

# Northwest Ohio Quarterly

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## NEWS AND COMMENTS

JAMES H. RODABAUGH

### *Of Society Affairs*

The Society and its Trustees elected new officers, enlarged the *Quarterly Bulletin*, and entered on a determined campaign for increased membership during this quarter. The resignation of Judge Hurin was received with regret and appreciation for his past services. The wide variety and scope of the articles which he had obtained for the *Bulletin* is a tribute to his resourcefulness and catholicity of interest. The linkage of the Society's fortunes with a few more professional historians, as will be observed on the title-page, is an interesting change. Under President Logan, the Society hopes to encourage greater participation of the citizens in historical affairs and to broaden the path toward wider cultural horizons.

One path leads to Fort Miami, which the Lucas County Commissioners, through the Metropolitan Park Board are at this writing seriously considering for an historical monument and for the benefit of the people. This Society, the Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society, and various patriotic organizations have urged this. The significance of this spot is charmingly narrated by Mr. Peckham in an article of this issue. We hope to congratulate the citizens of Toledo on this score in the next *Bulletin*.

In February the Society was presented with the designs for the Lincoln Memorial Monument in Springfield, Illinois, submitted in 1865 by William Henry Machan, a Toledo artist. The designs were presented by a nephew of the artist, Mr. Edwin Machan, in behalf of members of the artist's family.

The sense of loss on the death of Mr. Julius Lamson, one of our Trustees, is recorded on other pages.

### *Of Northwestern Ohio Happenings*

Although the modern history of Northwestern Ohio, the

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southern shore of Lake Erie, and the valleys of the Maumee and Sandusky Rivers dates well back into the seventeenth century when French explorers and traders were penetrating the West, the interest of the people of this region has not been commensurate with the richness of that history. Historical societies and pioneer associations have sprung up from time to time, but foundations have been built upon antiquarian or nostalgic interests or commercial promotion purpose, and, hence, lacked the essence of permanency. Recently, however, evidences of renewed historical interests and activities are to be found in the establishment or revitalizing of local historical societies.

The past year saw the reorganization of the Putnam County Pioneer Association. Originally established about 1872 or 1873, it was revived under the leadership of Mr. Earl H. Hanefeld, of Ottawa, and Mr. Charles Veatch, of Kalida, president and vice-president respectively. Over 1,000 persons attended the first annual meeting in September 1941. There are approximately 300 members, including 125 honorary members. Honorary membership is granted to persons of sixty-five years of age or more who have lived in the country for at least fifteen years. This organization has taken advantage of the law which permits county commissioners to appropriate funds for the use of local historical societies. The commissioners have authorized the expenditure of \$100 for the writing of a brief history of Putnam County which is being prepared by Mr. C. D. Steiner of Pandora. The association is well organized for active work; in addition to its officers, president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer, there is a board of directors composed of one member from each township in the county. One of the interesting features of the organization is its application for honorary life membership. This is a four-page form on which the applicant makes a complete record of birth and death dates and locations of his immediate family and of two generations of ancestors. The file of these applica-

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tions should serve as a valuable historical source on the families of Putnam County.

In January 1942, the Fort Defiance Historical Society was organized at Defiance, with Dr. W. H. Shepfer as its president and Miss Nellie Gary, librarian of the city library as its secretary. This organization includes within its area of interest the six counties of Defiance, Williams, Paulding, Putnam, Henry, and Fulton. A board of directors is composed of one member from each county and five delegates at large. The meetings are arranged for the fourth Thursday of January, April, and October, respectively. Some thirty members were enrolled at the first meeting. The object of the association as set forth in its constitution is to promote historical study and investigation of Ohio, and particularly of the six counties, through the collection, preservation, organization, and publication of historical materials. A program of cooperation with schools and libraries, of development of museums, and of marking historical sites is being projected.

One of the most active historical societies in Northwestern Ohio is the Allen County Historical and Archaeological Society. According to Mrs. Harry B. Longworth, its secretary, a fund of \$100,000 has been raised for the construction of a new museum. The William J. Wemmer homesite on West Market Street, Lima, has been given as the location for the new structure. One building housing the heating plant and some storage facilities has already been erected. Arrangements are being made to speed the completion of the main building. During the year this Society has added fourteen new members. Its last meeting was held on Friday evening, March 20, with Mr. W. S. Barringer speaking on "Bits of European and American Archaeology and Anthropology." The month of April will see two interesting anniversaries—the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the City of Lima, and the fortieth anniversary of the entrance of the first interurban into the city.

On March 12, Allen County's oldest practicing physician died at his home in Spencerville at the age of eighty-three. He practiced in the village for sixty years. Only a few days before his death he had started to write the story of his life which he called "Echoes of Days Past and Gone." Two chapters of this interesting memoir were completed and appeared in the *Spencerville Journal-News* for March 12 and 19.

The following tidbits have been received from several localities:

Dr. A. C. Shuman of the Butler Museum at Tiffin reports that he is in the process of moving the museum to a new location.

A large painting of the capture of Major André, a British officer who was taken prisoner September 23, 1780, after conferring with Benedict Arnold, is being completed by Otto Brinkaman of Napoleon, and is to be placed in the Williams County Common Pleas Court Room. The picture will portray his captors, David Williams, John Paulding, and Isaac Van Wert, whose names were given to three Northwest Ohio counties.

The *Henry County Democrat*, a German newspaper founded fifty-eight years ago, suspended publication on March 25. Its editor and publisher, Mr. Fred Sattler, has become city editor of the *Northwest-News*.

Accessions of valuable historical items have been recorded by The Hayes Memorial, Fremont, and Mr. Ralph Peters, editor of the *Defiance Crescent-News*. The Hayes Memorial has added to its collection of documents on the history of Sandusky County a number of local business account books, manifests of schooners sailing to and from the port of Lower Sandusky in the 1840's, a petition to the Ohio General Assembly for steam carriage rights on the Maumee and Western Reserve Road, and the Dr. John B. Rice collection, including letters, reports, speeches, articles, and record books of pioneer Fremont physicians and business firms. The Hayes

Memorial also added a number of early maps and plats, including Joseph Howard's map of the land district of Delaware in Ohio (1824), a number of early Ohio railroad maps, some Johnson's Island papers, and several letters of President Hayes.

The Defiance *Crescent-News* received from William F. Lawler, of Detroit, an order for payment for transportation of baggage of the army under the command of Brigadier General James Winchester, signed by Winchester at Fort Defiance on October 15, 1812. It was on this day that Fort Winchester was completed at the confluence of the Maumee and Auglaize Rivers. William Henry Harrison had taken command of the Army of the Northwest on October 3, and left Winchester in charge of troops at the fort which was given his name. This item is to be given to the Fort Defiance Historical Society.

On January 25, St. Paul's Episcopal Parish of Fremont marked its one hundredth anniversary with special services under the direction of its rector Rev. Russell E. Francis. An interesting brief historical sketch of this church was carried in the *Fremont News-Messenger*, January 14.

On February 28 the Trinity Episcopal Congregation of Toledo was one hundred years old. Special rededication services were conducted by Bishop Beverley D. Tucker of Cleveland. Brief articles on the history of the parish appeared in the *Toledo Blade*, February 21, and the *Toledo Sunday Times*, February 22.

The fiftieth anniversary of Grace Lutheran Church of Fremont was celebrated on March 15. This congregation was originally a part of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church which served the German-speaking people of the community. Since 1892, when the English congregation was formed, the church has prospered, and today boasts one of the most beautiful church buildings in Ohio.

One of Toledo's historic landmarks, the Ursuline Convent of the Sacred Heart, was abandoned in February. Since

1854, this institution has been a center of Catholic education in that city.

The executive committee of the Anthony Wayne Memorial Association met at the Commodore Perry Hotel at Toledo, January 23. The association is now publishing *Mad Anthony's Drum Beat*, edited by Dr. Milo M. Quaife, which is to serve as a general organ of discussion and information. Since the years 1944, 1945 and 1946 mark the sesquicentennial of the establishment of government in the northern part of the Old Northwest, the association is laying plans for various projects of celebration in those years. States which have indicated a desire to participate in the celebration now include Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, and New York. The executive committee authorized Dr. Quaife to approach the states of Pennsylvania and Kentucky to secure their cooperation also. Dr. Harlow Lindley, chairman of the Ohio committee, reported that the sum of \$450 has been pledged by a small number of historical societies for the work of the association.

An interesting Ohio chapter in the life of General Wayne by Thomas Knight appeared in the Sunday edition of the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, February 15. A perplexing question for a long time has concerned the route General Wayne may have taken after he left Fort Greenville in 1795 to go to his home in Philadelphia. Most authors, including Thomas Boyd, have clung to the belief that he returned up the Ohio to Pittsburgh. Harry Emerson Wildes, Wayne's latest biographer, returned him over the Wilderness Road, but presented no evidence to sustain his statement. Claims have frequently been made in Northeastern Ohio that Wayne returned across the Boston-Columbia Road which separates Cuyahoga and Summit counties about twenty miles south of Cleveland, and some circumstantial evidence has been found to bolster this contention. Recently, however, a copy of *Stewart's Herald*, published in Lexington, Kentucky, in 1795, was found at the University of Chicago. On its pages was conclusive proof that

Wayne left Cincinnati December 20, 1795, for Philadelphia by way of the Wilderness Road.

The Historical Records Survey district office, located at Toledo, has announced the publication of the *Inventory of County Archives of Ohio, No. 32, Hancock County*. It was released to depositories in March. Mr. Edward W. Jackson, supervisor, reports that the inventory for Seneca County is now in the process of being published and should be available in a short time. These volumes are being sponsored by the respective boards of county commissioners. In cooperation with the Committee for the Preservation of Cultural Resources, the Historical Records Survey Project is conducting a survey of space for the emergency deposit of materials of cultural, scientific, or historic importance. There are around twenty-five organizations and institutions in Northwestern Ohio included in this survey.

Some time ago this writer accompanied the editor on a contact trip to various museums and local historical societies in this section. Everywhere we went there seemed to be some perplexity as to the effect of the war upon historical interests and activities. Today, perhaps, it is more important than ever before that we have a clear knowledge of the roots of our modern life, for an understanding of the present lies in the comprehension of the past. Certainly it is not sufficient for a sound morale simply to state, "We are a democracy; therefore, we must maintain it." It is from the apperceptive knowledge of the origin and development of our democracy that we are made aware of its values, that we learn to appreciate our way of life and hence wish to maintain and extend it. Since the study of local history is in reality a study of the foundations of our democracy, those who foster and promote it are in no small way contributors to the public morale and hence to the defense of the nation.



## JULIUS G. LAMSON

Julius G. Lamson was born in Elbridge, Onondaga County, New York, on the 29th day of January, 1853, was educated in the district schools and in Monroe College of that place.

In the year 1873, at the age of twenty, he came to Toledo and, on September 4, 1878, he married Katherine Tracy, daughter of Doria Tracy, prominent in the affairs of Toledo.

October 6, 1885, he founded and organized the business which, under his leadership and highly successful management, developed into The Lamson Brothers Company, his brothers, John D. R. and Charles E. B., having become associated with him. He remained closely identified with it until advancing years necessitated his retirement from active participation in its management.

His was not only a most useful, but interesting life. For seventy years he witnessed the growth and took part in the development of Toledo, not merely as a great industrial city, but also as a better place in which to live. He gave generously of his time and resources for the betterment of the community. He was a member of the Toledo Board of Education; for eleven years he was President and, thereafter, President Emeritus of the Toledo Council of Churches. In years of service, he was the oldest member of the Toledo Y.M.C.A.

Shortly after the organization of this Society, in the year 1918, he became one of its most influential members and trustees. He brought to it the prestige of his name and prominence and to its affairs the benefit of his considered judgment. His relations with his fellows were always courteous, kindly and cordial and greatly endeared him to them. As truly said by a close associate—

“His humanitarian principles, the depth of his understanding, his faith against all odds, and the Christian goodness of his life, were not concerned with affairs of profit and loss.

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To us, and to all with whom he came in contact, however, he has left dividends of character, which are at once our heritage, our definite responsibility and our destiny."

In an eloquent tribute, Mr. Grove Patterson wrote, in part, as follows:

"In hearing of the death of Julius Lamson one's first impulse might be to speak of his passing as the end of a great life. Further thought must inevitably revise that impression. In a larger sense no man could have lived, for nearly seventy years in one community, the kind of life Julius Lamson lived and have such a life come to an end. Such lives never end. This man's immortality is destined to be continuously evident in the behavior of the legion of those whom he so profoundly influenced. In turn they will pass on to their children those qualities of mind and character which have been brightened and bettered by the heart and mind of Mr. Lamson.

"Here was a man who was never even momentarily content with the theory of a good life. Through all his years, as was apparent to all who knew him well, he was conscious of an inner, impelling force which demanded that he make ceaseless effort to translate his ideals into actuality."

On the Thirty-first day of January, 1942, this Christian Gentleman and Toledo's First Citizen fell asleep. He was survived by his devoted companion for sixty-four years and three daughters, Mrs. Harrie R. (Elizabeth) Chamberlin, Mrs. Sydney D. (Miriam) Vinnedge and Mrs. Charles E. (Katherine) Swartzbaugh.

Judge Julian H. Tyler, Chairman  
Judge Silas Everett Hurin  
Frederick Bissell

*Committee*

# FORT MIAMI AND THE MAUMEE COMMUNICATION

HOWARD H. PECKHAM

Since the abandonment of the Maumee Canal, the river has lost its fame as a route of transportation. Yet it was as a canoe highway, or "communication," that the Miami, or Maumee, River first became known to the white man, and for nearly two centuries it was prized and even fought over as a convenient water route from Lake Erie and the East to the Mississippi and the West and South. The history of Northwestern Ohio is still reflected in the gentle current of that stream.

Because the earliest French explorers came westward by the northern route—from the St. Lawrence up the Ottawa River to Lake Nipissing, then down the French River to Georgian Bay and Lake Huron—Lake Erie was the last of the Great Lakes to be thoroughly explored. Samuel de Champlain was the first to reach Lake Huron, in 1615, by this route. He returned overland and crossed Lake Ontario, missing Lake Erie altogether. Yet from the friendly Huron Indians he learned something about it and about Sandusky Bay. More than fifteen years passed before he tried to delineate his geographical knowledge on a map of the region. When he prepared his 1632 edition of his *Voyages*, he included a large map of "New France" which showed three of the Great Lakes. The proportions were pretty crude, and Sandusky Bay marks the margin of the map. Whether he knew of Maumee Bay and the river emptying into it we cannot be certain.

Other French explorers invaded the western wilderness and sent home to Paris accounts and sketches of their voyages and travels. This increasing fund of geographical knowledge was made accessible to Nicolas Sanson, geographer to the king. In 1650 he published a small scale map of North America which showed a short river emptying into the western end of

Lake Erie. Plainly he knew very little about it. Six years later, however, on a larger scale map Sanson depicted more definitely the extent and course of the Maumee, although it bore no name.

Not until the French withdrew the garrison of Fort de Buade (St. Ignace, Michigan) in 1696 and permitted the Sieur de Cadillac to found a new post on the Detroit River was French attention shifted from the northern lakes to the southern. The reasons for establishing the new fort were: the difficulty and winter hazards of the northern water route to the West, the appearance of adventurous English merchants among the lower Lakes tribes which threatened the French monopoly of the fur trade, and the ambition of Cadillac to develop a settlement of his own. He built Fort Pontchartrain, or Detroit, in 1701, and Lake Erie carried the commerce between that post and Quebec. Guillaume Delisle's map of North America, 1703, proudly indicated the new settlement of Detroit, but the cartographer's knowledge of the region to the southwest was sadly confused. The Ohio, Wabash, and Illinois Rivers are so far askew as to crowd out any representation of the Maumee.

During the early part of the eighteenth century the French in Louisiana pushed northward up the Mississippi River to the Illinois country. France's two great colonies were now almost connected at their back doors. Delisle's map of 1718 shows clearly that the best waterway connecting the two colonies had been found and was in use. The route from Detroit westward led down to Maumee Bay, up the Maumee River to its source, where canoes and baggage were carried across the portage (the site of Fort Wayne, Indiana) to the source of the Wabash, then down that river to the Ohio, and thence to the Mississippi. The portage was clearly marked. The French first called the river Miami after the Indian tribe that lived around its source.

To protect the "Miami communication" the French

erected a stronghold on Sandusky Bay, and three forts along the Wabash: Vincennes, Ouiatanon (near modern Lafayette, Indiana), and Miamis (modern Fort Wayne). These posts withstood neither British nor Indians when the test came. After Canada was surrendered to Great Britain in 1760, because of English victories in the East, the Maumee Valley and the western posts had to be given up without a struggle. The final peace treaty between the two countries in 1763 gave Britain eastern Louisiana as well, so that all of the country east of the Mississippi passed into English hands.

The Indians of the Great Lakes had a word to say about that, however. Instigated by the French and by their own disgust with British measures, they attacked the newly garrisoned English posts in 1763 in a grand attempt to drive the redcoats out of the region. The Indians were very nearly successful. They captured all of the western forts except Detroit, which held out against Pontiac's siege until he was forced to abandon it. He took his followers southward and established his village on an island in the Maumee River.

The English had not as yet been able to reach the Illinois country. When Col. John Bradstreet led a relief expedition to Detroit in 1764, he decided to send an officer to Fort Chartres on the Mississippi and open the way for an English garrison. Captain Thomas Morris was selected for this mission, and proceeded by canoe and by horse the full length of the Maumee River from the bay to the source, where he was turned back by hostile Indians. He was the first English officer to travel the river.<sup>1</sup>

The English did not re-establish the fort at the source of the Maumee or the two forts along the Wabash. Consequently, in the next dozen years the area between Detroit and Fort Chartres was left to those French inhabitants who were willing to remain without armed protection. Naturally it was a lawless region. The Maumee became a notorious hideout for

renegade Frenchmen who disliked English rule in Detroit or who were actually fugitives from English justice.

The American Revolution again brought war to this region. Lieutenant Governor Henry Hamilton, the British commander of Detroit, took the Maumee as his highway in 1778 to recover Vincennes from General George Rogers Clark. Hamilton's troops were carried from Detroit to the Maumee Rapids by vessels provided by Commodore Alexander Grant, commander of the Great Lakes. The expedition required the use of a schooner and fifteen pirogues, and the troops were landed on the site of the city of Maumee on October 10 and 11, 1778. They stayed but a couple of nights before moving up the river. They were destined to fall prisoners to Clark's Americans.<sup>2</sup>

Clark threatened Detroit itself in 1781, and Commodore Grant sent two ships, the *Faith* and the *Adventure*, up the Maumee to the rapids, there to anchor and serve as a defense outpost. It was growing clear to the British that the rapids of the Maumee were of strategic importance as a pivotal point in attack or defense. So it is not surprising to learn that in 1782 Commodore Grant built a rough blockhouse at the foot of the rapids. It was constructed mainly to protect provisions for any detachment that might operate out from that point. It would also serve as a fort for the defense of troops themselves. Grant boasted that ten men could defend it against a hundred, doubtless because of its location on a bluff above the river.<sup>3</sup>

So far as can be ascertained Grant's blockhouse was the first fortification on the site where Fort Miami was to be built.<sup>4</sup> It was abandoned sometime after the war. Of course, the peace treaty of 1783 which gave the United States its independence also gave us the Maumee Valley. The northwest boundary line, in fact, followed the center of the Great Lakes around to the end of Lake Superior. Nevertheless, the British hung on to Niagara, Detroit, and Mackinac Island, and our

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new government, absorbed in the effort to keep itself going, was unable to force them out.

Western migration had begun, however, and American families started moving down the Ohio River and up the tributaries of that river. The Indians of the Maumee Valley watched with mounting hostility as these American farmers edged closer to their hunting grounds. The British at Detroit also disliked the growing settlements, but dared not commit any overt act against them. They were not averse to suggesting that the Indians do something about this increasing menace to their fur trade, and even offered to help the Indians who would fight the Americans. Lonely frontier cabins were attacked by bands of Indians; traders were killed and their goods seized. The United States Indian Commissioners protested and threatened, but the Miami Indians of the Maumee remained indifferent because they had British support.

At length in 1790 General Josiah Harmar, who commanded the United States troops stationed on the Ohio River, was ordered to conduct a military expedition to the Miami towns at the source of the Maumee and destroy them and drive off the warriors. Harmar was not altogether successful. He marched from Fort Washington (Cincinnati) northward without meeting any resistance. At the Miami settlement he destroyed hundreds of cabins and thousands of bushels of corn. Still he could find no Indians. After he turned southward he sent back detachments to see whether any Indians had come out of their hiding places. They had, and they badly defeated both detachments. The Indians were thereby encouraged to continue their raids, and so conditions on the frontier were not improved. The next year, Arthur St. Clair, governor of the Northwest Territory, was commissioned to lead an expedition against the Miami Indians, but he was ambushed and almost annihilated before he ever reached the Maumee.

President Washington realized that if western settlement was to be made safe, the Miami Indians must be forced into

subjection, and that the job would require a larger army, not militia, and an abler commander. He appointed Anthony Wayne to command the army in 1792, and ordered him west to raise and drill new regiments. Wayne worked with his troops two years before he considered himself ready to advance to the Maumee Valley. His methods were so thorough and so determined that the Indians watched his progress with foreboding. But the British would not be intimidated; indeed, they grew bolder. John Graves Simcoe, an officer of distinction in the Revolutionary War, was now lieutenant governor of Upper Canada, and he was not afraid of provoking a war if only he could keep the Americans away from the shores of the Great Lakes. So much time had elapsed since the Treaty of 1783 with the British still in possession of Niagara, Detroit, and Mackinac, that Simcoe thought they never would be ousted. He decided to make that claim stronger by garrisoning another post, not on the shore of the lakes, but inland several miles. In short, he planned to make a real fort out of the blockhouse built by Commodore Grant at the Maumee Rapids.

The precise date when this blockhouse was abandoned has not yet been determined. The biographer of Lord Dorchester asserts that it was still occupied up to 1792 or 1793.<sup>5</sup> However that may be, Lieutenant Governor Simcoe took a detachment of men to the Maumee Rapids in April, 1794, and began constructing a respectable log and earth fort. The stockade was strengthened at each of its four corners with a bastion mounting cannon. Inside were six log houses for officers, three "bomb-proofs" for soldiers, another bomb-proof for provisions and ordnance, a log guard house, a house for the artillery, a bake house, a blacksmith's shop, a carpenter's shop, and an engineers' storeroom. No barracks for soldiers are mentioned, so the privates probably camped in tents and used the bomb-proof shelters only in case of attack. Fort Miami is reported to have mounted four nine-pounders, six six-pounders, two howitzers, and two swivel guns. When it was finished,



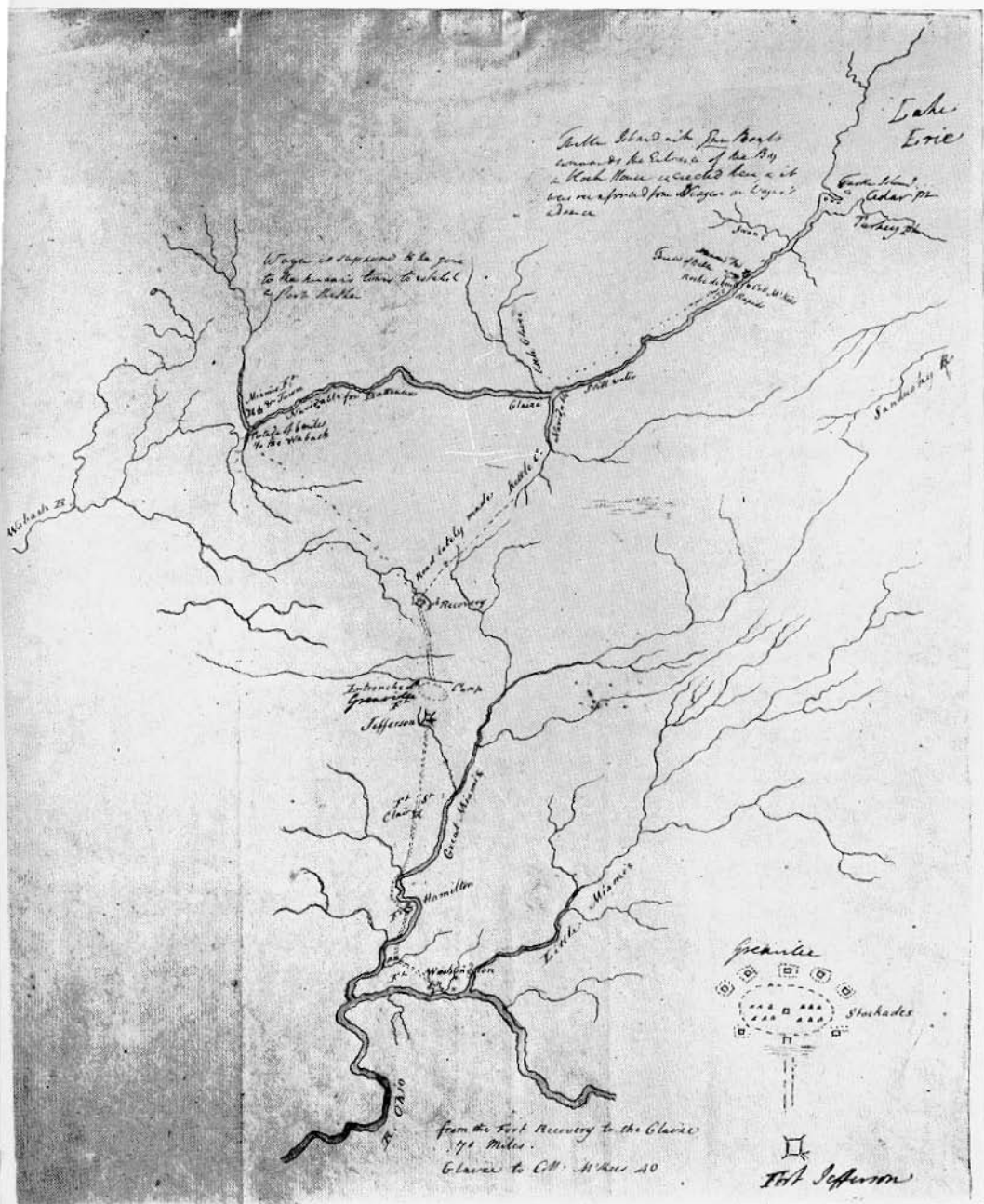
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Simcoe left it in the command of Major William Campbell, with 120 men of the 24th Regiment and one officer and ten privates of the Royal Artillery, reinforced by militia from Detroit.<sup>6</sup>

The enlargement and occupation of this fort was a deliberate insult to the United States and a challenge to General Wayne. There was talk of breaking off diplomatic relations with Great Britain, and even of declaring war, but President Washington refused to be stampeded. He realized that Simcoe probably had exceeded his authority and that diplomatic pressure might remove him. However, if the boundary question was ever to be settled, the influence of the British in Canada over the Indians must be broken and the Indians brought to terms. That job was up to General Wayne.

In the summer of 1794 Wayne advanced his troops up to the Maumee River and built Fort Defiance at the mouth of the Auglaize. With this strong base behind him he started down the Maumee toward Fort Miami. The Indians who were going to oppose him were encamped around the fort with their British allies waiting. On the morning of August 20 Wayne's advance found the enemy hiding among some fallen trees, toppled recently by a fierce storm which had cut a swath through the woods. The Canadians and Indians numbered about two thousand. Wayne had left Cincinnati with 3600, but he had stationed several hundred men in the various forts he had established.

The ensuing Battle of Fallen Timbers was short. The Americans were trained to fight and to fight in the frontier manner. They routed the Indians and pursued them two miles through the woods. Many of the Indians ran back to Fort Miami for protection, but Major Campbell closed the gates against them. Howling at this treachery, they fled in scattered bands. Wayne came up to within sight of the fort and its bristling cannon, but he would not permit his men to fire on it. Major Campbell sent out a letter demanding Wayne's re-



A manuscript map of Wayne's campaign of 1794, by John Graves Simcoe, lieutenant-governor of Upper Canada, and sent by him to his old commander, Sir Henry Clinton, among whose papers (now in the William L. Clements Library) it was found.

Please see now - See to announce to you that the Troops of the  
United States took possession of and hoisted the American flag in  
Fort Miami and Detroit, on the 11<sup>th</sup> Instant - which must afford  
pleasure to all good men and friends to this Country

I know not whether I have harassed too much but from  
the requisites of the President of the United States to Congress at the  
close of the last session to make an appropriation for the purpose of  
extending the civil authority and jurisdiction to Detroit and its dependencies  
as well from a conviction in my own mind of the Policy and expediency  
of that measure at this Crisis I have presumed to advise and invite the  
Secretary of the Territory South West of the Ohio in the absence of the Governor  
to accompany me to Detroit with an offer of accommodation for himself in my  
family and the necessary means of transport for the Public records & which by  
the enclosed copy of a letter received from him this day he has determined to  
accept I have advanced for the head of the line the day after tomorrow and fondly  
hope that the measures I have taken meet the approbation of the Congress  
with these impressions and with the highest Esteem and respect  
I have the Honour to  
your most Obedt  
Humble Servant  
Anthony Wayne

Part of Anthony Wayne's letter to the Secretary of State, dated July 23, 1796, announcing that the American flag was at last flying over Fort Miami and Detroit. Original in the William L. Clements Library, Ann Arbor.

moval from "British soil." Wayne replied in a spicy tone that the Major was, in fact, on American ground. Campbell threatened but did not quite dare open hostilities. Wayne laughed at him, and after burning the Indian camp around the fort he retired up the river to Fort Defiance. He had no need to attack and seize the fort; he knew that other movements were on foot to obtain it.

President Washington had sent Chief Justice John Jay to London earlier in the year to negotiate a treaty of amity and commerce which would settle the northwest boundary beyond argument. The British did not want trouble with the United States now, as the French Revolution was involving all Europe in growing strife. Moreover, the United States was Britain's best customer in trade. Jay settled the commercial issues, and Britain agreed to evacuate the posts it held south of the Great Lakes by June 1, 1796. The old Northwest Territory was completely released. The treaty was signed in London on November 19, 1794. Wayne's victory at Fallen Timbers had stimulated its conclusion.

The English were allowed eighteen months in which to evacuate the forts because of the slowness of communication and the necessity of military red tape. Much as they disliked the prospect, they were prompt in carrying out their obligation. On June 1, 1796, the adjutant general in Canada, Sir George Beckwith, issued a final circular order for the withdrawal. A small detachment of men was left in each fort to meet the incoming American garrisons and to perform the last ceremonies.

General Wayne was at Greenville, Ohio, when he sent Major John Francis Hamtramck ahead to take over Fort Miami and Detroit. On July 11, 1796, Major Hamtramck reached Fort Miami and relieved the British Captain Shortt of the command. The British left that same day for Canada, and Major Hamtramck followed within a few hours for Detroit. He left in command of Fort Miami, Captain Andrew

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Marschalk, with a garrison of fifty-three infantry and seven artillery. General Wayne addressed a letter to the Secretary of State, Timothy Pickering, on July 23, announcing that the American flag had been raised on Fort Miami and on Detroit. The general stopped at Fort Miami, August 7, where he boarded a ship on the tenth and proceeded on his way to Detroit.<sup>7</sup>

Sometime after 1796 Fort Miami was abandoned as a measure of economy. Peace settled over the Northwest Territory, only to be broken by the War of 1812. One of the first acts of war was the surprise capture of Mackinac Island, followed by the seizure of Detroit from General William Hull on August 16, 1812. In a premature attempt to retake Detroit, General James Winchester was detached northward and met defeat at the Battle of Frenchtown, near Monroe, Michigan, in January, 1813. Meanwhile, General William Henry Harrison was gathering his forces and early in the new year he advanced to the Maumee and built Fort Meigs. This post was erected mainly as a supply depot; it was located across the river and upstream a short distance from old Fort Miami.

The British commander at Detroit was General Henry Procter, who saw that he must wipe out this growing army down on the Maumee. Accordingly, in April, 1813, he moved his army of about 2500, of which 1500 were Indians under Tecumseh, southward and encamped around the half-ruined Fort Miami. His objective, of course, was the capture of Fort Meigs and Harrison's army of scarcely 1100. He laid siege to the fort from May 1 to 9, but could not take it even after severe shelling. Harrison was joined on May 5 by reinforcements under General Green Clay and felt strong enough to make a sortie. A detachment of 800 men under Col. William Dudley was ordered to land across the river from Fort Meigs and demolish the British batteries placed there. Col. Dudley was successful, but his men then pursued the British cannoners right up to Fort Miami and encountered the whole British

force. There the Americans were routed and chased back. Only 170 of the 800 escaped to Fort Meigs. Those of Dudley's command who surrendered were taken back to Fort Miami and under Procter's eyes were turned over to the Indians, who began massacring them. More than forty were killed before Tecumseh, not Procter, stopped the slaughter.<sup>8</sup>

Next day General Harrison himself led a sortie from Fort Meigs and scattered the British and Indians who had taken posts on his side of the river and set up batteries. Procter had now lost most of his artillery, and his Indian allies, who had joined him in anticipation of an easy victory, began to desert him rapidly. Procter ordered a retreat on May 9. Late in July he and Tecumseh returned to the Maumee and tried to draw the Americans out of Fort Meigs, but failed and moved off to attack Fort Stephenson at Fremont, Ohio. The brave resistance of Major George Croghan to that attack is another story, but one of the British officers killed and buried on the spot was Lieutenant Colonel Shortt, who as a captain had surrendered Fort Miami to Major Hamtramck in 1796.<sup>9</sup> Perry's victory on Lake Erie early in September, 1813, put the British on the defensive and forced them to abandon Detroit. General Harrison pursued them into Canada, and the war rolled out of the Maumee Valley.

The peace treaty, which was signed December 24, 1814, restored the former boundaries of the Northwest Territory, and ownership of the Maumee Valley has never been disputed since that date. Fort Miami was never reconstructed, although on the site an important Indian conference was held in 1817. By the treaty signed there the tribes ceded additional land in Northwestern Ohio to the United States. The era of the Maumee Valley as a theater of war had passed; the river resumed its earlier function as a link in the transportation system.

The fever of interest in canals had infected Ohio early in the century, and surveys were ordered to determine the best routes for connecting the Ohio River with Lake Erie. Two

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routes were finally recommended: one leading from Portsmouth up to Cleveland, the other from Cincinnati to Toledo via Dayton and Defiance. The latter was known as the Miami and Erie Canal. It was authorized in 1825 and completed twenty years later. For many years it bore the agricultural products of western Ohio up to Defiance and down the Maumee River (and around its rapids) to Lake Erie and the eastern markets. It contributed significantly to the growth and development of Northwestern Ohio, until the spreading of the railroad systems caused the canal to be abandoned in favor of the faster means of transportation. The paved highway that today follows the course of the Maumee River is but a modern recognition of the valley's importance as a route of communication.

### NOTES

<sup>1</sup>Thomas Morris, *Miscellanies in Prose and Verse* (London, 1791), 1-39. See also my "Journal of Captain Thomas Morris," in *Old Fort News*, Fort Wayne, VI, 1 (Feb. 1941), and "Captain Thomas Morris on the Maumee," in *Ohio State Arch. and Hist. Quarterly*, L, 1 (Jan.-Mar., 1941), 49-54.

<sup>2</sup>Hamilton's report to Gen Frederick Haldimand, July 6, 1781; original manuscript in the Clements Library. Printed in M. M. Quaife, *The Capture of Old Vincennes* (Indianapolis, 1927), Historical Manuscripts Commission, *Report on the Manuscripts of Mrs. Stopford-Sackville* (London, 1910), and elsewhere.

<sup>3</sup>M. M. Quaife, "Commodore Alexander Grant," in *Burton Historical Collection Leaflet*, VI, 5 (May 1928), 73.

<sup>4</sup>The late A. T. Goodman, secretary of the Western Reserve Historical Society, is the authority for saying that a trading party sent out by Count Frontenac, governor of Canada, built a small stockade at the Maumee Rapids in 1680 and maintained it for several years. It is not indicated on any contemporary map, nor could I find mention of it in any contemporary account. Possibly Goodman may have confused this stockade with the Fort Miami built on Lake Michigan at the mouth of the St. Joseph River by LaSalle in 1679.

<sup>5</sup>A. G. Bradley, *Lord Dorchester* (Toronto, 1907), 284.

<sup>6</sup>Andrew Marschalk to Anthony Wayne, from Fort Miami, August 14, 1796. Original in the Wayne papers, courtesy of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

<sup>7</sup>Anthony Wayne to Secretary of War James McHenry, from Fort Miami, August 8 and 10, 1796. Original drafts in the Wayne papers, courtesy of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

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<sup>8</sup>John Richardson, *War of 1912* (Brockville, 1842), 88-89; also quoted in B. J. Lossing, *Pictorial Field-Book of the War of 1812* (New York, 1869), 489.

<sup>9</sup>Lossing, *op. cit.*, 503.

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## GENERAL ISAAC R. SHERWOOD

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The only Ohioan in Congress who voted against the declaration of war in April 1917 was a Toledoan, Isaac Ruth Sherwood, who at his death, October 15, 1925, was referred to as the city's "most noted citizen".<sup>1</sup> He indeed had experienced a long and varied career. Born at Stanford, Dutchess county, New York, August 13, 1835, he was a descendant of Dr. Thomas Sherwood who sailed from Ipswich, England in 1634 and settled in Fairfield, Connecticut. Both of his grandfathers and his paternal great grandfather were soldiers in the American Revolution. His parents were Aaron and Maria Yeomans Sherwood, the former a veteran of the War of 1812. The latter was a native of New York City. Isaac entered the Hudson River Institute at Claverack, New York in 1852. Two years later he entered Antioch College during the presidency of Horace Mann, where he received his A.B. degree. He matriculated at the Ohio Law College at Poland, Ohio (later located at Cleveland) and received an LL.B. degree in 1859. Meanwhile, he met Katharine Margaret Brownlee, daughter of Judge James and Rebecca (Mullen) Brownlee of Poland, and the young people were married September 1, 1859. While still a law student he purchased the *Williams County Gazette* at Bryan, Ohio. In the fall of 1859, John Brown carried out his famous Harper's Ferry raid, and Sherwood eulogized him in the *Gazette* at the time of his execution. Some Ohio Republicans denounced this manifestation of radicalism and threatened to read Sherwood out of the party, but he was elected probate judge of Williams County, taking office in February, 1861.

With the coming of the Civil War he immediately enlisted (April 16) and became a private in the 14th Ohio Infantry at \$11 a month. He carried a musket in the first battle of the war at Phillipi (now West Virginia).<sup>2</sup> When his three-

month term of enlistment ended, he helped recruit the 111th Ohio Infantry and became an adjutant with the rank of first lieutenant in September 1862. He became known for his military skill, adroitness, and bravery and was made a major in February, 1863, a lieutenant colonel in February, 1864, and was brevetted brigadier general, February 27, 1865 "for gallant and meritorious services" at Resaca, Franklin, and Nashville.<sup>3</sup> Due to the illness of ranking officers or other reasons he commanded his regiment from John Morgan's campaign in Kentucky in 1863 until it was mustered out in July, 1865. He served in the last battle of the war within the borders of North Carolina and was present near Raleigh, North Carolina, April 26, 1865 when the Confederate army surrendered.

After the war, he returned to newspaper work, serving as editor of the *Toledo Commercial* and then as an editorial writer on the *Cleveland Leader*. In 1868 he was elected Secretary of State of Ohio and was reelected two years later. In this position he helped to organize the state bureau of statistics.

In 1872 he was elected to Congress as a Republican from the Toledo (6th) District, but his unconservative views on monetary questions caused him to be denied a renomination. Thereupon he purchased the *Toledo Journal* which he edited for nine years. In 1878 he was successful in running for probate judge of Lucas County on the National or Greenback ticket and was reelected in 1881 as a Democrat with the endorsement of independents. In 1888 he went to Canton where he edited the *News Democrat* for a decade. Thereupon, he undertook the revival of the *Western Horseman* which was in serious financial plight, and he was able to put it on a paying basis.

In 1906 he ran for Congress on the Democratic ticket and rather unexpectedly he was elected. He served thereafter eight terms in the 60th to 66th Congresses inclusive, 1907-21, and in the 68th Congress, 1923-25. As a Civil War veteran

and Chairman of the Committee on Invalid Pensions, he assumed leadership in the fight for larger Civil War pensions in the 62nd Congress (1911-13). Sherwood's bill was a very liberal one, proposing a dollar a day pension for every Civil War veteran who had served a year or more, with smaller amounts for those of shorter service. The Ohio Congressman soon won the sobriquet of "Dollar-a-day Sherwood". President Taft called the Sherwood Bill the worst one that had "ever been proposed".<sup>4</sup> The House finally passed it December 12, 1911, but there was much opposition in the Senate both for partisan and other reasons, and a compromise was finally accepted and became law May 11, 1912.<sup>5</sup>

In one session of Congress Sherwood introduced fifty-one bills which related to pensions, and before the World War practically all his speeches in Congress were on that subject.<sup>6</sup>

During this same period he had shown himself a stong opponent of military and naval preparedness. From 1907 to 1909 as a member of the House Committee on Military Affairs, he had effectively opposed an increase in army expenditures. He had declared himself a strong advocate of universal peace and an uncompromising foe of militarism.<sup>7</sup> When a resolution was before the House December 4, 1913, proposing a naval construction holiday of one year, he gave it his support. He asserted that it was consistent with the Democratic platform calling for economy and with the humanitarian principles of Christian civilization.<sup>8</sup> He exclaimed, "I was for war myself when I was a semibarbarian and did not know it, . . . but after I had been in some 30 or 40 battles I was convinced that war is hell, and I have been a Quaker ever since. And what we need now, and need more than anything else to advance our much-boasted Christian civilization, is more Quakers and fewer battleships."<sup>9</sup> At a peace meeting in Toledo during the spring of 1915 he pointed to the horrors of war in Europe as a logical sequence of the race for armaments among nations, and he denounced Theodore Roosevelt and other Amer-

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ican advocates of preparedness as war alarmists and "mental inebriates".<sup>10</sup>

In November, 1915, he alone among the twenty-two Congressmen from Ohio opposed the expenditures of a half billion dollars for national defense. The *New York Times* commented editorially:

"From his liberal views on pensions or from whatever cause, plans for a strong army and navy have long stirred his bile. There is nothing unexpected, then, in his opposition to national preparedness."<sup>11</sup>

Sherwood, however, defended his stand, recalling statements of both Secretary Daniels and Secretary Garrison made earlier in the year which affirmed the military preparedness of the country. Sherwood asserted that though the secretaries had changed their minds he himself still opposed raids upon the federal treasury for the benefit of idlers and parasites.<sup>12</sup>

At that time, the preparedness issue was a moot question in the country, and Sherwood received a letter of commendation from William L. Finley, Democratic state executive chairman, who asserted that his position would be "vindicated by coming events."

Again, on January 4, 1916, Sherwood defended his position on preparedness in a speech before the House. He denied that he was "a peace-at-any price devotee", but he called for information on the nature of the emergency which supposedly demanded such large expenditures. At that time Secretary of War Garrison's plan for a Continental army was under consideration in Congress, and Sherwood opposed it. In this speech he proudly reminded his colleagues that on April 6, 1908 he had been the only member to vote against the large appropriation for a harbor of safety and a dry dock at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.<sup>13</sup> He disclaimed any fear of attack upon the United States by any European nation, and he condemned American munition makers as a "brood of blood-money gangsters" who were even urging the construction of aeroplanes

which he deemed impractical for either a defensive or an offensive American War. As an alternative to a larger standing army, he urged the enlargement and improvement of the National Guard and the voting of old-age pensions to worthy workers. He exclaimed:

"Let us pray, and labor with our prayers, that this hour of military hysteria will steadily pass, and that the sword and the man on horseback shall never frustrate the true mission of our beloved America—peace, progress, and prosperity under the supreme guidance of constitutional law."<sup>14</sup>

He was vehemently criticized in an editorial in the *Army and Navy Journal* and by the Toledo chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, but he received a note of congratulation from Peter Witt, the liberal Cleveland political leader.<sup>15</sup>

As a leader of the anti-preparedness and pacifist forces in Congress he soon found that he was opposing the policies of the Administration of his own party. According to former Congressman Timothy T. Ansberry of Defiance, in March, 1916 Sherwood was bombarded with telegrams from Toledo organization Democrats who demanded that he support the President.<sup>16</sup> Sherwood had voted with the friends of Wilson to table the McLemore Resolution which would have denied passports to American citizens travelling on the vessels of belligerent nations. He announced, moreover, that he would vote for the Administration Military Bill to increase the army from 100,000 to 140,000 and explained his position, accordingly:

"So long as I am in Congress, I shall vote to sustain the President, but . . . I cannot seek re-election on a platform that pledges the party to militarism. My convictions against the policy of extreme preparedness are such that I can not and will not seek re-election on the president's preparedness platform."<sup>17</sup>

On April 28, 1916 Sherwood introduced a concurrent resolution into the House of Representatives suggesting that

if the United States became involved in a serious dispute with a foreign power such as Germany, the matter should be referred to arbitration.<sup>18</sup> During this period Sherwood was suggested as a vice-presidential candidate on a peace ticket which, it was thought, would be headed by Henry Ford. But he soon indicated that he would not accept such a nomination, and ultimately he came out for another Congressional term. Again he won both in the primary and the general election.

Early in the next year, because of Germany's sudden announcement of the renewal of unrestricted submarine warfare, President Wilson severed diplomatic relations. Sherwood thereupon criticized the President's action as an over-hasty one and on February 10 introduced a resolution in the house that a declaration of war should be sanctioned only after a favorable popular referendum.<sup>19</sup>

When during the same month the President urged the passage of the Flood Bill to protect American rights on the high seas by "Armed Neutrality" Sherwood was the only Ohioan and one of only fourteen among all the members of the House to vote against it (March 1).<sup>20</sup> He declared that he opposed it as a first step toward war and as a proposed delegation of too much power to a single individual. For his position he was censured by the Forsyth Post, G.A.R. of Toledo, of which he was an honorary member.<sup>21</sup> But, when he was called upon by two hundred business and professional men of Toledo to resign his seat he asserted that his reelection in November, 1916 had been a popular vindication of his stand on the issue of war or peace.

Yet, the newer indication of dissatisfaction with his course probably contributed to some change in his position. Sherwood had sent a telegram to a great peace meeting at Carnegie Hall, New York, March 9, in which message he protested against our "penetrating the German submarine blockade of England with armed merchantmen carrying munitions of war to England and her allies, because we are making millions of bloody

dollars in the murder of tens of thousands of innocents abroad."<sup>22</sup> Ten days later, however, he announced his change from pacifist views. Proclaiming his willingness to enter the fight personally, he declared:

"If it is true that Germany has sunk three ships of the United States—ships not consigned to ports hostile to Germany—it is an act of war against the United States. I favor the immediate calling of Congress, the only power authorized to declare war under our constitution, and let us have the unanimous action of Congress."<sup>23</sup>

Two days later he reiterated his stand as he asserted:

"I hate war . . . But our duty is plain. Germany was determined to provoke the war and I trust she will be good and sorry of the day she ever started it."<sup>24</sup>

Yet, when President Wilson addressed Congress on April 2, asking for a crusade "to make the world safe for democracy", Sherwood once again found himself torn between the conflicting views of his constituents. He received numerous letters and telegrams, including two of the latter from Toledo clergymen, urging him to stand steadfastly for peace. It was reported, moreover, that Frank Hillenkamp, president of the German Historical Society of Toledo, personally argued with him against war with Germany.<sup>25</sup> Under such circumstances, Sherwood became the only congressman from Ohio and one of fifty in the whole Congress to vote against the declaration of war. In a speech before Congress April 5, he attempted to justify his course. He asserted that he favored the protection of American rights on the high seas, but was opposed to the sending of American troops across the Atlantic where the slaughter of unseasoned troops, he believed, would be wholesale murder. He maintained, moreover, that Germany had been the constant friend of the United States and England the perpetual enemy of the Republic, that the election of 1916 had been won on the slogan of "keeping the country out of war", that the war was a violation of the Monroe Doctrine,

and that it was backed by the DuPont Company and the Bethlehem Steel Company which were alert "for more war, more human killings, for more bloody dollars."<sup>26</sup>

Sherwood's attitude naturally was very unpopular among many of his constituents, and the Toledo Patriotic League, certain residents of Maumee, Ohio, the Kiwanis and the Exchange Clubs of Toledo and the Maumee River Yacht Club all demanded that he support the President or resign his seat in Congress.<sup>27</sup>

Later in April Sherwood spent ten days in Toledo during which time he made some gloomy predictions regarding the war. He asserted that America's food supply was forty-five per cent short and that, since the United States was deficient in ships, American soldiers sent to Europe would starve. He declared that he would support the President on all questions except conscription and the sending of an expeditionary force.<sup>28</sup>

Having returned to Washington, late in April he addressed Congress speaking at length upon his opposition to conscription. He declared that it had been a failure in the Civil War, leading to rioting, bloodshed, and widespread desertion, and that the drafted man was generally a moral and physical coward.<sup>29</sup> When the vote on the Selective Service Bill was taken in the House, April 28, he was one of twenty-four who voted in the negative.<sup>30</sup> Thereafter, Sherwood seems to have abandoned his opposition to war measures, and in a Memorial Day Address at Arlington Cemetery in 1917 he seemed almost to echo Wilson's words as he exclaimed:

"It is the mission of our armies today to make the European world safe for all peoples struggling for democracy."<sup>31</sup>

When Sherwood came up for another re-election in 1918, he was severely criticized by the *Toledo Blade* and by the National Security League.<sup>32</sup> In his campaign speeches he asserted that there was no longer any question about winning the war



but that the great problem after the war would be the securing of international disarmament. In this campaign Sherwood had the emphatic support of the *News-Bee* and won another reelection by about six thousand votes.<sup>33</sup>

In 1920 he went down to defeat in the Harding landslide, W. W. Chalmers (Republican) securing 49,732 votes to his 38,292.<sup>34</sup> But in 1922 Sherwood was again successful, though he was the only Democrat who won in Lucas County.

During the campaign of 1924 he again campaigned vigorously for reelection, making speeches in chilly tents and suffering a nervous breakdown thereafter. He was defeated by W. W. Chalmers, 48,482 to 54,792.<sup>35</sup>

In 1919 he had suffered a fractured knee in a street car accident in Washington and had never fully recovered. He had planned to write his memoirs after his retirement, but during the summer of 1925 a fire developed in the Scottwood Apartments in Toledo, where he resided with his daughter. Thereafter, pernicious anemia developed, and he was confined to his bed for two or three weeks prior to his death, October 15, 1925. The funeral was held in the Collingwood Avenue Presbyterian Church of which he was a member, the services being in charge of the pastor, the Rev. R. Lincoln Long, and Senator Frank B. Willis. Burial was in Woodlawn Cemetery.<sup>36</sup>

Sherwood was a remarkable combination of the idealist and the practical politician. In his zeal for peace and international disarmament, at times he seems to have been quixotic and even inconsistent. Yet he was generally an astute politician. He knew early in 1918 that there was strong peace sentiment in his district, but in attempting to follow his own convictions and at the same time the will of his various constituents he pursued a rather devious course.

All during his congressional life he realized the practical value of securing benefits for his constituents. Thus, he was an aggressive and successful advocate of the improvement of Toledo harbor, and he secured a new post office for Toledo

and for other places in his district.

He assiduously cultivated, moreover, the support of various pressure groups, and labor organizations invariably gave him their support. When the proposed Clayton Anti-Trust Law was under discussion he was one of four Representatives who threatened the President with labor's hostility unless he should support the exemption of labor from the terms of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act.<sup>37</sup> In 1915, he claimed that he had successfully opposed a treaty with Canada which would have "ruined all the trap-net fishermen of Toledo and Port Clinton and Sandusky and all along the south shore of Lake Erie."<sup>38</sup>

He was, moreover, sensitive to the wishes of foreign-born voters in his district, and the attitude of German-Americans probably influenced him in his vote against war in 1917. In 1918, the large Polish and Hungarian populations in his district voted almost solidly for him because they were convinced that he was favorable to the national aspirations of their homelands.<sup>39</sup>

His greatest political efforts were of course directed toward pensions for war veterans, many of whom supported him, though they were regular Republicans. After his sponsoring of the Sherwood Bill in 1911-12, he continued his pension activities to the distress of many tax-conscious citizens. In 1918 he urged the passage of the Sherwood Bill, which provided a minimum of \$25 per month pension for Civil War veterans which meant an increase of about fifty per cent for those of longer service.<sup>40</sup> In 1922 he supported a bonus for world war veterans, suggesting that it should be paid not by a federal sales tax but by the reduction of expenditures for the army and navy.<sup>41</sup> When President Coolidge vetoed the Bursum World War Bonus Bill in May, 1924, Sherwood denounced the President's action. He declared that in view of the "damning record of extravagance and waste in the Army and Navy appropriations, the President's claim of economy" was "a false pretense and a cruel deceit."<sup>42</sup>

Sherwood was personally abstemious but liberal in his tolerance of the habits of more indulgent people. Thus, in January, 1924 he addressed the House of Representatives in denunciation of the Volstead Act. He asserted that as a boy of twelve he had pledged himself never to vote for legislation permitting the sale of intoxicants but that he considered the Anti-Saloon League "vindictive, vengeful and mercenary" with methods that had "hatched the biggest crop of lawbreakers ever inflicted upon a community."<sup>43</sup>

During the East Tennessee campaign in November, 1863, an exploding shell ruined the hearing of his left ear, and he subsequently became quite hard of hearing. When it was tactlessly suggested to him that this must have annoyed him in Congress, he rather tartly replied that it spared him from a lot of "damned nonsense."<sup>44</sup> In religious matters Sherwood was a conservative, viewing "with suspicion the higher criticism and a hypercritical attitude toward the interpretation of the Scriptures and religion."<sup>45</sup>

He was an ardent lover of sports, especially when horses were involved. As a Congressman in the 1870's he had shared this interest with President Grant and the two had often driven their fast horses along the speedway on the banks of the Potomac.<sup>46</sup> Later, in Toledo, he had usually driven a finely matched team of horses, generally bay geldings hitched to a light, two-seated vehicle. He gave up his horses in 1920 but never took to driving an automobile. On January 24, 1918, he made a famous speech in Congress on horses in war, tracing the part they had played in military history of the world and deploring the lack of preparation of the country in that respect and the necessity for them as a part of the indispensable cavalry of an army.<sup>47</sup> His illustrated poem, the "Army Grayback", was published in book form and went through three editions.

His farewell speech in the House of Representatives was made February 7, 1925 when he was in his ninetieth year. It

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was said that he was the only congressman in American history who saw fifty years elapse between his first and last congressional terms. Apparently he was the last Civil War veteran to be a member of the House of Representatives. All in all, he was in many respects a remarkable man, though most Americans now would contend that the world is not yet ready for the Christian pacifism which he so zealously espoused.

### NOTES

<sup>1</sup>*Toledo Blade*, Oct. 16, 1925. For a brief sketch of his life see that by the present author in the *Dictionary of American Biography*, ed. by Allen Johnson and Dumas Malone (New York, 1928-1937), XVII, 100. See also Harvey Scribner, ed. *Memoirs of Lucas County and the City of Toledo*, (Madison, Wisconsin, 1910), II, 18-22; Clark Waggoner, ed., *History of the City of Toledo and Lucas County*, (New York, 1888), 199-200.

<sup>2</sup>Isaac R. Sherwood, *Memories of the War* (Toledo, 1923), 17-24.

<sup>3</sup>*Who's Who in America*, XIII (1924-5), 2903.

<sup>4</sup>Henry F. Pringle, *The Life and Times of William Howard Taft* (New York, 1939), II, 643-4.

<sup>5</sup>William H. Glasson, *Federal Military Pensions in the United States*, (New York, 1918), 254-8.

<sup>6</sup>Burton J. Hendrick, "Pork-Barrel Pensions", *The World's Work*, XXIX, 715-19.

<sup>7</sup>*Toledo Blade*, Oct. 16, 1925.

<sup>8</sup>For this reference and a number of others in this article I am indebted to a former student, Miss Della Fern Smith of Defiance, Ohio, a teacher in the Parma, Ohio High School, who wrote under my direction, an unpublished paper, "Isaac Ruth Sherwood and the World War."

<sup>9</sup>*Cong. Record*, 63 Cong., 2 Sess., 228.

<sup>10</sup>*Toledo Blade*, May 19, 1915.

<sup>11</sup>Nov. 11, 1915.

<sup>12</sup>*Toledo Blade*, Nov. 22, 1915.

<sup>13</sup>Sherwood gave the date as May 13, 1908. But see, *Cong. Record*, 60 Cong., 1 Sess., 4447.

<sup>14</sup>*Cong. Record* 64 Cong., 1 Sess., 458-463.

<sup>15</sup>*Toledo Blade*, Jan. 7, 10, 14, 1916.

<sup>16</sup>*New York Times*, Mar. 9, 1916.

<sup>17</sup>*Ibid.*, March 8, 1916.

<sup>18</sup>*Cong. Record*, 64 Cong., 1 Sess., 7014.

<sup>19</sup>*Cong. Record*, 64 Cong., 2 Sess., 3049.

<sup>20</sup>*Ibid.*, 4692.

<sup>21</sup>*New York Times*, March 8, 1917.

<sup>22</sup>*New York Times*, March 10, 1917.

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- <sup>23</sup>*New York Times*, March 20, 1917.  
<sup>24</sup>*Toledo Blade*, March 21, 1917.  
<sup>25</sup>*Toledo Blade*, April 6, 1917.  
<sup>26</sup>*Cong. Record*, 65 Cong., Spec. Sess., 337.  
<sup>27</sup>*Toledo Blade*, April 25, 1917.  
<sup>28</sup>*Toledo Blade*, April 12, 1917.  
<sup>29</sup>*Cong. Record*, 65 Cong., 1 Sess., 1201-5.  
<sup>30</sup>*Ibid.*, 65th Cong., 1 Sess., 1557.  
<sup>31</sup>*Cong. Record*, 65 Cong., 1 Sess., Appendix, 258-60.  
<sup>32</sup>*Toledo Blade*, August 5, 17, 1918.  
<sup>33</sup>*Toledo News-Bee*, October 12, 25, November 6, 1918.  
<sup>34</sup>*Annual Report of the Secretary of State 1921* (Springfield 1921), 289.  
<sup>35</sup>*Annual Report of the Secretary of State 1925* (Springfield 1925), 263.  
<sup>36</sup>*Toledo News-Bee* and *Toledo Blade*, October 16, 1925.  
<sup>37</sup>*New York Times*, May 2, 1914.  
<sup>38</sup>*Toledo Blade*, Nov. 22, 1915.  
<sup>39</sup>*Toledo News-Bee*, Nov. 6, 1918.  
<sup>40</sup>*New York Times*, May 7, 1918. As finally enacted (June 10, 1918) this amendment to the Sherwood Act of 1912, granted a minimum of \$30 a month to those serving ninety days or more and a maximum of \$40 for those of longer service. *U. S. Statutes-at-Large*, XL, Part 1 (1919), 603.  
<sup>41</sup>*New York Times*, Nov. 18, 1922.  
<sup>42</sup>*Ibid.*, May 21, 1924.  
<sup>43</sup>*Ibid.*, Oct. 16, 1925.  
<sup>44</sup>Letter from a private correspondent, Feb. 24, 1942.  
<sup>45</sup>*Toledo Blade*, October 20, 1925.  
<sup>46</sup>*Toledo News-Bee*, October 16, 1925.  
<sup>47</sup>*Cong. Record*, 65 Cong., 2 Sess., 1230-4.

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