1827 the government conveyance called for 6.68 acres. Lieutenant Pendergrast stated in 1837 that "the extraordinary rising of the lake reduced the island to about one and one-half acres," and the report of 1839 showed it reduced to half the latter area.

After the year 1839 the island settled down to the routine business of being a lighthouse base, and apparently gave no one further trouble until Civil War days. At that time it was discovered that the entire lighthouse

structure was worn out and would have to be replaced. In 1866, when the government had a chance to turn to more peaceful pursuits, $12,000 was appropriated "for repairs and renovating at Turtle Island light-station", and the government's bill now totaled $34,000.

The plans and estimates for the new buildings were approved by the board in May, and the light from the new tower was exhibited for the first time on the night of September 12, 1866. The light tower and keeper's dwelling were built of Milwaukee brick and were at that time considered one of the finest lighthouse structures on the Great Lakes.

Lighthouse Equipped With Fog Bell

In 1871 it was proposed to establish a fog bell, cisterns were built, slight repairs made, and the premises were reported in good order.

The lake, which had remained docile for some thirty odd years, decided it was time once more to plague the bureau of lighthouses, so written into the records we find the following:

1876—"The piling and shore protection of part of this island were severely damaged by the great gale of May 15th. Another such storm might seriously endanger the light. New piles and rip rap will be put down without delay."

1881—"The pile protection of this island has been much damaged by storms and ice and should be renewed. This can be done at the estimated cost of $3,000."

1882—"The piling and shore protection of part of this island were severely damaged by the spring gales, several such storms might seriously endanger the light. New piles and rip rap at an estimated cost of $15,000 are needed".

Concrete Retaining Wall Constructed

Once again a dauntless government took up the challenge of the lake and in 1883 the work of constructing a retaining wall of concrete was commenced. It was built around the exposed sides of the island. This project was destined to be the last attempt of the Federal government to protect the island against the ravages of the elements.

Government Abandons Turtle Island

Constant repairs and improvements were made on the building, tower and light until 1903. At that time the Toledo Harbor Light was nearing competion and the government took steps to abandon Turtle Island to its fate.

The final entrys are of interest. They read as follows:

1904—"This fourth-order fixed white light was, on May 15, 1904, permanently discontinued. It's fourth-order lens was dismounted, and packed, and with the rest of the illuminating apparatus, was taken to the Maumee ranges light-station to be shipped to the Buffalo light-house depot. The premises and buildings were temporarily placed in the care of the keeper of the Maumee Ranges light-station".

(Fourth order light was a term designating power in the day of kerosene lamps. It was the lowest power used and visible under most favorable conditions for a distance of six miles).

1905—"The light was discontinued, and this property was on December 6, 1904, sold at public auction."

An article in the Toledo Daily Blade, Monday, December 5, 1904, stated as follows concerning the island and its sale.

"What the washing waves have left of Turtle Island will be offered for sale at auction at the Toledo customs office at noon tomorrow. Lieutenant Colonel H. M. Adams, of Buffalo, in charge of the Tenth U. S. Lighthouse district, which includes the port of Toledo, will conduct the sale. There have been several inquiries at the custom house with reference to Turtle Island and the old lighthouse upon it, and it is expected that the bidding will be spirited. Among the bidders will probably be several steamboat and launch owners who contemplate the establishment of a summer resort. Side by side, at the customs office, are two large photographs of Turtle Light one taken in 1835 and the other in 1885. To all external appearances the light tower, rebuilt in 1867, has not changed in half a century.

"The early picture shows that some thrifty keeper had set out some small trees—evidently apple trees—in front of his lonely home. They were little more than whips stuck into the ground. The latter picture shows the same trees gnarled and rugged giants. In 1883, the government, to stop the erosion which threatened to carry away the entire island, built a concrete retaining wall on the exposed shores 561 feet long. Since that time there has been little if any loss of territory.

"Information compiled for the benefit of prospective purchasers is to the effect that the keeper's dwelling attached to the light tower is a story and a half five room brick structure in good repair.

"Grass does not flourish upon the island's sandy soil, but trees and vegetables thrive there. Almost the entire island is covered with trees and shrubbery, but a frugal, thrifty keeper reserved a quarter acre plot fo a kitchen garden".

So ends the story of the lighthouse on Turtle Island which for so many years faithfully served the mariner and the City of Toledo.

Can it be that these events only closed one chapter in the island's history? Can it pass on to still greater glories? Only time will tell.

George L. Merrill Acquires Title to Turtle Island

At the public sale, previously referred to, the Island was purchased from the United States by A. H. Merrill. His deed was dated December 22, 1904. A few weeks later on February 4, 1905, A. H. Merrill conveyed to George L. Craig and John Craig each a one-third interest in the Island. No further transfers were made until May 20, 1933, when the three joint owners deeded the island to George L. Merrill, its present owner.

From 1905 to 1933 all activity ceased at Turtle Island. It was deserted and alone save for an occasional vandal who sought to aid nature in destroying the old lighthouse, or an occasional fishing party that went ashore to explore the ruins. All that was left of the lighthouse was the roofless building with its empty windows, like dead eyes, staring out over a sparkling lake.

Associated Yacht Clubs Lease Island

On May 29, 1933, the Associated Yacht Clubs of Toledo, through its dynamic Commodore, Alexander Ross, leased the island from George L. Merrill for the purpose of establishing a yacht club and harbor of refuge. As soon as the lease was signed, work was begun, and is continuing at this writing. The old lighthouse and residence have been restored and the island has become a focal point for yachting activity.

Ohio Michigan Boundary Monument

On June 8, 1933, the legislatures of the State of Ohio and the State of Michigan by joint resolution established a monument point as the boundary line between the two states. This point was fixed "in the center of the circular wall on Turtle Island in Lake Erie".

At the spring session of the Ohio Legislature in 1935, a resolution was presented whereby the State of Ohio was to buy Turtle Island and establish thereon a marine park and harbor of refuge. This action was taken with the full consent of the Associated Yacht Clubs. The bill met with favor in the Senate where it was passed. It failed, however, in the House Committee.

This, for the time being, concludes the history of a charming little island, from the top of whose restored tower proudly floats the burgee of A. Y. C., while all about it sleek yachts lie at anchor, and happy folks frolic on its ample beaches.

Acknowledging the kind assistance of the following: United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of Lighthouses, The Title Guarantee and Trust Company, and Toledo Public Library.

NEVIN O. WINTER

1869-1936

An Incorporator - - - 1918
Trustee - - - - 1918-36
Librarian - - - - 1918-36
Secretary - - - 1918-28
Attorney, Historian and World Traveler

Author of many historical works including—

Mexico and Her People of Today.
Guatemala and Her People of Today.
Brazil and Her People of Today.
Argentine and Her People of Today.
Chile and Her People of Today.
The Russian Empire of Today and Yesterday.
Poland of Today and Yesterday.
Texas, the Marvelous.
History of Northwestern Ohio.
Florida, the Land of Enchantment.
The New Poland.
Panama and the Canal Today.
(Written with Forbes Lindsay)
Seeing South America.
(Written with Wm. B. Guitteau)
The Romance of the Maumee Valley.

Contributor to North American Review, World's Work, World Today, National Geographic and other magazines.

Born in Benton, Ohio, June 14th, 1869. Died in Galion, Ohio, August 31, 1936.

In the passing of Nevin O. Winter the Historical Society of Northwestern Ohio has lost a most capable and efficient officer, who has zealously supported the activities of the Society since its organization in 1918, and a friend whose distinguished abilities and sterling character are recognized and respected by all.

RUFUS H. BAKER

1858-1936

Trustee - - - - 1928-29-30-31-32
Third Vice-President - - 1929-30-31-32
Second Vice-President - - - - 1933
Eminent attorney, business and civic leader.

Mr. Baker was born in Toledo, September 25, 1858. He was educated in the Toledo Public Schools and later attended Williston seminary at Easthampton, Massachusetts. Upon his graduation from that seminary, Mr. Baker matriculated at Columbia University and later obtained there his law degree.

He was admitted to the Bar in 1879 and became a member of the law firm Baker & Smith, of which his father, William Baker, was the senior member. After his father's death, Mr. Baker continued the partnership with the late Barton Smith until Mr. Smith's death, in the latter part of last year.

Mr. Baker was a member of the Toledo Club, Country Club, Chamber of Commerce, and the First Congregational Church. He formerly was a director of the Milburn Wagon Works and The Home Savings Bank & Trust Company.

The Toledo Blade, in an editorial, said of Mr. Baker:

> "But Rufus H. Baker was not only an eminent lawyer and a Bar leader, he was a forthright good citizen, who carried the weight of years gracefully and marched in step with the times as a city builder, a manufacturer, a banker, and an effective worker in furtherance of countless projects for the spiritual, commercial, industrial, cultural, and social development of Toledo."

Midwest Historical Notes

A Plea for "Liberty Hall" and Its Garden. (To the Editor of The Courier-Jounal).—There are probably but few homes and gardens in America that have remained in a continuous state of preservation in one family for a greater period of time than "Liberty Hall" in Frankfort, Ky., that quaint, romantic old town nestling between high wooded hills and divided in two by the winding Kentucky River, whose beauty is far renowned.

"Here as a pioneer in 1783 came John Brown from Virginia (1757-1837), where his father, the Rev. John Brown, was then residing in Rockbridge County, Virginia. He attended Princeton College until it was broken up by the Revolutionary War. He joined the troops under Washington and participated in the spectacular crossing of the Delaware River, later serving as aide to Lafayette. He graduated at William and Mary College and, after reading law with Thomas Jefferson, removed to Frankfort, Ky., three years prior to the incorporation of that town. He was a member of the Virginia Legislature from Kentucky, member of the Convention of 1789, the first and only member sent to the old Congress by the people of Kentucky, 1789-1791. After Kentucky was admitted into the Union, he was one of its first two United States Senators, being three consecutive times elected to that body, and its President pro tem., 1803-4. He was an intimate friend of Jefferson, Madison and Monroe, and urged by Jefferson and Monroe to accept diplomatic office, but declined. He was a fine lawyer and ranked among the foremost men of his day"—but pitched his tent and cast his lot in the embryo town of Frankfort.

"Mr. Brown projected several expeditions against the Indians, and no one was more prominent in the stormy events of nine years leading to the separation of Kentucky from Virginia, on June 1, 1792, and in securing to the West the full navigation of the Mississippi River" (A Corner In Celebrities).

"Liberty Hall" was erected by John Brown in 1796 as a home to which he removed his parents, three years prior to his own marriage to Margaretta Mason of New York. Here, also, dwelt with him for a time, his brother, Hon. James Brown, who later became United States Senator from Louisiana, and by whose hands the Monroe Doctrine was transmitted to France, remaining in that country as Minister for six years; and the home of the pioneer's grandson, Benjamin Gratz Brown, who was Governor of Missouri and United States Senator. Another distinguished brother and visitor of John Brown was Dr. Samuel Brown, a graduate of Edinborough, Scotland, who returned to introduce vaccination into Kentucky, and was the first medical professor in the West, and the founder of the medical department of Transylvania University.

"As Kentucky was many miles from the seat of government over the Virginia Mountains, and with no railroads until 1833, it presents a unique situation in that among the distinguished men from a distance to have visited here were Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Aaron Burr, Andrew Jackson, Zachary Taylor, General Lafayette and Theodore Roosevelt—President Monroe, Jackson and Taylor and James Brown having breakfast together here in the spring of 1819. In May, 1825, Lafayette brought his son to call on Mrs. Brown as the wife of his early aide and the daughter of his chaplain in the Revolutionary War.

"The house, designed by Thomas Jefferson, is a fine example of archi-

tecture, the glass having been brought out through the Virginia mountains on muleback, while the brick was burned on the place."

The eldest son, Judge Mason Brown, inherited the homestead and half of the original lot which comprised the whole block on Wilkinson St. from Montgomery to Wapping and back to the river's high bank. This was in 1835, divided in half when the old pioneer erected an equally elegant house, designed by Gideon Shryock, for his younger son, Orlando, and where his descendants reside today.

"Liberty Hall" later became the property of Judge Brown's daughter, Mrs. William T. Scott, and was renowned for over a half century as the home of four of Kentucky's most prominent women, Mrs. Scott, her two sisters, Mrs. William F. Barret, Mrs. Joseph C. Baily, and her daughter, the beloved Miss Mary Mason Scott, two of whom have been Kentucky's vice regents to the Mount Vernon Association.

The garden of "Liberty Hall" began with the erection of its stately homestead in 1796, and has remained in an unbroken succession of beauty to the present day.

Six generations have trod the bluegrass carpet of its long straight paths bordered with the brilliant changing beauty of the perennials as they lead back toward the bank of the river—paths to be crossed and recrossed by others at right angles.

Here today stands the record of love's labor—not lost:

A thicket of wild crabapple bloom mingles its exquisite fragrance with the purple, white and old-fashioned lilacs and a cucumber magnolia from Mount Vernon. There are old-fashioned hardy shrubs and rose trellises of ramblers with smaller perennials in front. There is the rare collection of iris of many varieties, forsythias, hyacinths and glowing chains of tupils.

There is the Polish rose with pale green leaves; the almost Black George IV. and the white and red striped York and Lancaster. There are moss roses, musk roses and countless others through the season, but the first to come is the sweet little yellow Harrison rose, which at Mount Vernon by tacit consent belongs to the regent and is to be worn by her alone.

A huge trumpet vine runs over the old smoke-house, while the black coral honeysuckle and the yellow and pink Belgian honeysuckle are scaling the walls and trees. The central walk leads back to the "Limber-Lost" beyond, where hundreds of birds have rendezvous on the wooded bank of the river.

It was under an apple tree in this very garden that Margaretta (Mason) Brown, who had brought from New York the idea of a church Sunday school, was assisted by her neighbor, Mrs. Elizabeth Love, and founded the first one west of the Alleghenies, where the services were continuously held thereafter when the weather permitted, otherwise adjourned to the commodious drawing-room of her residence. A centennial pageant was celebrated in this garden by the Presbyterian Church. Here still can be found the selfsame multi-flora rose bushes from which Margaretta cut the large bunch in June as a reward for the best attendant during the winter; this and the Damask rose were removed by Margaretta from New York, whence she came as a bride in 1799.

Can many other States boast a greater heritage—a nobler possession of history, enterprise and statesmanship enshrined in a home filled with a choice collection of portraits, mahoganies, china, glass and silver that has come down through generations? Can we allow such priceless possessions to fall under the auctioneer's hammer and piece by piece be scattered we know

not where, and the old historic garden become desecrated by brick and mortar?

The present owner is John Matthew Scott, a Louisville, Ky., attorney and descendant of the original owner. Scott's sister, Miss Mary Mason Scott, who died last year, had planned to leave the residence to the Colonial Dames with the stipulation that it must be maintained in a manner similar to Mount Vernon.

The brother and sister, however, met financial reverses and the residence, they say, must be sold together with its valuable antiques.

—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Founder of Smead School Dies at 85 in Pittsburgh—Word was received here today of the death in Pittsburgh yesterday of Mary Fitch Rhoades, founder of the Smead school for girls at School Place and Irving Street. She had been ill only a few days.

Mrs. Rhoades, daughter of the late Judge John Fitch, had not been a resident of Toledo for several years but came here often to visit a granddaughter, Mrs. Gordon Yost, 3616 Harley Road.

Many times in her talks before local groups Mrs. Rhoades told of Toledo as she knew it in the horse and buggy days when a quaint covered-bridge spanned the Maumee river where the Cherry st. bridge now stands.

The family residence during her girlhood was in St. Clair st., between Jefferson and Monroe sts., then the heart of the residential section. Later, Judge Fitch bought property near what is now the Collingwood-West Woodruff aves. district and built a large house.

During the thrilling days of the Civil war, Mrs. Rhoades saw many fugitives harbored in her home, Judge Fitch being a member of the underground railroad system.

"In the autumn of 1884 the Misses Smead's School for Girls was opened in Toledo, under the management of Misses Marian, Mary E. and Caroline L. Smead. * * * For three years the School occupied a building in the First Ward of the City.

"In 1887 what is known as the "Fitch Place", the former residence of Judge John Fitch on Woodruff near Ashland Avenue was taken for its use," says Clark Waggoner in his History of Toledo. In 1934 the name was changed to "Maumee Valley Country Day School" and established in new quarters on a commodious tract Southwest of the City.

Lincoln's Love Affair With Ann Rutledge.—The Indiana Magazine of History, March, 1936, publishes the following letter written by R. J. Onstott of Mason City, Ill., to the late R. Y. Kincaid of Athens, Ill. There was no date on the letter but the paper indicated it was quite old:

Mr. R. Y. Kincaid,
Athens, Illinois.

Dear Sir: Through Mr. Kincaid, Mason City, I learn you have the "Life of Abraham Lincoln", written by William Herr (Herndon). (I) order the first edition, not the revised edition, as I have that in two volumes. I mean the first edition if you have it. I should like so much to see and read it. I suppose you know who I am, R. J. Onstott, born at New Salem, December 6, 1830. That was before Abraham Lincoln came down the Sangamon River with Offit (Denton Offit) on the flat boat on their trip to New Orleans. I know the publishers destroyed all the first edition if they could get hold of it. I know there is not anything in the first edition about the Story of Ann

tecture, the glass having been brought out through the Virginia mountains on muleback, while the brick was burned on the place."

The eldest son, Judge Mason Brown, inherited the homestead and half of the original lot which comprised the whole block on Wilkinson St. from Montgomery to Wapping and back to the river's high bank. This was in 1835, divided in half when the old pioneer erected an equally elegant house, designed by Gideon Shryock, for his younger son, Orlando, and where his descendants reside today.

"Liberty Hall" later became the property of Judge Brown's daughter, Mrs. William T. Scott, and was renowned for over a half century as the home of four of Kentucky's most prominent women, Mrs. Scott, her two sisters, Mrs. William F. Barret, Mrs. Joseph C. Baily, and her daughter, the beloved Miss Mary Mason Scott, two of whom have been Kentucky's vice regents to the Mount Vernon Association.

The garden of "Liberty Hall" began with the erection of its stately homestead in 1796, and has remained in an unbroken succession of beauty to the present day.

Six generations have trod the bluegrass carpet of its long straight paths bordered with the brilliant changing beauty of the perennials as they lead back toward the bank of the river—paths to be crossed and recrossed by others at right angles.

Here today stands the record of love's labor—not lost:

A thicket of wild crabapple bloom mingles its exquisite fragrance with the purple, white and old-fashioned lilacs and a cucumber magnolia from Mount Vernon. There are old-fashioned hardy shrubs and rose trellises of ramblers with smaller perennials in front. There is the rare collection of iris of many varieties, forsythias, hyacinths and glowing chains of tupils.

There is the Polish rose with pale green leaves; the almost Black George IV. and the white and red striped York and Lancaster. There are moss roses, musk roses and countless others through the season, but the first to come is the sweet little yellow Harrison rose, which at Mount Vernon by tacit consent belongs to the regent and is to be worn by her alone.

A huge trumpet vine runs over the old smoke-house, while the black coral honeysuckle and the yellow and pink Belgian honeysuckle are scaling the walls and trees. The central walk leads back to the "Limber-Lost" beyond, where hundreds of birds have rendezvous on the wooded bank of the river.

It was under an apple tree in this very garden that Margaretta (Mason) Brown, who had brought from New York the idea of a church Sunday school, was assisted by her neighbor, Mrs. Elizabeth Love, and founded the first one west of the Alleghenies, where the services were continuously held thereafter when the weather permitted, otherwise adjourned to the commodious drawing-room of her residence. A centennial pageant was celebrated in this garden by the Presbyterian Church. Here still can be found the self-same multi-flora rose bushes from which Margaretta cut the large bunch in June as a reward for the best attendant during the winter; this and the Damask rose were removed by Margaretta from New York, whence she came as a bride in 1799.

Can many other States boast a greater heritage—a nobler possession of history, enterprise and statesmanship enshrined in a home filled with a choice collection of portraits, mahoganies, china, glass and silver that has come down through generations? Can we allow such priceless possessions to fall under the auctioneer's hammer and piece by piece be scattered we know

not where, and the old historic garden become desecrated by brick and mortar?

The present owner is John Matthew Scott, a Louisville, Ky., attorney and descendant of the original owner. Scott's sister, Miss Mary Mason Scott, who died last year, had planned to leave the residence to the Colonial Dames with the stipulation that it must be maintained in a manner similar to Mount Vernon.

The brother and sister, however, met financial reverses and the residence, they say, must be sold together with its valuable antiques.

—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Founder of Smead School Dies at 85 in Pittsburgh—Word was received here today of the death in Pittsburgh yesterday of Mary Fitch Rhoades, founder of the Smead school for girls at School Place and Irving Street. She had been ill only a few days.

Mrs. Rhoades, daughter of the late Judge John Fitch, had not been a resident of Toledo for several years but came here often to visit a granddaughter, Mrs. Gordon Yost, 3616 Harley Road.

Many times in her talks before local groups Mrs. Rhoades told of Toledo as she knew it in the horse and buggy days when a quaint covered-bridge spanned the Maumee river where the Cherry st. bridge now stands.

The family residence during her girlhood was in St. Clair st., between Jefferson and Monroe sts., then the heart of the residential section. Later, Judge Fitch bought property near what is now the Collingwood-West Woodruff aves. district and built a large house.

During the thrilling days of the Civil war, Mrs. Rhoades saw many fugitives harbored in her home, Judge Fitch being a member of the underground railroad system.

"In the autumn of 1884 the Misses Smead's School for Girls was opened in Toledo, under the management of Misses Marian, Mary E. and Caroline L. Smead. * * * For three years the School occupied a building in the First Ward of the City.

"In 1887 what is known as the "Fitch Place", the former residence of Judge John Fitch on Woodruff near Ashland Avenue was taken for its use," says Clark Waggoner in his History of Toledo. In 1934 the name was changed to "Maumee Valley Country Day School" and established in new quarters on a commodious tract Southwest of the City.

Lincoln's Love Affair With Ann Rutledge.—The Indiana Magazine of History, March, 1936, publishes the following letter written by R. J. Onstott of Mason City, Ill., to the late R. Y. Kincaid of Athens, Ill. There was no date on the letter but the paper indicated it was quite old:

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Athens, Illinois.

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Rutledge, Abe's sweetheart. There could not be, for my father, Henry Onstott, bought the tavern of James Rutledge, 1833, and James Rutledge moved down to Concord, four miles north of New Salem, and the Rutledges did not live there after that. So the story is a lie out of whole cloth. It is to refute these lies that I want to get this first edition. I remember very well when Ann Rutledge died. My father went to see her and the family about two weeks before she died. I know Lincoln did go to see her once, and at her request as did others, but he did not go to her funeral. * * *

Very Respectfully, R. J. Onstott (Snowbird).

Texas Under Six Flags—

1.	France	1685—1689
2.	Spain	1690—1824
3.	Mexico	1824—1836
4.	Republic of Texas	1836—1845
5.	U. S. of America	1845—1861 1865—1936
6.	Confederacy	1861—1865

The Connecticut Charter From Charles II, 1662.—"From the South line of Massachusetts on the North to Long Island Sound on the South and from Narraganset River on the East to the Pacific Ocean on the West". That was Connecticut in 1662 by the Great Charter. There was a clause which exempted portions occupied by earlier settlers such as New York and New Jersey. In 1782 Connecticut agreed to cede all Western lands to Congress except the Western Reserve.

Thus we have the Maumee Valley under the Colonial flag of Connecticut from 1662 to 1782, and under the U. S. flag thereafter.

On the Death of Morrison R. Waite—

Mrs. Amelia C. Waite:—

We have been sorely touched and wounded by the death of your loved and loving Husband, and whilst we would not knowingly add our sorrows to your own heavy burden, we cannot restrain our desire in seeking this opportunity to manifest our sincere sympathy and heartfelt pity for your great and irreparable loss. We honored your husband for the fidelity, and distinguished capability with which he filled the exalted position as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

We loved him because of his nobility, his manliness and gentle loving character, which made the great man greater because of his goodness.

As a slight token of the warmth of our love and great respect for our distinguished friend, may we ask you to accept Lot No. 30 in Section No. 2 Woodlawn Cemetery as the last resting place for one who has so nobly discharged every duty imposed upon him private or public.

Toledo, Ohio, March 24th, 1888.

Saml. M. Young
Abner L. Backus
Horace S. Walbridge
John J. Baker
Joseph K. Secor
John Berdan
Geo. W. Davis
J. B. Ketcham
Wm. Baker
M. Nearing
L. S. Baumgardner
J. T. Benton
A. L. Kelsey
D. Coghlin
A. E. Macomber
J. M. Gloyd

The Principal Works of David Ross Locke — (Petroleum Vesuvius Nasby) —

1864—The Nasby Papers. Indianapolis: C. O. Perrine and Co. (This small paper-bound book was the form in which Lincoln knew the letters. Copies are exceedingly scarce today).
1865—The Nasby Papers. London: O. S. Beeton (First English Appearance).
1866—Divers Views, Opinions, and Prophecies of Yoors Trooly, Petroleum V. Nasby. With Humorous Designs by Thee Jones. Cincinnati: R. W. Carroll and Co. (A fine collector's item).
1866—The Nasby Papers. Introduction by George Augustus Sala. London: Ward, Lock, and Tyler.
1867—"Swingin Round the Cirkle". Illustrated by Thomas Nast. Boston: Lee and Shepard.
1868—Ekkoes from Kentucky. Illustrated by Thomas Nast. Boston: Lee and Shepard.
1872—The Struggles (Social, Financial and Political) of Petroleum V. Nasby. With an Introduction by Hon. Charles Sumner. Illustrated by Thomas Nast. Boston: I. N. Richardson and Co. (The work of Locke most often reprinted).
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1879—A Paper City. Boston: Lee and Shepard. New York: C. T. Dillingham. (A novel with a purpose).
1882—Hannah Jane. Boston: Lee and Shepard. New York: C. T. Dillingham. (A Narrative Poem. Illustrated by G. S. McCutcheon.)
1882—Nasby In Exile. Toledo and Boston: Locke Publishing Co. (A Travel Book, the last important work to appear in Locke's lifetime).
1891—The Demagogue, a Political Novel. Boston: Lee and Shepard. New York: C. T. Dillingham. (A Posthumous Work).
1893—The Nasby Letters. Toledo: The Toledo Blade Co. (A complete collection of all the Letters that were ever published.)
1925—Let's Laugh. (Little Blue Book, No. 20). Girard, Kansas. A well chosen selection of the Letters.

Petroleum V. Nasby, By Cyril Clemens.

Wineries of The Erie Isles.—Uncle Sam experienced considerable difficulty finding a buyer back in 1852 when he sought a purchaser for the score of islands off the Ohio Mainland and now termed the Put-in-Bay group.

At last a Spaniard living in New York was induced by a government agent to part with $44,000 and take over Put-in Bay, Kelleys, Middle Bass, North Bass, Mouse, Starve, Ballast, Rattlesnake, Sugar, Gibraltar and all the others. Of course, they didn't bear those names back in the days before the Civil war, but they were the same islands that we know today and which are worth many millions because of their limestone, their grape vineyards and their value as pleasure resorts.

The Spaniard's name was J. D. Rivers and he revealed to the New York newspapers that he was planning to establish huge sheep ranches on all the islands. Grass grew in abundance on them, there was plenty of water for the sheep to drink, no fences were needed to keep them from straying and the islands even had caves to shelter the animals.

From Sheep to Grapes

There was only one drawback to the plan, and that was that the limestone soil on the islands produced such fine grapes from the cuttings that

Senor Rivers brought from his native Spain that he gave up the raising of sheep and started growing the more profitable grapes.

Scientists have been unable to determine what minerals in the soil on the islands put such a fine flavor in the grapes—some say it is the winds and the lake climate—but wine from the group of islands soon became world famous and before the Civil war got under way the islands became known in geography books as the Wine Islands.

Until the days of Carrie Nation and subsequent prohibition, the wines from the islands, particularly Middle Bass, attracted visitors from many states. Some railroads ran weekly excursions from as far distant as Tennessee and 'tis said that the gentlemen from the south gave up their mint julips for the wines and champagnes. (?)

A President's Playground

President Rutherford Hayes established his summer home and fishing camp on Mouse island just off Catawba. Presidents Tafft, Roosevelt and Cleveland preferred Middle Bass and they often visited the Middle Bass club, which still stands today on the south shore of the island which in its earlier days was called Floral island because of the abundance of flowers on it.

There they fished in the Lake Erie waters which were so abundant with bass that some of the islands were named after that game fish, and sailed their boats between the islands.

Pheasants and other game birds were on the islands in large numbers and some still are overrun with the birds. Diaries of some of the presidents reveal as many as 300 bass caught in one day of angling, but that was in the days when there were so many fish that creel limits were not necessary.

Wine Casks Fifty Years Old

One of the old wineries established in 1862 on Middle Bass is still in use by George Lonz, who has added equipment and modern machinery to give his winery a potential annual capacity of 250,000 gallons of wine and champagne. Some of the 3,000-gallon wine barrels used in the dark cellars a half century ago still are used by him.

There's always a few corks popping in the champagne cellar where he has 100,000 bottles aging to send to all parts of the world. We say "world", for in 1934 he won the grand prize for domestic dry wines in the Italian Exposition after having won the prize for champagne in the Florence show. Lonz grape juice won the French award in 1929.

When corks aren't popping in his elaborate wine room where he serves visitors from all parts of the world, there's a few popping of their own accord in the champagne cellar. So many bottles break under pressure during fermentation that workers wear leather gloves and steel masks while turning the bottles.

Pop! Pop! Pop!

It is heartbreaking to hear a bottle break among the 100,000 and see the contents spill upon the floor. Five broke in one big explosion while the writer stood only a few feet away.

While Kelley's Island has its wine cellars and Put-in Bay has smaller ones, those of the Lonz winery at Middle Bass have historical interest that adds color to them. Mr. Lonz's grandfather and father started the cellars.

Too, American experts have stated that wines and champagnes made on Middle Bass Island are among the best produced in the world.

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up the drinking of wines in larger quantities, the vineyards are being enlarged each year.

Few persons realize that 200 separate handlings are needed to prepare champagne for the table. The grapes are picked and pressed. Then the wine is inoculated with pure culture yeasts from the best champagne vineyards of France. The fermentation takes place in strong bottles with the corks fastened with wire. There is considerable breakage during the several months.

Sediment Blows Out

Then the bottles are turned at frequent periods and finally the corks are withdrawn to allow the sediment to be blown out. The bottles are recorked and two to four years are needed for the champagne to reach maturity.

Kelleys Island was more than worth the $44,000 paid by the Spaniard. Millions of dollars' worth of fine limestone has been taken from the island and still the quarries are worked day after day.

Put-in Bay is now internationally famous as a pleasure resort and it is the annual site of the Interlake yacht races each summer. It is famous historically for Commodore Perry's victory over the British fleet in the War of 1812.

Celebration This Autumn

The government is taking over the $1,000,000 Perry memorial as a national park and the 350-foot shaft is to be shown by government employes in the future. Put-in Bay is planning a large celebration for this fall when the park is formally turned over to the government.

Gibraltar Island, which is less than a half mile off Put-in-Bay, has become the home of Ohio State university's biological laboratories and lake life in all its various forms is studied there. It formerly was the home of Jay Cook, who financed the Civil war for the Union. His large castle still stands on the island.

Rattlesnake Island has been taken over by a Toledoan and developed.

Green Island, one of the few which went back into the hands of the government, has an automatic light in the old lighthouse and so the house is not longer needed for a keeper. Dr. James A. Magoun, a Toledo physician, has leased the entire island from the government for five years and he has sort of an empire to rule over.

There's history and beauty at every spot on the islands and they are staging a comeback as a summer haven for Toledoans.

Hugh Bennett of the Toledo Scale Co. is sponsoring the writing of a history of the island district.

—Albert C. Nute in the Toledo Times, June 21, 1936.

Honor Paid French Dead of American Revolution. (Wireless to The New York Times). Paris, June 17.—The first monument ever dedicated to the memory of the 2,112 French soldiers and sailors who lost their lives in the American Revolution was unveiled this afternoon in the Palace of Versailles in the presence of Ambassador Jesse I. Straus and high French officials.

The marble plaque, which was placed on the wall of American Independence Room, is surrounded by portraits and statues of Louis XVI, George Washington, Benjamin Franklin and the Count de Rochambeau. It is the gift of Warrington Dawson, American historian and special attache of the United States Embassy in Paris. It was previously thought only 200 Frenchmen had been killed in the war, but Mr. Dawson, after years of research, compiled a list of 2,112, giving the manner of death of each.

What Does It Mean to be an American?

What does it mean? I look across the year . . .
I see them come — but through a mist of tears—
Our gallant forebears, full of hopes and fears!

I see them leave behind, for conscience' sake
The homes they loved, the ties so hard to break—
Their questing, wondering, westward way to take.

I see them face and fight the wilderness,
Undaunted by its dangers, its duress,
And from its wildness wrest and win success.

I see them take their living from the soil,
The men and women joined in homely toil—
Where they then planted, now our heart-roots coil!

I see them build their homes, their house of prayer,
And then its bell rings out upon the air
I see them kneel in simple worship there!

I hear the drums of War's alarm beat,
I see them seize their arms, rise to their feet,
Their enemies—and Liberty's—to meet!

I see them face and conquer every foe,
I see great cities rise, a nation grow,
To whose broad breast Earth's eager pilgrims go! . . .

And ye, who seek America today,
To succor you, to wipe your tears away,
Must come as they came, in that older day! . . .

New pilgrims from the lands beyond the sea,
If true Americans you wish to be,
Take them to be your patterns reverently . . .

Forget the Old World wrongs and tyranny,
Reject the new, base use of Liberty—
Read well the page they wrote in history!

They dreamed and dared—and died, when need arose.
In true Americans their red blood flows!
Who fail to honor it, we call—our country's foes! . . .

—Roselle Mercier Montgomery

Sam Houston's School Saved.—Plans have recently been made to preserve the Tennessee log cabin in which Sam Houston once taught school. Texas sought to buy the old building as a monument to the man who led its successful fight for independence 100 years ago. Patriotic Tennesseans objected to removal of the historic cabin, and then realized that they had long neglected it. Now it will be placed in the Maryville courthouse yard.

The old cabin waits for its transfer about nine miles from Maryville. Except for a bit of boarding added through the years, it stands much as it did in May, 1812, when young Houston strode out of the forests, abandoning a life among the Indians to take up the placid career of a school teacher. At that time the cabin was about twenty years old; now, approaching a century and a half, it still belongs to a descendant of the original owner and is used by a tenant farmer.

At one end and side the building is open. In Houston's day these openings were equipped with shutters which opened downward on the inside and

served as desks in the day. The interior was crude, with a dirt floor and benches of split logs. When a clearing was made for the cabin, an oak was left standing to shade a spring beneath. Here the teacher and his pupils ate their lunch. The oak still spreads its branches above the spring.

The young teacher charged a stiff tuition rate for those days. He asked $8 per term, which was $2 more than the price demanded by other local tutors. This was paid one-third in cash, another third in corn, and the remainder in calico of "variegated colors"—to be made into shirts for the teacher.

When cold weather came in 1812 the school was closed. The country was at war with Great Britain, and young Houston was lured by the call of adventure. He fought bravely under Andrew Jackson in the battle against the Creek Indians at Horseshoe Bend, and from that frontier victory his rise is dated.

After he had become Governor of a State, United States Senator from another, commander of an army, and President of a republic, Houston was asked of which office he had been most proud.

"Well," he replied, "when a young man in Tennessee, I kept a country school, being then about 18 years of age, and a tall, strapping fellow. Dressed in a hunting shirt of flowered calico, a long queue down my back, and the sense of authority over my pupils, I experienced a higher feeling of dignity and self-satisfaction than from any office or honor which I have since held."

McGuffey Reader Fame Brings Celebration Plans—Noted Men to Help Observe Hundredth Anniversary at Oxford.—Oxford, O., July 4 (AP)—This southwestern Ohio college town observes July 24 and 25 the passing of a century since William Holmes McGuffey published the first of his famous classroom readers.

It was here that McGuffey conceived and painstakingly wrote his "readers"—an estimated 122,000,000 of which became the basis of early school training for most of America's older generations.

Dr. H. C. Minnich, curator of Miami university's McGuffey museum, contends that "readers" gave training in life's lessons as much as practice in reading.

McGuffey societies, representing an active membership of more than 5,000 in nearly all sections of the United States, will join in the memorial observance.

Poet On Program

Edgar A. Guest, Detroit poet, is on the program; J. W. Studebaker, U. S. commissioner of education, has indicated he will attend.

Ceremonies will center largely around the unveiling of a statue by Lorado Taft, showing McGuffey reading to a group of children.

Dr. Minnich, who for months has been preparing for the centennial, recalled McGuffey's youth; his birth in Washington county, Pa., September 28, 1800; his early boyhood in a log cabin near what is now Youngstown, O., the avidity with which he sought "larnin" and, prior to his appointment as professor of ancient languages at Miami in 1826, a short term of teaching in a private school in Paris, Kentucky.

During 10 years he was here, records show, he became known quite as much as a preacher as an educator.

One writer recalls that the "evangelical zeal" of his Scotch ancestry "was continually prompting him to soften the crude and sometimes vicious social order" of the then new country.

Home Is Landmark

But soon after coming to Oxford, this writer adds, "he met a charming young visitor," Harriet Spinning, whom he married in 1827.

The following year he built a home for his bride, just opposite the campus and, the account continues, "that McGuffey was not Scotch in this case is indicated by the pretentiousness of this building, ... one of the landmarks of the Miami campus today."

Ever a keen student of psychology and as well-versed in educational methods, McGuffey began writing his first reader about 1830. Despite a wave of nationalism which followed the Revolutionary war, there were few textbooks in use that did not pattern English volumes.

Historians suggest that he pursue a "trial and error" method of authorship. Calling youngsters of the village to his side as he walked home from his day's work in the classroom, he would read them the stories he was collecting.

Helped By Children

"With his keen gray eyes he watched every expression on the faces of his pupils," an account records. "The subject matter of the first reader and all subsequent readers was determined by the reaction of those pioneer children to the stories he read them. They were revised again and again."

McGuffey's "First Reader", published in 1836, was followed by a "Primer", and by volumes for the higher grades, the fifth, and last, coming in 1844.

Later, selections were taken from previous texts and compiled into a "Sixth Reader".

Edition followed edition, the last in 1901.

From the little red school-houses, where formerly a great majority of readers were used, the volumes in later years have become interesting and increasingly valuable collectors items.

OCTAVE CHANUTE

An eminent engineer
Father of aviation
Made the first successful flight in
heavier-than-air craft from these
DUNES in 1896
This glacial boulder dedicated to
his memory in
1936.

On the occasion of the dedication of a marker to the memory of Octave Chanute on July 11 at Gary, Alfred Jones, of Gary, in an article in the Gary Post-Tribune of July 11, "Chanute's Glider Hops Have Page in Air Annals" tells of Octave Chanute's life and early adventures in glider flying on the sand dunes of Lake Michigan, now part of Marquette Park, Gary. Familiar with the scenes of Chanute's glider experiments and the stories recounted by local residents concerning his daring and perseverance, Mr. Jones contributes much interesting information about the man who did much to further the development of avaiation.

—Indiana History Bulletin, August, 1936.