

The Newcomer

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Newton County: Indiana's Youngest County

Newton County Indian Trails and Pioneer Roads

by Beth Bassett

The wilderness in the early days was marked by many Indian trails, caused by different parties of Indians travelling frequently over the same routes to hunt or trade. Their path usually followed that of least resistance, avoiding swamps, bogs and stony places; choosing light and dry ground. Sometimes they would follow the traces made by buffalo and deer, going to salt licks and watering places. In peace times, hunting parties would follow those trails that afforded them the opportunity to camp and rest in the groves and woodlands. To the settlers, these paths were not always plainly marked. In places they would be lost in the expanse of the plains, or disappeared into the marshes and lowlands.

The general outlines of the larger trails were fairly well fixed. There might be two or three paths in some places, but these may later converge and run together. And in others, the path could totally disappear, only to appear later down the path.

In the pioneer era, they provided the most direct path to the early town of Morocco; to the settlers along the Iroquois and the first Jasper County Courthouse; thence onward east to Rensselaer. These roadways described here are still in use today in some form or another, and to most, still the most direct and reliable trail to where we are going.

I utilized several maps to locate the trails and roadways mentioned within this article, namely the 1838 Colton map. However, two additional maps which appeared in the Newton County and Jasper County Postal Histories, published by Indiana Postal History Society in 2014, gave a more defined view of the Bunkum Road. These three maps are included in this edition. The numbers with the articles indicate their location on the 1838 Colton Map. (See map key.)

1. The "Old Chicago" Road

This same name appears on the 2006 map of Newton County, and located in McClellan Township, in Section 30, angling northwest off of CR 100N. Janet Miller and I travelled this road with Mike Schoonveld during a tour of the Willow Slough area in the Spring of 2009. At the end of the road, he pointed out where the Beaver Lake bed was located back in the day. At that time, we both wondered about the origin of the road, and included it on our bucket list of historical topics, which is endless, so it seems. Member Ken Misiolek stopped in this past November at the Resource Center and mentioned that he had always had an interest in the "Old Chicago Road" as well, so I think it is time to cross this topic off that bucket list!

Historian Elmore Barce obviously was interested in the topic too, as an article he wrote entitled, "The Old Chicago Trail, and the Old Chicago Road," dated March, 1919, appeared in "Indiana Magazine of History."

"There is no doubt that an early Potawatomi trail, of great importance, extended from Kick-a-poo Falls, on the Wabash River, near the present site of Attica, to the old Indian trading post of Chicago, coursing through what is now Benton and Warren Counties, and entering the State of Illinois near the present town of Sheldon, and thence extending a little west and north, to Lake Michigan.

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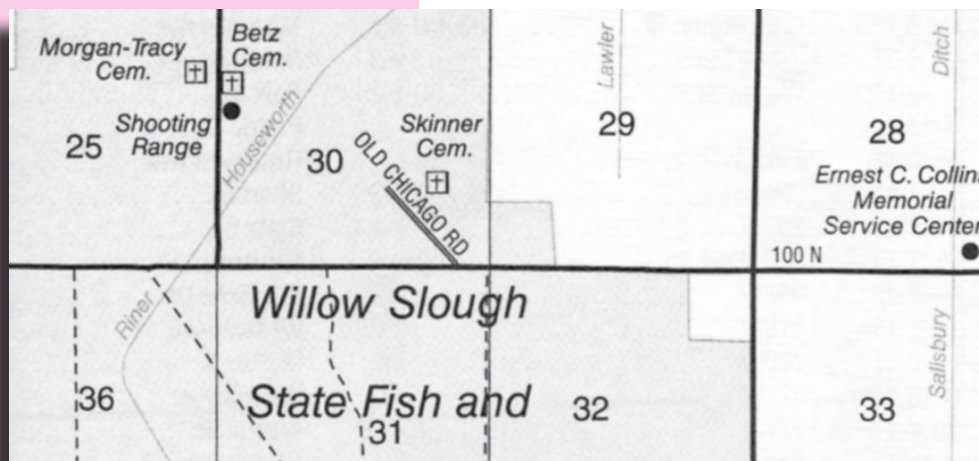
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The "Old Chicago" road, located in Section 30, off of CR100N in McClellan Township, is indicated on the 2010 map of Newton County.

President's Thoughts

By Bernie Murphy

As I begin this latest article in early February, we are saddened by the untimely passing of Bruce Herriman; he was an outstanding volunteer who would man the Resource Center when anyone of us volunteers needed help. Ironically, Bruce provided an invaluable service to Newton County Historical Society by bringing the county obituaries up to date. We will miss him very much.

On a happier note I am pleased to inform you of the great success of our Christmas Open House! The many volunteers who helped with decorations performed an outstanding job. The Center was the most beautiful yet! The theme was "The Most of Yost" with a collection of his memorable objects and foods he favored. His brother and sister-in-law, (Don and Joyce Yost), were in attendance providing more stories of John. We also had Jeff Manes there signing his new book – "All Worth Their Salt." The attendance was superb in that we had over 100 guests – the largest ever! This overwhelming attendance put tremendous pressure on our food and goodies but we survived and had little to clean up. We also had excellent book sales during the celebration which helps keep NCHS alive!

Our society and The Nature Conservancy, Kankakee Sands, have become grant partners with Ball State University's Archaeologists at the Anthropology Laboratories (AAL) to provide approved artifact collectors at Kankakee Sands and a method to contribute their knowledge and discoveries to our historical knowledge. This project focuses on artifact collection by visitors to the Kankakee Sands. Artifact collection methodology will be communicated to artifact collectors by means of signage and pamphlets at Kankakee Sands. Archaeological data will be entered into BSU's Archaeology Department and all results will be shared with Newton County Historical Society and Kankakee Sands. For your information BSU has collected artifacts at the farms of Rich and Janet Miller, Rick and Debbie Risley, and Sig Boezeman. We have already had a presentation by BSU on the Miller/Risley findings. A future presentation will be on the findings at the Boezeman farm as well as all the findings in Newton and Benton counties at our monthly meeting on April 25th.

As Spring nears we will offer more interesting subjects for our monthly meetings. Please let me know any subject matter you would like us to consider. Also remember that this is the Indiana Bicentennial Anniversary year as well as the 25th anniversary of NCHS! Once again I beg more of our members to volunteer for our worthwhile common interests – get involved for the future of our great Society!

A Moment of Your Time

By Beth Bassett

Family History Division

Happy 200th birthday Indiana, and Happy 25th birthday Newton County Historical Society. This year we have much to celebrate ... and what better way than to publish and re-enact local history.

In upcoming editions of "The Newcomer," you will read about the history of our area from a general point of view. Four eras will be covered, starting with Millennia to 1840 in this edition. The next three will cover 1840-1880; 1880-1920; 1920-forward. This is not carved in stone, only the plan at this time. Members have contributed to the research on these eras, and we hope that you will enjoy reading them. I welcome your input as to topics and issues that may not have surfaced during our research, and will consider any written contributions to the effort as well.

Details about our Officially Endorsed Legacy Project can be found on page eight of this edition. In October, we are part of the Indiana Bicentennial Torch Relay. More details will follow in upcoming issues.

And what about the Society's 25th Anniversary? We'll keep you updated as plans are put into place. Oh, yes, we will celebrate!



Christmas Open House, 2015. Above left, Roy and Avalyn Cooper enjoyed visiting with fellow members, while in the back, Sig Boezeman and John Morigin discuss photographs from early Roselawn days. Further back is Jeff Manes signing copies of his recently published collection of his *Salt* columns, "All Worth Their Salt." Above right, team Truby (Darlene far left, David back right), managed the book sales for the society, we just couldn't do without their help on this day ... and with every aspect of the ongoing projects of the society. Here they are assisting Paula (Hale) Boreson and her son Addison Boreson.

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“The route of this trail may be more explicitly described as follows: Commencing at Kick-a-Poo Falls, (Williamsport), it extended almost due northwest through Warren County, to the present site of Rainsville; thence northwest to the prairies of what is now Benton county, crossing Mud Pine Creek near Chase; thence extending due northwest across the prairie to Parish’s Grove; thence, northwest to Sugar Grove; it then ran to the State line, northwest, between Indiana and Illinois, somewhere west of Raub; thence northwest to a point near the present town of Sheldon, Illinois; thence to Bunkum, on the Iroquois, or Pinkamink River; thence extending in a northerly direction on a general line with the towns of Donovan, Momence, and Blue Island and passing on to the post of Chicago. It crossed Beaver Creek and the Kankakee River on the Illinois side.”

After scrutinizing several maps, his reference further in his writings to the Colton Map of Indiana, dated 1838, clearly depicts accurately the road as described above. In that description, we did not find any reference to the road coming into the Beaver Lake area, however, there clearly is a trail marked on the Colton map that leads to the road marked today in Newton County as the Old Chicago Road.

The “History of Kankakee County, Illinois, 1906,” covers Gurdon S. Hubbard’s history in the area, locating his Indian trading post in Iroquois, Illinois, (Bunkum), as early as 1822, and his establishment of the “Hubbard Trail,” to and from that post to Ft. Dearborn, (Chicago). In that text he states that, “Hubbard’s Trail ran almost parallel with the Indian trails.”

From Hubbard’s autobiography, and the Morocco Centennial book, we know that he went to hunt at Beaver Lake in March of 1827. He had left a canoe hidden in the vicinity of the lake the previous fall, which he found easily upon his return. He hunted until nearly dark, and decided it was too dark to return home, so he camped for the night on a small island in the lake. While there, he had an attack of inflammatory rheumatism which made it impossible for him to move. He sent an Indian to his headquarters in Bunkum for help. His men returned and carried him back using poles and blankets. He was confined to his house for three to four weeks while treating himself with elm root and herbs. This is

further evidence that there was a path leading to Beaver Lake from the original and/or Hubbard’s trail.

Further into Barce’s history we find:

“The line of the main Potawatomi trail, as it passed through Warren and Benton counties, was well marked as early as 1824. It is recorded that in the fall of the year, Berry Whicker, Henry Campbell and other Ohio land hunters, joined a party of Potawatomi Indians who were going to Beaver Lake on a big hunt. They started at Kick-a-poo and followed a well-defined Indian path. Now the only Indian trail extending across Benton County in the general direction of Beaver Lake, is the one that passed through Parish’s Grove. This party of land hunters, described Beaver Lake as “a beautiful body of water, very clear and rather shallow, a delightful place for the Indians to hunt, fish and bathe. It was one of the principle camping grounds of the Potawatomi Indians, and with the exception of the visit with their friends along the Wabash, the white men who were with the party, enjoyed the stay at Beaver Lake better than all the rest of the trip. “Is it any wonder, then, that we find a main line of travel, extending from the groves of the prairies, and from the trading posts, to and from these rivers and lakes where the savage went to supply his wants, and to secure those valuable furs which he found so useful in exchange. It is plain to be seen that Hubbard exercised some degree of intelligence in establishing the early post of Bunkum on one of the main trails leading to these ideal trapping grounds.”

Author Jesse Birch gave a glimpse of traversing the Old Chicago Road in an article published in the December, 1914, edition of “Indiana Magazine of History:”

“Through the 1840-1850s, there was a constant stream of “prairie schooners” over this road. There were tragedies on the Old Chicago Road. Many an emigrant or some member of his convoy, may have sickened and died along the way, and found their final resting place in an unmarked grave along the way. The Chicago Road was a historic thoroughfare in its time. It was not only the main artery of travel from the southern parts of Indiana to the thriving city on the lake, but for those who lived along the road, the travelers brought news of family and friends that they had left behind upon settling in the area.

“When Chicago became a livestock market, thousands of cattle and horses were driv-

en over the road. In places it was from thirty to forty rods wide, the teamsters leaving the deeply worn places to find better footing, especially during wet times. The trail could be followed by the timothy and blue grass that grew along the way, having been started from the seed that had been dropped by teamsters going to and from Chicago, or the land hunters from Ohio, Kentucky and Virginia on their way to the Northwest. In the fall many hauled apples from Southern Indiana to Chicago, stopping along to re-supply the taverns and homesteaders in our area.

“At the several stopping places, taverns could be found for the accommodation of the travelers. The numbers and the frontier sociability at these places did much to soften the journey, especially in inclement weather. After Parish Grove was passed, going north the stopping places were: Sumner’s Grove, Bunkum, Buckhorn Tavern, Beaver Creek, Big Spring, Momence, Yellow Head Point, Blue Island and Chicago. The trip required six to eight days, depending upon the condition of the roads, with the pioneers making the trip in companies sometimes ten to twelve in number. The wagons were usually drawn by oxen, two yoke to a wagon. In the fall when the roads were good they often drove two teams of horses to a wagon and when the city was reached one of the teams was sold. Travel to the south on this road was mostly to Crawfordsville, where the land office was located, or to the Yountsville woolen mills close by.

“As the country became more settled, survey and section lines became the “roadmap” for traversing into the area. The Chicago Road was abandoned in 1865 or 1866.” Today those that travel what remains in Newton County of the road, are either hunters in the woods of Willow Slough, or are seeking the Skinner Cemetery, located just to the east at the end of the road.

2. The Hubbard Trail

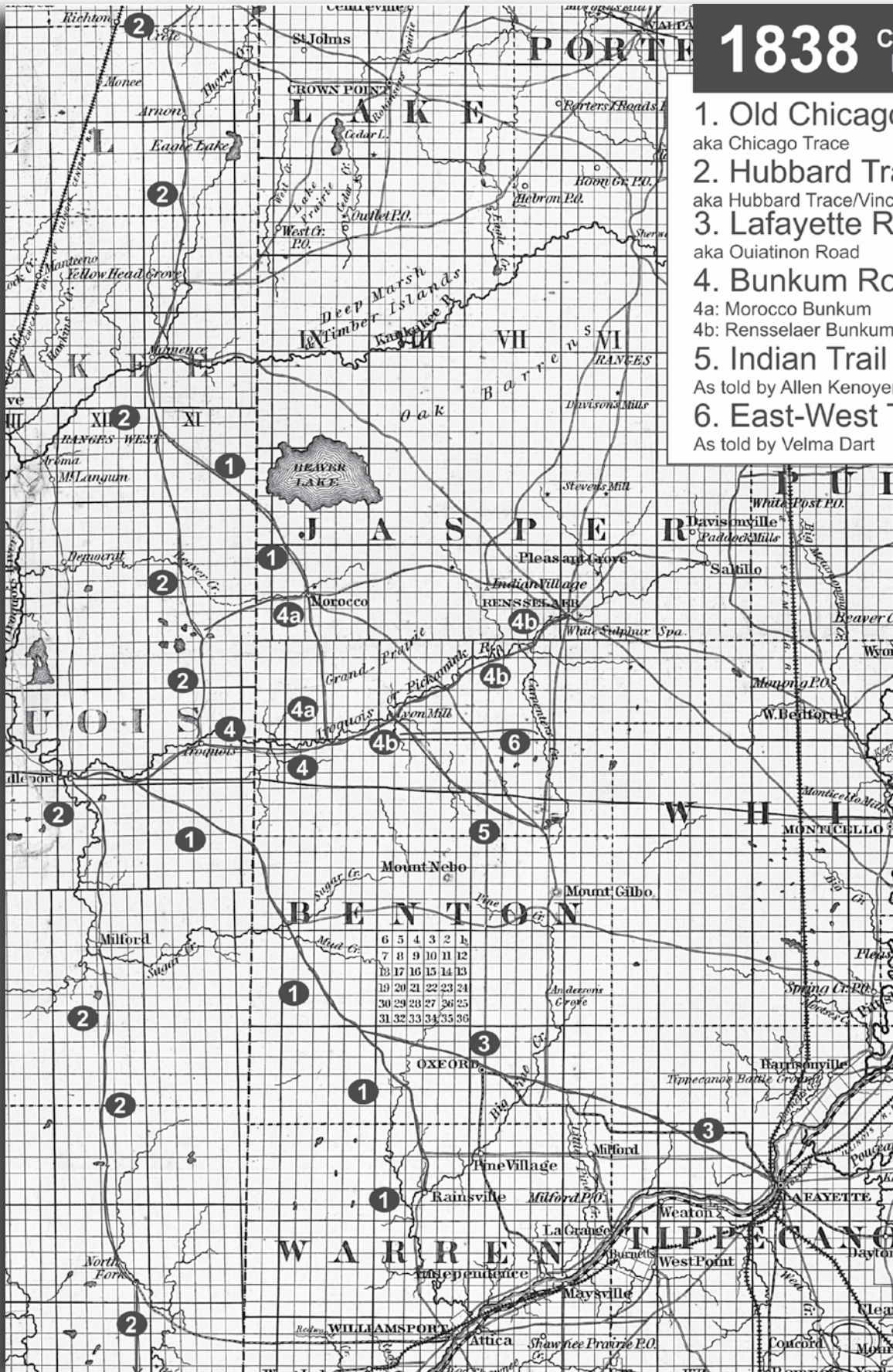
To better understand the importance of Hubbard’s trail, here is a bit of history from “Chicago’s Highways – Old and New,” by M. M. Quaipe.

“Gurdon S. Hubbard, a native of Vermont, became an apprentice with the American Fur Company. In the summer of 1818, he was sent to Mackinac, Michigan, where he was assigned to the Illinois River Brigade. Each autumn, they made a journey in open boats down the eastern shore of Lake Michigan to

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1838 Colton Map

1. Old Chicago Road
aka Chicago Trace
2. Hubbard Trail
aka Hubbard Trace/Vincennes Trace
3. Lafayette Road
aka Ouatinton Road
4. Bunkum Road
4a: Morocco Bunkum
4b: Rensselaer Bunkum
5. Indian Trail
As told by Allen Kenoyer
6. East-West Trail
As told by Velma Dart



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Chicago; and thence by way of portage down the Illinois River. At various points along the river, trading stations were established, from which during the winter the men carried the goods on their backs to the Indian hunting grounds. With the opening of the spring all assembled on the river and the return journey to Mackinac with the season's accumulation of furs was begun.

"The chief obstacle to this traffic was the difficulty of passing through the Chicago Portage. It was bad enough in the springtime, when the boats must make their way against the floods of the Des Plaines River at the rate of seven to eight miles per day, the men frequently wading to their armpits in icy water; in the autumn, when the Des Plaines River had shrunk to a series of pools scattered at intervals along the channel, Mud Lake, located between Chicago and Des Plaines River, had turned into a stinking morass of ooze and filth, which the men must wade, pushing the boats along with great force, frequently clinging to them to escape being engulfed in the swamp, the passage was infinitely worse.

"In 1825, Hubbard was made superintendent of the Illinois river trade and he immediately decided to put in force a project he had long urged upon his predecessor. This was to leave the boats at Chicago in autumn, and transport the goods to the Indian country on pack-horses. By this plan, not only would the difficult and wearisome passage through Mud Lake and down the Des Plaines be avoided, but the goods would be taken directly to the Indians at their hunting grounds, instead of being carried to them by the men in packs on their backs.

"Hubbard had already spent one winter on the Iroquois River, his trading station at the mouth of Sugar Creek, a little below the site of modern Watseka. On becoming superintendent of the Illinois trade in the autumn of 1823, he again located on the Iroquois, but this time fixing his station at Bunkum, on the site of modern Iroquois, Illinois. Leaving Chicago with a pack-train of fifty ponies, he marked the trail to his Iroquois River post."

At the age of 21, Hubbard left the American Fur Company and settled in Iroquois County, Illinois, purchasing a farm a quarter-mile north of Bunkum where he built his cabin. A mile east of there was his trading post. He began to expand his trail to the south to Danville, Illinois. Hubbard would open up

a trail 150 miles in length between Danville and Chicago, Illinois. He established trading posts along this route some 40-50 miles apart. A post was located in Newton County along the Kankakee known as Blue Grass Landing, Lake Township, and possibly another located further west known at later times as Thayer's Landing.

In 1834, Hubbard left Bunkum, the trading posts and his life there to begin a new chapter in Chicago. This trail has also been referenced as "Hubbard's Trace, and the "Vincennes Trace," in other historical compilations of the area. In 1833-34, the State of Illinois directed that a road following the same path as Hubbard's Trail from Danville to Chicago, be built with placement of milestones. They found it to be the most direct and favorable path to follow. It is known today as Highway One. In 1880, Hubbard returned to Bunkum, and he recorded that at that time the old trail was still visible from his old trading post location. Hubbard's lands in Iroquois County came to be known as Dunning's Grove.

It should also be noted that in 1826, John Murphey was living near Lafayette. In 1826, he was engaged to take an ox-team and find a road to Chicago by which goods could be brought at less expense than to haul them from the East. He went from Lafayette to Buncombe, Illinois, and from there on he had to make his own road, skirting swamps and lakes, or threading his way through grass as high as his oxen. At that time Chicago had twenty-five dwellings. Mr. Murphey had an opportunity to buy lots at ten dollars each, payment to be made in potatoes or oats at fifty cents per bushel. Mr. Murphey would return and permanently settle here in 1838. In 1851, he laid out the town of Morocco.

3. Lafayette Road

One trail that merged with the Old Chicago Road, or "Chicago Trace," was known as the Lafayette Road, which led off to the southeast, in the direction of the old Indian trading post of Ouiatenon, just south of Lafayette. It is very possible that those early settlers from Tippecanoe County in the early 1830s travelled this road to Parish Grove, then headed into our area" via the Old Chicago Road.

Fort Ouiatenon, established by the French in 1717, was a military outpost to prevent British expansion into the region, and was the first fortified European settlement in the Indiana Territory. It was located across the Wabash River from several settlements of

the Wea tribe. It flourished as a trading post until 1760 for the French, the Wea, Miami, Potawatomi and Kick-a-Poo tribes. The British took the fort however, in the midst of the French and Indian War in 1761. However, the British did not live harmoniously with the Indians there, and in 1763, one of Chief Pontiac's successful raids included Ouiatenon. Over the years, the fort changed hands several times up to the American Revolution. As it decayed, it became a staging ground for the Indians and the British for raids on white settlements in Ohio and Kentucky. In 1791, the fort was overrun by American Gen. Charles Scott and troops, where they destroyed all existence there.

4. Bunkum Road

The town of Iroquois, Illinois, located in Iroquois Township, just west across the Indiana/Illinois State line, was the nearest trading center for the early settlers of our area. Initially it was known as Bunkum (Buncombe), and the road that carried travelers into Indiana was known as Bunkum Road. As you left Bunkum today, you would follow Illinois CR2200N east, which at the State line in Washington Township becomes CR1125S. This road ends near the Mt. Zion Church, located on CR500W. It is at this point where the road is historically recorded as going to Morocco, as well as following the Iroquois River to Rensselaer, and eventually on to Monticello.

4a. Morocco Bunkum Road

John Ade's description of his travels to and from Bunkum along the road, gives us an approximate direction of the Morocco Bunkum Road. Today, you would turn north on CR500W from CR1125S, following the road all the way to CR350S in Beaver Township. Here you would turn east to West Street in Morocco, turn south on West Street to State Street, which would lead you to the center of town.

Of course, our streets and roads today are different as to the paths that were followed in the very early times of Newton County. They were basically trails that connected the settlements together. In the Morocco Centennial book published in 1951, the writers give us their view of the road.

"The Buncombe road, known as the State road, (probably because it was the road between the two states; today in Morocco it is State Street), passed down the street on which the Charles Martin residence is now located, cut through the John Smart farm, passed just

north of the David Kessler farm and then on through the old Goddard place and Bull Foot Grove. It angled southwest of the Mt. Zion Church and on past Morris Chapel and entered Buncombe from the northeast.”

4b. Rensselaer Bunkum Road

Although it is not identified as Bunkum, it begins in Iroquois, Illinois, passing into Washington Township, south of the Iroquois, up through Iroquois Township, to the southern part of Jackson Township, and on into Jasper County. The name Bunkum Road remains in the memories of residents today, as prior to the numbering of the county roads, CR500S in Jackson Township was also known as Bunkum Road, which crosses into Jasper County as CR600S today. The 1838 Colton map, depicts this trail as following a southern path along the Iroquois River. The courthouse was located south of the Iroquois River, (CR1100S), so the path shown may have been the trail used for those in need of dealing with the courts of the time. Most of



the settlements at the time were made along the Iroquois River, therefore the path would follow the river. Another map, identified as an 1853 Colton map, utilized in the publication, “Jasper County Postal History,” published by the Indiana Postal History Society in 2014, clearly shows both of these Bunkum Roads, but locates the Rensselaer Bunkum Road north of the Iroquois River, as opposed to the 1838 Colton map, which indicates it ran south of the Iroquois River.

5. Old Indian Trail – Allen Kenoyer

In the Winter/Spring edition of the historical society’s newsletter, “The Newcomer,” a reprint of an article written by Allen Kenoyer describes an old Indian trail that passed from southeastern Jefferson Township to the northwest mid-section of Washington Township. He describes the area as it was known when the article appeared in the *Newton County Enterprise*, in 1927, offering tidbits of history along his journey.

In today’s terms, coming northwest from Mt. Gilboa in Benton County, you cross US24 at the stone quarry, continuing northwest as the crow flies, fording the Iroquois River at the bridge located about 4 miles north of Kentland on US 41. Continuing your trek northwest, into Washington Township, Section 28R9, passing the landmark for the first Church in Newton County on CR1150S. Continue northwest through Section 29R9 across CR1000S into Section 18R9 to CR900S, go north on CR500W to CR850S. Follow this road (gravel) to about 3 miles west of Ade. A map is included with the original article on this trail, published in the Winter/Spring, 2005 edition of “The Newcomer.”

6. The East-West Trail South of the Iroquois River – Velma Dart

In the December, 1994 edition of the “New-

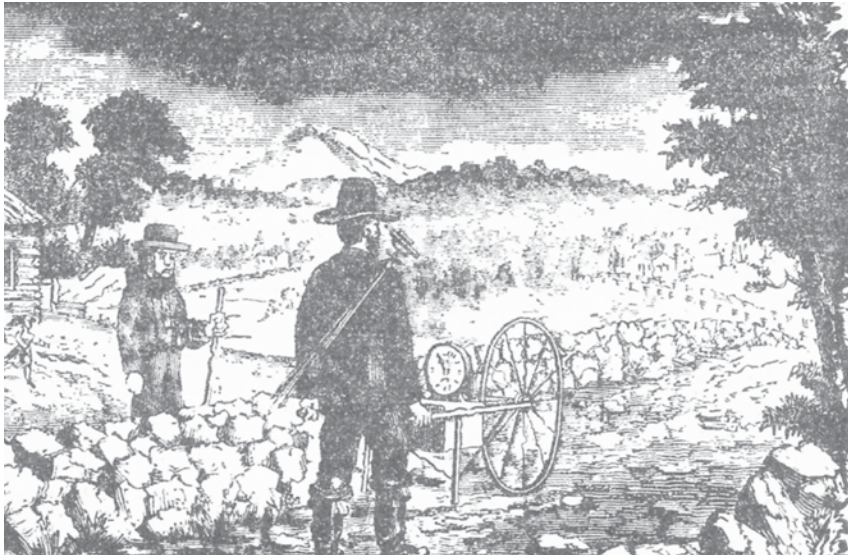
comer,” society member Velma Dart related the story of a trail told to her by Iroquois Township farmer, William N. Barten. His farm was located 1 ½ mile south of Foreman, near the center of Section 26. He told of the wagon ruts made by the west-ward going wagons behind his barn at his place, then at the end of Elmer Barten’s lane. They were still visible when William took over the farm in 1900. Could these ruts have been part of the original path of the Bunkum Road described above? Read on, and decide for yourself!

Velma took an afternoon jaunt to see if she could figure out the rest of the route of these early pioneers. She had heard Jasper County stories of pioneers crossing Carpenter Creek at Egypt, which in today’s terms is located in Jordan Township, Section 22. This lies just east of Iroquois Township in Newton County. Her path begins by turning south from SR 16 to Egypt Road, following it through the twists and turns to CR1080S, following it west to CR980W. She speculated that this route was chosen due to the fact that it was higher ground. Turning South on CR980W, following it to CR1150S, turning west, proceeding about two miles to CR1180W. This is the Jasper/Newton boundary line. On CR1180W go south one mile to Newton County’s CR1100S, (Jasper County’s CR1200S). Once in Newton County, continue west to 500E. If our speculation regarding the Bunkum Road to Rensselaer is correct, here the pioneer trail would have eventually connected with it. Velma believed that they went a bit south to cross what is known today as the Hunter Ditch at the intersection of 1100S and 200E, known at one time as Weishaar Switch. Continuing west on 1100S from here, about ¾ of a mile the first Newton County courthouse was located, (Jasper County Courthouse prior to 1860), on the George Spittler farm.



Above, left, the 1864 Johnson map indicates the location of the two Bunkum Roads; Above right, the 1853 Colton map indicates that the road south of the Iroquois River still existed, yet the road indicated north of the Iroquois River, reflects the Bunkum Road as we might travel it today. Sources: 1864 map: “Newton County Postal History”; 1853: “Jasper County Postal History.”

The County Mapper



A County Mapper is seen here using an odometer in surveying roads for county maps. The sketch was made circa 1879, and an account by Bates Harrington suggests that the odometer consisted of an apparatus resembling a wheelbarrow, upon which is perched a clock-like piece of mechanism. The instrument was wheeled over the roads, and, by the revolution of the wheel, which was mathematically constructed, a record of the distance traversed was made by the 'clock,' and shown on the dial.

Do You Know?

By Janet Miller - Answers on page 17

In 2015 the Newton County Historical Society published "The Yost Collection", which is a two volume set of columns and historical writings by John J. Yost. The following questions come from Volume Two.

1. Where was the original train depot from Kentland relocated?
2. George Ade's play "The County Chairman", a classic comedy, played over 300 performances in Chicago and New York. In the 1930's it was also made into a Hollywood film. In the film who played the main character Honorable Jim Hackler?
3. When did the first use of electricity for the purpose of illumination begin in Newton County?
4. The first newspaper published in Newton County was the *Newton County Chronotype*. During the Civil War its name was changed. What was the new name?
5. David Ross and George Ade, both Purdue alums, purchased a dairy farm in Tippecanoe County in 1921. They donated this farm to Purdue University to be used for what purpose?

The First To Arrive

I have compiled a list of settlers from local history books published from as early as 1883 through the most recently published histories of the Newton County Townships. A mass e-mail was also sent out to our members, and a post on facebook asking visitors to send along their settler information, whether they were members of the society or not. A good three-day look through the land patent records in the Recorder's office and the Military Land Warrants on line also gave me a good look as to who was here in the years up to 1840 in Newton County, then of course, Jasper County.

My goal was to pinpoint where and when they arrived here, not speculate or assume. John Ade's history had names and dates, but not location; and many of the local township history books had lists of last names only, and referenced as "first settlers." So for those whose ancestors are not listed here, please refer to those publications for more information. *The list included here are those from millenia to 1840.*

Compiling this list is an on-going project of course, and if you have early settlers not included here, and have written proof, please send them along to us.

The eloquent Mr. John Ade in his "Newton County, 1853-1911," had this to say about those who first arrived in "the lost lands," we came to know as Newton County.

"Before the time when railroads began to open new territory for settlement, it generally took three classes of citizens to open up and develop a country. The first class was made up of what might be called squatters - they were the adventurous frontiersmen who came before any lands were regularly offered for sale. They lived by hunting, fishing and trapping, and moved on farther west when the second class came in and purchased the land from the government at the uniform price of \$1.25 per acre. This second class generally held on to their land for a few years, making, as they supposed, a good, big profit on their investment, when they would sell out to the third class, who would put up permanent improvements and become fixed residents of the country."

Thanks to my fellow researchers in creating these lists: Becky Lyons, Janet Miller, and Kay Babcock ... couldn't have achieved this without you! - *Beth Bassett*

Name	Year Settled	Where Settled
Yoder, Clyde	1826	Beaver
Best, William	1829	Beaver
Barker, Thomas R.	1831	Jackson
Dunn, Josiah	1832	Beaver
Elliott, John	1832	Beaver
English, John	1832	Beaver
Montgomery, John	1833	Iroquois
Troup, Jacob	1834	Washington
Troup, Philip	1834	Washington
Elijah, Franklin V.	1835	Jackson
Elijah, Lewis	1835	Jackson
Timmons, Joshua J.	1835	Washington
Kenoyer, Frederick	1836	Washington
Kenoyer, Jacob	1836	Washington
Harritt, Mary Kenoyer	1836	Washington
Rider, Henry	1836	Washington
Earl, Philip	1837	Grant
Spitler, Wesley	1837	Washington
Lane, David	1838	Beaver
Murphey, John	1838	Beaver
Myers, John F.	1838	Washington
Spitler, Zechariah	1838	Washington
White, Amos	1838	Washington
Mock, Daniel	1839	Washington
Roberts, John S.	1839	Washington
Bridgeman, Michael	1840	Beaver
Graves, Capt. Daniel M.	1840	Beaver
Lyons, Samuel	1840	Iroquois
Bridgeman, Ephriam	1840	Washington
Martin, Joseph	1840	Washington

1816 – A Year Without A Summer

By Norma Cramer

The year 1816, when Indiana joined the Union, is memorable for more than attaining statehood. The second week of June that year snowstorms of an inch to 19 inches covered 15 of the then 19 states, and most of the territories. Before the hard-freezing week was over the 40th year of American Independence had been labeled the “Year Without A Summer.”

One-third of Indiana was at that time populated by more than 60,000 pioneers. The remaining portion of its inhabitants were Indians, (Miami, Delaware and Potawatomi). All were affected by the unusual weather. The ponds and rivers froze every month that summer and the entire year was an agricultural disaster. Pioneers and Indians alike, depended largely upon crops. There were none.

There was also no welfare, no government storages of wheat and no foreign aid. They only had themselves to rely upon.

Twelve months earlier at least half of a dozen almanacs had forecast highly unusual weather for 1816. The “Old New England Farmer’s Almanac and Register” gambled its reputation by predicting snow in July. Early editions brought jeers from prominent newspapers. Other almanacs joined in forecasting midsummer snows and frosts.

The first day of the year brought a sense of foreboding. New Year’s Day from Maine, (then Brunswick), to Annapolis, the 7 a.m. temperature was in the upper 40s. By 7 p.m. the mercury had dropped below zero. By morning it was 15 below zero.

The remaining portion of that month and the next were mostly mild and spring-like in Indiana. The temperature was often so moderate that the need of warmth from the fire was almost needless.

The first half of March was the time for seeding and the normal beginning of plant growth. The thermometer plunged and the seedlings never had a chance to grow. In May, Indiana had snow or sleet a total of 17 days.

When the June snow hit, it finished off the budding crop, left the remaining trees with blackened leaves and froze to death a great number of livestock.

One of the stories is about a farmer who went out to the hills to look after his sheep. It was June 17. As he left, he shouted back to his wife to call out the neighbors because “I might get lost in the snow.”

He was joking, but it was 1816, and the weather wasn’t. One hour later there was a terrific blizzard and on the third day the neighbors found the farmer – alive, but with both feet frozen.

The whole world was affected by the in-temperate weather. In the states there were only 10 “weather observatories,” but they were beginning to be relied upon more and more. According to the observatory records still available, the first four months of 1816 featured abrupt cold waves interspersed with unseasonable warm spells.

No crops grew north of the Ohio and Potomac Rivers and only scanty returns occurred much farther south.

In Indiana, fruit trees were destroyed. Corn was killed, and the fields replanted until it was deemed too late. In the spring of 1817, the corn Indiana farmers kept over from 1815 sold for \$5.00 to \$10.00 a bushel, for seed only.

July’s weather was more of the same. The Hoosier 4th of July celebration was held in bitter weather. During the first week, the upper 1,000 miles of the nation had below freezing temperatures.

August was even worse. More snow, frosts and blizzards. Ice formed a half-inch thick over much of the United States.

A result of the monstrous problem was rampant inflation. By late summer, cheese, the main protein food of the nation, had soared from 7 cents to 15 cents a pound; oats from 12 cents to 92 cents; wheat from an almost traditional 50 cents to \$2.50 per bushel. Wages had shrunk. Able workers were delighted to labor three or four days for a bushel of wheat. Livestock prices fell from \$8 a hundred-weight to \$3.00 and \$4.00.

Fishing and hunting were thought to be the last hope. Raccoon and groundhogs became acceptable meat. Easily trapped passenger pigeons were eaten in place of poultry.

Inasmuch as many wild plants were more hardy than the cultivated crops, some survived the cold and were eagerly gathered. Wild sweet potatoes, jack-in-the-pulpit bulbs and wild onions were at least something edible.

Why was 1816 so abnormal? This period belongs to that famous group of six years, 1812 to 1817, which were cold all over the world. There were, besides temperature variations, extreme dust storms, wind shifts, a red-

dish aura around the sun and sunspots.

One theory is that volcanic eruptions had put dust into the upper atmosphere. There was an eruption of Soufriere, St. Vincent, April 30, 1812, one in Mayon, Luzon, 1814, and an extremely devastating expulsion in Tambora, Sumbawa, April 7 to 12, 1815.

This great eruption was estimated to have put 37 to 100 cubic miles of dust, ashes and cinders into the atmosphere. Some 60,000 people lost their lives. For three days it was dark for a distance of 300 miles and the explosions were heard from a distance of nearly 1,000 miles.

For whatever reason, this period in our history was a trying time for our ancestors. It was the year Americans would not flee, panic, or be trampled under; a year they would not give in, the “Year Without A Summer.”

This article originally appeared in the Indianapolis Star, May 4, 1975. Submitted by Sig Boezeman.

Celebrate At Hazelden With George Ade In September

The Newton County Historical Society invites you to celebrate Indiana’s 200th birthday on September 10, 2016 from noon until 4:00 p.m. CST, at the 1900s Elizabethan



home of George Ade, one of Indiana’s most famous sons. Mr. Ade was a newspaper columnist, humorist and a most prolific playwright, having had three plays/musicals on Broadway at the same time. George is also the “Ade” on Purdue’s Ross-Ade football stadium.

Ade’s home known as Hazelden, is located east of Brook, Indiana, on State Road 16.

Our event will feature our own George Ade impersonator telling of Ade’s life stories and experiences in conjunction with free tours of Hazelden. Newton County Historical Society members will be on hand to answer any questions visitors may have about the day and Newton County.

Visitors are also welcome to take part in the annual Brook Fish Fry that begins at 5:00 p.m. on that same day in downtown Brook. Happy birthday Indiana come celebrate with us at Newton County’s Officially Endorsed Legacy Project of the Bicentennial.

Article 1, Celebrating Indiana's Bicentennial: Newton County, Millennia to 1840

Newton County: Another Time, Another Place

By Beth Bassett

Editor's Note: There is a great amount of material here that may appear to not be related to Newton County, but after reading the entire compilation, you will see the importance of including it in this narrative. The purpose of this information is to give the reader an idea as to the way of life and people that existed here up to the beginning of the settlements in Newton County, which may have been as early as the 1830s. There is so much more detailed information available on the topics covered here, and can be found searching the web, or researching local history publications.

An Illustrious Beginning

In 2016, the State of Indiana marks its 200th year and there are events planned throughout Indiana and Newton County to celebrate the bicentennial. And celebrate we should, as the road to statehood was a long journey. The settlement of northwest Indiana did not begin until the treaties between the Potawatomi Indians and the United States were signed in 1833. Though the area we call Newton County today was not overly populated at that time, the area's history is an interesting tale indeed, that begins with Spaniard Christopher Columbus in 1492.

But our compilation of history will begin with the exploration of the St. Lawrence River by Jacques Cartier of France in 1584 which colonized North America, known from that

time until 1763 as New France. At its peak (1712), it extended from Newfoundland to the Rocky Mountains; from the Hudson Bay to the Gulf of Mexico. It was divided into four colonies, each with their own administration: Canada, Arcadia, Newfoundland and Louisiana. Newton County lands were held within the Upper Louisiana colony.

The French and Indian War began in 1756 between the colonies of British America and New France. Both sides were supported by military units from their parent countries, Great Britain and France, as well as Native American allies. However, the 60,000 members of the French colonies were outnumbered by two million British North American colonies. The outnumbered French particularly depended upon the Indians. The war began over a dispute over control of the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers, called the Forks of the Ohio, and the site of the French Fort Duquesne, or present day Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

The outcome of the French and Indian War was one of the most significant developments in the century. Upon the French surrendering to the British, the Treaty of Paris was signed in 1763, where they ceded its territories east of the Mississippi to Great Britain and French Louisiana west of the Mississippi River including New Orleans to Spain. Thus, Britain's position now was the dominant colonial power in eastern North America.

However, in 1778, France returned to North America to join forces with the Americans in the War of Independence, also known as the Revolutionary War, (1775-1783), and this time would be victorious. This conflict began when the North American colonies declared themselves the independent United States of America. The war had its origins in the resistance of many Americans to taxes imposed by the British parliament. By 1782, with the Battle of Yorktown, the British voted to end offensive operations in North America.

After the Revolutionary War, the U.S. had only in effect a quit claim deed from England to the lands north and west of Ohio. The new unified nation of the thirteen colonies, moved forward to expand west and claim the lands they had feverishly battled and won.

The Northwest Territory

The Territory Northwest of the River Ohio, more commonly known as the Northwest Territory, was the organized incorporated territory of the United States spanning most or large parts of six eventual U.S. States. It existed legally from July, 1787-March, 1803, when the southeastern portion of the territory was admitted to the union as the state of Ohio, and the remainder was reorganized. Beginning in 1784 and ending with the final Land Ordinance of 1787 was the first plan evolved for the west that made any references to the principals of government. The final document provided three principal provisions: (1) that the Northwest Territory would not be divided into "not less than three nor more than five States"; (2) a three-stage method for admitting a new state to the Union – with a Congressionally appointed governor, secretary and three judges to rule in the first phase; an elected assembly and one nonvoting delegate to Congress to be elected in the second phase when the territory reached "five thousand free male inhabitants of full age;" and a state constitution to be drafted and membership into the Union to be requested in the third phase when the population reached 60,000; and (3) a bill of rights protecting religious freedom, the right to a writ of habeas corpus, the benefit of trial by jury, and other individual rights. In addition, the ordinance encouraged education and forbade slavery. It seemed as though the path was clear for the settlement of the Northwest Territory. Now, the only thing left to do was acquire title and ownership to the lands. However, the Native Americans who had inhabited these lands from the beginning, had a



Establishment of State boundaries from the Northwest Territory, created in 1787.



different prospective of land ownership.

The wars between the countries of France, Britain, and the Americans involved different Native American tribes, including the Potawatomi. In these battles different tribes served as allies at different times to both the French and the English against the Americans. Leaders and War Chiefs from a variety of tribes rallied their tribesmen to unite against the encroaching settlers alongside the Europeans.

The wars the Indians fought against the Americans led to a battle of words, and ultimately to a trail of tears.

The Land of the Potawatomi

In the last half of the eighteenth century, great herds of buffalo grazed here, attracting the wandering bands of the Potawatomi, who came from the lakes of the north. Gradually, these warriors drove back the Miami tribe to the shores of the Wabash River and took possession of all the vast plain, extending east of the Illinois River and north of the Wabash River into the present confines of the State of Michigan. Their hunting trails extended from grove to grove and from lake to river.

History tells us that about 1790, the herds of buffalo disappeared. In that year a big snow, about five feet deep, fell, and froze so hard on the top that people could walk on it. The buffalo was unable to remove the ground cover, let alone move about, and perished to starvation. This event would change the way of life for the Indians, with the loss of the buffalo hides and meat. With the influx of hunters and trappers to the area, as well as settlers, this too added to the curtailment of the supply of game and encroachments upon their lands.

In their day, the Potawatomi were the uncontested lords of the plain, following their long trails in single file over prairies, and camping with their dogs, women and children in the groves and along the streams and rivers. Some considered them savages, but still today, their names cling to many of those streams and rivers, as well as towns and some of you may have them in your family tree.

The Potawatomi lived in scattered villages and raised melons,

squash, pumpkins, beans, and corn, a staple of their diet, and used in trading with the French and other tribes. They gathered berries, nuts and roots; collected maple sugar; hunted deer, bear and small game; and they caught a variety of fish. They made their clothing of animal skins, mostly deer. They built houses of poles covered with bark or mats woven from cattails. Their daily life adjusted to the rhythm of the seasons, with times of planting and harvest, of abundance and scarcity, of

winter hunts and summer games, of war and peace. And they lived in extended families, often several generations forming a single unit and with several families gathered in a clan. Men hunted, trapped, traded and fought, while women tended the fields, cooked, made clothing, and cared for the children.

They engaged in a variety of social activities and games, including lacrosse, which they played with great skill. Harvest festivals and other occasions were celebrated with games, dance and music. The authority of the village chief depended more on their personal influence than formal position.

The first Europeans to interact with the Indians were the French. However, the fur trade constituted an economic advantage to them and did not directly challenge Indian occupation and use of the land. The traders sought pelts and skillfully learned the Indian ways and often married Indian women. Thus the French presence, though it certainly challenged the Indian culture, was generally not abrasive

or harsh and was usually welcomed by them, unlike the British and American presence of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

With the arrival of the greedy traders of the Wabash into their midst who bartered rum for their most valuable peltries, many of the Potawatomi could be found camping in great numbers in Vincennes trading everything of value for liquor with these traders. General Harrison, time and time again, sought to stop the traffic of whiskey along the



This partial map of the Indian Lands in 1821 shows the domination of the Potawatomi Indians in our area.

Potawatomi Facts

- Population. Nationwide, original populations ranged from 8,000-15,000. After 30 years of war, relocation and epidemic, the French estimated 4,000 in 1667 in four villages in Green Bay, WI. In 1854, the Indian Bureau listed 3,440 on the reservations, who also reported there were 600 “strolling Potawatomi,” who had avoided removal located in Michigan, Indiana and Wisconsin. The 1910 census listed 2,440 in the United States and 180 in Canada.
- Names. The Potawatomi name is a translation of the Ojibwa “potawatomink” meaning “people of the place of fire.” Similar renderings are: Fire Nation, Keepers of the Sacred Fire, and People of the Fireplace – all of which refer to the role of the Potawatomi as the keeper of the council fire in an earlier alliance with the Ojibwa and Ottawa. There are also a variety of spellings of their name.
- Sub-Nations. During the 1700s there were three groups of Potawatomi based on locations: Detroit Potawatomi, southeast Michigan; Prairie Potawatomi, northern Illinois; St. Joseph Potawatomi, southwest Michigan. By 1800 the names and locations of these three divisions had changed to: Potawatomi of the Woods, southern Michigan and northern Indiana; Forest Potawatomi, northern Wisconsin and Upper Michigan; Potawatomi of the Prairie, northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin.

rivers. On all occasions when treaties were to be made, or council fires kindled, he issued proclamations prohibiting the sale of liquor to the Indians. However greed prevailed, and many attribute the addiction and their demand for “fire-water,” as the ultimate reason of the secession of their lands to America. Further study of the documentation of the gatherings of the treaty negotiations may reveal the truth as to the legitimacy of this claim.

The Secession of Lands

The Potawatomi, who became the second largest tribal group in Indiana, moved south from northern Wisconsin and Michigan and occupied land from the southern tip of Lake Michigan to Lake Erie, an area encompassing northern Illinois, north central Indiana, and a strip across southern Michigan. Although the land in what became known as Indiana once belonged to the Miami, the Potawatomi were also recognized as one of its landowners under the Northwest Ordinance (1787) and in subsequent treaties. Following the War of 1812, when the tribe had allied with the British against the Americans, the Potawatomi lived in relative peace with their white neighbors. In 1817, a year after Indiana became a state, an estimated 2,000 Potawatomi had settled along the rivers and lakes north of the Wabash River and south of Lake Michigan. Around the same time, the state and federal government became eager to open the northern parts of Indiana to further settlement and development.

Treaties with the Potawatomi in 1818, 1821, 1826, and 1828 ceded large portions of their lands in Indiana to the federal government in exchange for annuities in cash and goods, reservation lands within the state, and other provisions. Some tribal members also received individual grants of northern Indiana land. The passage of the Indian Removal Act (1830) enabled the federal government to offer reservation land in the West in exchange for the purchase of tribal lands east of the Mississippi River. The government’s intent was to extinguish the land claims of Indian nations in the East, and to remove them from the populated eastern states to the remote and relatively unpopulated lands west of

the Mississippi River, where other Indian tribes controlled large territories. The Act specifically targeted the Five Civilized Tribes in Georgia, Alabama, and Tennessee, but also led to treaties with other tribes living east of the Mississippi, including several in the former Northwest Territory, south of the Great Lakes.

In three treaties signed in October 1832, at the Tippecanoe River north of Rochester, Indiana, the Potawatomi ceded to the federal government most of their remaining lands in northwestern and north central Indiana in exchange for annuities, small reservation lands in Indiana, and scattered allotments to individuals. They also received the federal government’s agreement to provide goods to support the Potawatomi’s migration efforts, should they decide to relocate. These treaties also reduced Potawatomi reservations in Indiana that included land along the Yellow River. Under the terms of a treaty made on October 26, 1832, the federal government established Potawatomi reservation lands within the boundaries of their previously ceded lands in Indiana and Illinois in exchange for annuities, cash and goods, and payment of tribal debts, among other provisions.

Increased pressure from federal government negotiators, especially Colonel Abel C. Pepper, succeeded in getting the Potawatomi to sign more treaties that relinquished their lands and obtained their agreement to remove to reservations in the West. In treaties negotiated with the Potawatomi over four years, from December 4, 1834 to February 11, 1837, the Potawatomi ceded the remaining reservation lands in Indiana to the federal government. In 1836 alone the Potawatomi signed nine treaties, including the Treaty of Yellow River in Marshall County, Indiana; five treaties on the Tippecanoe River north of Rochester, Indiana; two treaties in Logansport, Indiana; and one treaty at Turkey Creek in Kosciusko County, Indiana. These agreements were called the Whiskey Treaties because whiskey was given to get the Indians to sign. Under the terms of these treaties the Potawatomi agreed to sell their Indiana land to the federal government and remove to reservation lands in the West within two years.

Government Treaties With The Native Americans

Editor’s Note: This is only a few of the many treaties signed between the Indians of the Northwest and Indiana Territories.

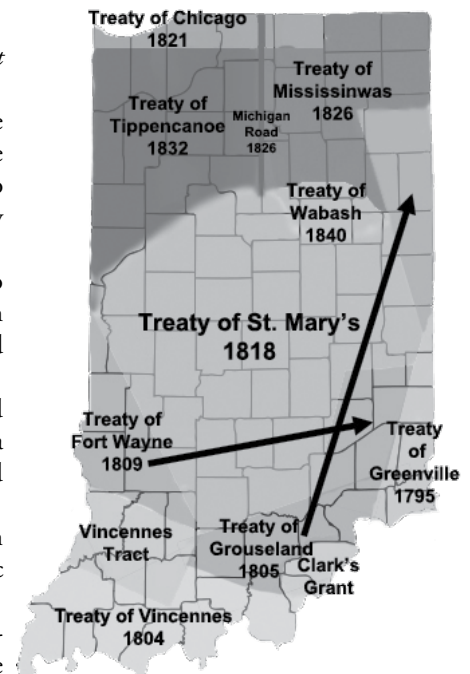
Treaty of Greenville, August 3, 1795, followed negotiations after the Indian loss at the Battle of Fallen Timbers. It ended the Northwest Indian War in the Ohio Country. It created the Greenville Treaty Line, which was a boundary between the Indian Territory and the lands open to Europeans and Americans. It also established the “annuity” system: yearly grants of federal money and supplies of calico cloth to the Indian tribes.

Treaty of Ft. Wayne, September 30, 1809. A total of 3,000,000 acres of land were ceded to the U.S. in Indiana and Illinois. Territorial Governor Henry Harrison negotiated this treaty, which ultimately led to Tecumseh’s War, led by the Shawnee, Tecumseh, his brother, “the Prophet,” and other tribal warriors.

Treaty of St. Mary’s, aka Treaty With the Miami, October 6, 1818. The Miami tribe ceded lands beginning at the Wabash River. Known as the “New Purchase,” it opened lands in Indiana south of the Wabash for settlement. A treaty with the Kickapoo Indians in 1820 further ceded lands to the U. S. that opened lands as far north as Lafayette.

Treaty of Chicago, August 29, 1821, in place March, 1822. The Indians ceded all lands in the Michigan Territory south of the Grand River and lands between Detroit and Chicago. Specific Indians were granted property rights for defined parcels for the first time.

The Treaty of Tippecanoe, October 26, 1832. The Potawatomi tribe ceded lands in Northwest Indiana to the U.S. The Miami tribe had already ceded their claim to the lands, and the Potawatomi were the only tribe left who had claim to the land.



Land cessions to the United States began in 1807 and during the next 25 years drastically reduced their territory. Removal west of the Mississippi occurred between 1834 and 1842. The Potawatomi were removed in two groups: the Prairie and Forest Bands from northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin went to Council Bluffs in southwest Iowa; and the Potawatomi of the Woods (Michigan and Indiana bands) were relocated to eastern Kansas near Osawatomie. In 1846 the two groups merged and were placed on a single reservation north of Topeka. Arguments over allotments and citizenship led to their separation in 1867. The Citizen Potawatomi left for Oklahoma, and settled near present-day Shawnee; the Prairie Potawatomi stayed in Kansas and still have a reservation. Several Potawatomi groups avoided removal and remained in the Great Lakes. They reside today in Northwest Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Canada.

Notable Potawatomi, Places and Traders

Topenebee (1807-1840)

From Elmore Barce's "Chief Topenebee and the Decline of the Potawatomi Nation," *Indiana History Magazine*, March, 1918.

"For nearly half a century, Topenebee, whose name, according to J. P. Dunn, signifies "A Quiet Sitting Bear," was their head and principal chief. He was probably born near Niles, Michigan, on the upper bend of the St. Joseph of the Lakes, for here there was located the "great Potawatomi village, ruled over by Aniquiba, the great chief of the Potawatomi," who was the father of Topenebee. He was thus of royal blood, and the ruling clan of his tribe. His sister, Kaukeama, married William Burnett, a famous French fur trader, who thereafter became very influential and powerful among the tribesmen. His sons, by this Indian princess, were unfriendly to the advancing white settlers from the West.

"From the first, Topenebee seems to have been hostile to the United States. He was no doubt in the battle of Fallen Timbers, fought with Anthony Wayne, in 1794, for he appears as a signer of the Treaty of Greenville, Ohio, of August 3, 1795, signing that document "Thu-Pe-Ne-Bu," and the fact that he was the first to sign of the "Putawatomes of the River St. Joseph," shows that at that early date he was their chief and principal sachem. At an early date, Topenebee embraced the teachings of the Prophet, and became an ally of the Shawnee brothers and the British. When Tecumseh and the Prophet came to the Wabash in the year 1808, for the purpose of organizing their Confederacy of Indian Tribes to oppose the further advance of the new Republic, they settled at the mouth of the Tippecanoe River on certain lands granted them by the Potawatomi and Kickapoos, although this grant was opposed by the Miamis, who were the rightful occupants and owners of the soil. In the negotiations leading up to this transaction, Topenebee took an active part.

"Local tradition at Attica, Indiana, preserves the tale that "sometime in the fall of the year 1807. Topenebee and the Kickapoos and Potawatomi, Miami and Winnebago, met Tecumseh and the Prophet beneath the spreading branches of a splendid oak that stood within the corporate limits of the city of Attica. In this council it was agreed that the Shawnee tribe, under Tecumseh and his brother, the Prophet, might have as their hunting ground the territory drained by Shawnee

Creek, and then a line drawn from there to the watershed of the Tippecanoe River, and up the Tippecanoe River about twenty miles."

"The Potawatomi chief was largely instrumental in bringing the impending conflict closer to the Vincennes settlement and hastening incidentally the downfall of his own people. There wasn't any doubt that during the trouble-some period preceding the Battle of Tippecanoe and until after the War of 1812, that Topenebee and all the leading chiefs of his tribe were in close communication with the British agent, Matthew Elliot, at Malden, Canada. There, the presents they received for their alliance included blankets, broadcloths, calicoes, guns, kettles, traps, silver-works such as arm-bands and bracelets, brooches and earbobs, looking glasses, combs and various other trinkets and a vast quantity of whiskey.

"Topenebee, if he did not actually take part in laying the plot, was fully aware of the impending massacre of the troops at Ft. Dearborn, on August 15, 1812. This is shown in the fact that in the morning Mr. Kinze, the trader located at the old post, received a personal message from Topenebee informing him that mischief was intended by the Potawatomi, and encouraged him to relinquish his thoughts of accompanying the troops by land, promising that the boat containing himself and his family would be permitted to pass in safety to St. Joseph. The facts that it was a personal note, and the Potawatomi from St. Joseph were present at the slaughter, is evidence rather strong that Topenebee was the leader in the whole affair from the beginning.

"Thus from the year 1818, to the year 1832, a short space of only fourteen years, the Potawatomi nation had lost practically all of its valuable holdings and claims in northern Indiana and Southern Michigan, and the tribe had sunk into a terrible decadence from which it was never to recover.

"In all the treaties Topenebee had signed as chief sachem of his tribe, but in 1832, old, drunken and decrepit, he had fallen from his high estate as an associate of Tecumseh, and the lordly commander who had led all the bands north of the Wabash, until there was reserved for him out of all the best prairies

and woodlands of northern Indiana, but one section of land – the exact language of the treaty of 1832 was: "To Topenebee, principal chief, one section." This section was to be selected by the President of the United States.

"However, this section of land proved to be of no benefit to himself or his descendants. Under authority of the President, J. T. Douglass on January 20, 1836, selected Section 31, in Township 26 North, Range 9 West, as Topenebee's land. This was confirmed by the president Martin Van Buren in March, 1837. Edward C. Sumner, built a ranch on the western side and along the banks of the creek in 1834.

"Long before the section was located by Douglass, however, Topenebee had parted with his title to Alexis Coquillard by a deed executed on November 27, 1832, in St. Joseph County, Indiana, conveying the section of land. The consideration for the land was \$800, or \$1.25 per acre. The deed was placed on record in Benton County on July 17, 1846.

"Thus passed away the last dominion that Topenebee ever exerted over the prairies, which, in his youth, he had been so familiar with. Six years after the Treaty of 1832, his tribe passed beyond the Mississippi



Chief Topenebee

and old, feeble and broken, he retired to southern Michigan, where in August 1840, he passed away.”

Turkey Foot

If there could be anyone who gave the Potawatomi Indians a bad reputation as being savages, it would have been Turkey Foot. Historically, we do not have much information regarding his life as a tribesman, but there is documentation in the newspapers of the time of his participation on the murderous raids on early settlers.

By the turn of the century the few notable, trans-Mississippi raids that were documented were attributed to only two particular Potawatomi leaders: Turkey Foot of the Tippecanoe and Main Poc (Western Illinois) of the Kankakee. White settlers in eastern Missouri and southern Illinois were particularly incensed by these forays as raiding parties often pilfered horses and livestock as well as killed a number of homesteaders and travelers. By 1805, Main Poc had become the sole documented leader of such forays.

Historical writings place Turkey Foot's hide-out in Newton County's Turkey Foot Grove. It was from here that he would lead his band of warriors into these raids that plagued Missouri and Southern Illinois white settlers in the decade between 1795 and 1805. In time, their desperate cries were heard by the government who ultimately confronted Chief Topenebee of the Potawatomi to turn over Turkey Foot and his marauders. He agreed that he would do so, but in time told him that Turkey Foot had vanished into the Illinois Territory and could not be found. Detailed accounts of these raids and their results can be found in R. David Edmunds' "The Potawatomis: Keepers of the Fire."

We have no record of Turkey Foot's age, or as to when he died. And, after researching his character, the two groves in Beaver Township have a new light shed upon them. For future researchers, I note here that the Potawatomi Turkey Foot should not be confused with the Ottawa Chief Turkey Foot, who died at the Battle of Fallen Timbers.

Turkey Foot and Bull Foot Groves

Prior to the settling of our area, throughout the lands in northwest Indiana and western Illinois, the Potawatomi and Kickapoo had areas that they utilized for camping. Elmore Barce relates in his "Land of the Potawatomi," that there were groves in both Benton and Newton counties known as Turkey Foot Grove. It is documented in John Ade's "Newton County, 1853-1900," that there were two Indian groves in Beaver Township, Newton County, known as Bull Foot Grove and Turkey Foot Grove. Bull Foot Grove was located in the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 30, Township 29 North, in Range 9 West, and Turkey Foot Grove being located in the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter and the Northeast Quarter of the Section 32, Township 29 North, in Range 9 West. These two groves were about a mile and half apart.

The tradition of the two Potawatomi chiefs who on occasion inhabited these two groves was recorded by John Ade in his history of Newton County, where he related the accounts given to him by two early residents, John Myers, who settled here in 1836, who encountered the burial grounds himself and thought there was only one Indian buried at Bull Foot Grove. The other account was from Dempsey Johnson, who gathered his information from the first residents of the area, primarily Jacob Ash, who was the first white man to live at Turkey Foot Grove in 1842, and his daughter Catherine (Ash) Dearduff. Here is Mr. Dempsey's account:

"It is reported that Turkey Foot went over to visit Bull Foot, and they had a quarrel over some matter and Turkey Foot killed Bull Foot. Then for revenge, Bull Foot's son killed Turkey Foot, after which he stood the two bodies upright against two trees standing close together, with their faces toward each other. He then cut poles and built a pen around them. When the white men began to settle in the neighborhood, they gathered up the bones of the two Indians and buried them near where they were found."

Mr. Ade continues with, "Dr. Charles E. Triplett, Sr., came from Kentucky in the year 1856, and went down to Bull Foot Grove and took up quite a number of bones, among them which were two thigh bones. Those thigh bones showed that one was a tall man and the other a short man. It further showed that the short man had had his thigh bone broken some time in his life and that it had overlapped and grown together. He said that Turkey Foot was the taller of the two. He got this information from a man named Sol McCulloch, he, McCulloch, stating that he had seen them."

In 2006, the Newton County Historical Society placed signs at the locations, marking them as Newton County historical landmarks.

Watcheke. (1810–1878)

A Potawatomi Native American woman, born in Illinois, and named for the heroine of a Potawatomi legend. Her uncle was Tamin, the chief of the Kankakee Potawatomi Indians. At a very young age, she became engaged to Gurdon Saltonstall Hubbard, whom she married at age fifteen or sixteen in 1826. Hubbard and Watcheke had two children, both of whom died in infancy. They mutually dissolved the union in 1828. Watcheke then married Noel Le Vasseur at age eighteen, and was described as "beautiful, intelligent and petite." She had three children with Le Vasseur, who learned to speak the Potawatomi language. In 1836, she left for Council Bluffs, Iowa, where her tribe had been removed in 1832 following the Treaty of Tippecanoe. It has been written that in 1863 she returned to Watseka, alone and on foot from Kansas, to honor the graves of her people. She died in Council Bluffs in 1878. Watcheke's story can be found in the "Morocco Sesquicentennial Collection," and "Everglades of the North: The Story of the Grand Kankakee Marsh."



Watcheke

Gurdon Saltonstall Hubbard. (1802-1886)

Hubbard arrived in Chicago in 1818, as part of the Illinois Brigade of the American Fur Company. In 1823 he located on the Iroquois River a station at Bunkum, Illinois. At that time he was the superintendent of the Brigade and put into place what would become known as the Hubbard Trail. It was a safer and easier way to bring the furs accumulated from the various trading posts along the trail to Chicago. He had purchased 80 acres of land and began cultivation of the land, the first in Iroquois County, Illinois, and built a log cabin with outbuildings, creating the headquarters of trade for the region. Also at this time, he established trading posts along the old Indian trail south to Danville, Illinois, thus connecting the trail from Vincennes to Danville, (known as the Vincennes Trace),



Hubbard

with his newly established trail to Chicago. Some have identified the entire trail as the Vincennes Trace, while others have noted it to be known completely as the Hubbard Trail, as parts of the road are identified today.

In 1826, he married Watcheke, (see above). The next few years would bring change to Hubbard's way of life, as he would suffer the loss of two infants, and the end of his marriage. With the ever-increasing settlement of the whites, the Indian trade began to fall off, and in 1827, he abandoned the trading posts south of Bunkum. At that time, he built a warehouse in Danville, that served as a post for the Indians to bring in their furs for trade. By 1832, the inventory he held there would be more articles for the settlers, than those of the Indians. In 1833-34 he left Noel LeVasseur in charge of the Bunkum trading post and removed to Chicago, where he would remain for over a half-century as a leading citizen. Suggested reading: "The Autobiography of Gurdon Saltonstall Hubbard," and "Swiftwalker," by Lloyd Wendt.

Other Influential Native Americans

Pontiac, (1712-1769)

Ottawa War Chief, known for his role in the Pontiac War (1763-1766), which was an Indian struggle against the British military occupation of the Great Lakes region, following the French and Indian War. Ultimately, he



Pontiac

withdrew to live in Illinois, still resisting the British, which made him the focus of their diplomatic efforts. This attention to him by the British created resentment amongst the other Indian leaders, as he claimed more authority than he possessed. He was killed in 1769 by a Peoria Indian warrior.

Little Turtle, (1752-1812)

Miami War Chief, and one of the most famous Native American military leaders of his time, leading many successful raids against Americans. He earned his military prowess during the American Revolution in action against the French force allied with the Americans. In the 1780s, he led raids against colonial American settlements in Kentucky, fighting on the side of the British. Af-



Little Turtle

ter the creation of the Northwest Territory in 1787, he emerged as one of the leaders of the Western Confederacy, whose goal was to keep the Ohio River as the Indian lands. After his attack on Ft. Recovery in Ohio, negotiations began with General Anthony Wayne. Little Turtle ceded the command of the Confederacy to Blue Jacket, but remained as their leader. The Confederacy would later be defeated in the Battle of Fallen Timbers, leading to the Treaty of Greenville. Little Turtle continuously advised cooperation with the U.S. after this, and refused alliance with the Shawnee chief Tecumseh.

Black Hawk, (1767-1838)



Black Hawk

Sauk Indian War leader and warrior. He earned his status as a War Chief by his action, leading raiding and war parties during the Black Hawk War of 1812, on the side of the British, and again in the 1832 Black Hawk War against American settlers in Illinois and Wisconsin. After

this war, he was captured by American forces and taken to the eastern states, where he and other leaders were taken on tour of several cities. Upon his release, he published a book based upon his life in 1833.

Tenskwatawa, (1771-1836)

A Shawnee religious and political leader, and brother to Tecumseh, leader of the Shawnee. After difficult years as a young man who suffered from alcoholism, he became a religious leader. Known as "The Shawnee Prophet", he advocated a the Shawnee and other Indians to return to their ancestral lifestyle and reject the colonists and Americans. He attracted a large following among Indians who had already suffered major epidemics and dispossession of their lands. By 1808, tensions between other Shawnee leaders and the encroaching settlers, Tenskwatawa and his followers were told to leave the area. His brother Tecumseh was among the leaders of this group, and helped decide to move further northwest and establish the village of Prophetstown near the confluence of the Wabash and Tippecanoe Rivers near Battle Ground, Indiana. Tenskwatawa's teachings became widely known, as did his predic-



Tenskwatawa

tions on the coming doom of the Americans. His teachings attracted numerous members of other tribes to Prophetstown; they formed a sizeable confederacy of tribes, with his brother Tecumseh emerging as the primary leader. In November, 1811, it would be Tenskwatawa who precipitated the Battle of Tippecanoe, when he was overcome by his power and defied his brother's order to evacuate if the oncoming American forces following Harrison approached the village. He instead pretended to have a vision and told the tribes that the white men could not hurt them, no one could die or would feel harm. The Battle of Tippecanoe thus ensued, and it ended in defeat for the confederacy and the Prophet, as he was disowned, and the faith of his followers waned, along with the great plan of Tecumseh.

Tecumseh (1763-1813)

The leader of the Shawnee Native Americans and a large tribal confederacy known as Tecumseh's Confederacy. At the age of 15, after the American Revolution in 1778, he joined a band of Shawnee who aimed to stop the white invasion of their lands by attacking settlers' flatboats traveling



Tecumseh

down the Ohio River from Pennsylvania. In time, he led his own band of warriors, and for a while, these raids virtually stopped river traffic. He returned to Ohio in late 1790, and took part in several battles, including the Battle of Fallen Timbers in 1794. He eventually settled in Greenville, Ohio, the home of his younger brother, Lalawethika, who later took the new name of Tenskwatawa. He and his brother became leaders of a confederacy of Native Americans who opposed U.S. expansion into Native Territory. After the Battle of Tippecanoe, Tecumseh began to secretly rebuild his alliance upon his return. The Americans soon after went to war with the British in the War of 1812, and Tecumseh's Confederacy allied with the British. On October 5, 1813, the Americans attacked and won a victory over the British and Native Americans at the Battle of the Thames, near Moraviantown. Tecumseh was killed, and shortly after the battle, most tribes of his confederacy surrendered to Harrison at Detroit. Tecumseh's death and the defeat of the British-Native American alliance was a decisive blow to the Native American front.

Noted Wars and Battles

Pontiac's War, (1763-1764) was a war that was launched in 1763 by Indian tribes who were dissatisfied with British policies in the Great Lakes region after their victory in the French and Indian War (1754–1763). Warriors from numerous tribes joined the uprising in an effort to drive British soldiers and settlers out of the region. The war began in May, 1763, when Indians attacked a number of British forts and settlements. Eight forts were destroyed, and hundreds of colonists were killed or captured, with many more fleeing the region. Hostilities came to an end after British Army expeditions in 1764 led to peace negotiations over the next two years. The warriors were unable to drive away the British, but the uprising prompted the British government to modify the policies that had provoked the conflict.

Battle of Fallen Timbers, (August 20, 1794), fought near present day Toledo, Ohio, was the final battle of the Northwest Indian War, a struggle between Native American tribes affiliated with the Western Confederacy, including minor support from the British, against the United States for control of the Northwest Territory (an area north of the Ohio River, east of the Mississippi River, and southwest of the Great Lakes). The battle, which was a decisive victory for the United States, ended major hostilities in the region until Tecumseh's War and the Battle of Tippecanoe in 1811.

Battle of Tippecanoe, (November 7, 1811), fought near present day Battleground, Indiana was between United States forces led by Governor William Henry Harrison of the Indiana Territory and Indian warriors associated with Shawnee leader Tecumseh. Tecumseh and his brother Tenskwatawa, ("The Prophet") were leaders of a confederacy of Indian tribes that opposed U.S. expansion into Indian lands. As tensions and violence increased, Governor Harrison marched with an army of about 1,000 men to disperse the confederacy's headquarters at Prophetstown, near the confluence of the Tippecanoe and Wabash Rivers. Tecumseh, not yet ready to oppose the United States by force, was away recruiting allies when Harrison's army arrived. Tenskwatawa, a spiritual leader but not a military man, was in charge. Harrison camped near Prophetstown on November 6, and arranged to meet with Tenskwatawa the following day. Early the next morning, warriors from Prophetstown attacked Harrison's army. Although the attackers were outnumbered, they took Harrison's army by surprise, Harrison and his men stood their ground for more than two hours. The Indians were ultimately repulsed when their ammunition ran low. After the battle, the Indians abandoned Prophetstown and Harrison's men burned it to the ground, destroyed the food supplies stored up for the winter, and returned home.

Black Hawk War was a brief 1832 conflict between the United States and Indian tribes led by Black Hawk, a Sauk leader. The war erupted soon after Black Hawk and a group of Sauks, Meskwakis, and Kickapoos known as the "British Band" crossed the Mississippi River into Illinois from Iowa in April, 1832. Black Hawk's motives were ambiguous, but he was apparently hoping to avoid bloodshed while resettling on tribal land that had been ceded to the United States in the disputed 1804 Treaty of St. Louis. U.S. officials, convinced that the British Band was hostile, mobilized a frontier militia and opened fire on a delegation of the warriors on May 14, 1832. Black Hawk responded by successfully attacking the militia at the Battle of Stillman's Run. He led his band to a secure location in what is now southern Wisconsin and was pursued by U.S. forces, who caught up with the British Band on July 21, and defeated them at the Battle of Wisconsin Heights. Black Hawk's band was weakened by hunger, death, and

desertion and many survivors retreated towards the Mississippi. On August 2, U.S. soldiers attacked the remnants of the British Band at the Battle of Bad Axe, killing many or capturing most who remained alive. Black Hawk and other leaders escaped, but later surrendered and were imprisoned for a year. The Black Hawk War gave the young captain Abraham Lincoln his brief military service.

Artist George Winter (1810-1876)

Noted for his portraits of North American Indians, after hearing the plight of the Northern Indiana Potawatomi in 1837, and their removal to Kansas, he moved to Logansport, Indiana to document their culture. After 13 years there, he moved to Lafayette, thence to California in 1873. He returned to Lafayette in 1876, where he suddenly died and is buried.

There is a collection of his works held by the Tippecanoe County Historical Society.



Winter's portrait, "Eight Potawatomi Indian Women," 1837.



Winter's portrait, "Eight Potawatomi Indians," 1837.

Historian's Corner

By Diana Elijah, Newton County Historian The Historic Blann Cabin

Several months ago, it was requested that I research and fine more details about the cabin at the Newton County Government Center, located at the junction on US41 and SR114. What a quest this has been, after several months of seeking information, it all fell together within two weeks of my deadline. Beth Bassett found the original owner, John Dimmitt, appearing on several Land Patent records, and Judy Schultz, who was helping me with the research, did the same in Beaver and Jackson Township records.

Now the question arises, was John Dimmitt some sort of realtor or lawyer, representing widows and heirs and war veterans seeking lands from awarded land bounties in our county, or just purchasing land himself? Land records show that John and his wife Julia, were the first owners of the property, but had they acquired the land through the sale of Indiana public lands as part of the Swamp Land Act of 1852, or did he simply purchase this land himself in 1852, while he was here representing other bounty land owners. In 1852, the United States Government expanded the Military Land Warrants to include Indiana Public Lands, therefore, several soldiers who served in the military prior to that time from all over the nation were awarded land patents in Newton County, then Jasper County.

The abstract for their land spells their name Demitt. Genealogical research reveals that he was born in Carroll County in 1835, living in Jasper County from 1857-1877. However, the abstract states that he was from Clermont County, Ohio.

In the initial article that appeared in the *Newton County Enterprise* upon the discovery of the cabin, Larry Holderly, then Newton County Engineer, had found in his research that they had acquired the property from the U. S. Marshall in 1856. The deed was set in action in 1857. He then related that they sold the property 20 years later. This fits into the genealogical information we obtained as to his living in our county from 1857-77. As Holderly stated in the article, it is possible that they built the cabin that is on the property, but it is also possible that the property, since it was part of a law suit, may have already had the cabin on it when

the Dimmitt family purchased it. Unfortunately, I could not find any records confirming any of this information. The abstract also tells us that the Dimmitts sold the property in May of 1878, to his partner, George McMurchey and wife, for \$1.00.

There were at least 15 owners until the Blann family bought in 1917, as it was located very close to Beaver Lake, located on CR400W in Beaver Township, Section 9, R9, SW ¼ of NW ¼.

There were nine owners prior to 1906, when it was owned by John and Melissa Smart of Morocco; and in 1907, by Milton Keister. On April 2, 1917, the abstracts indicates that owners Howard and Della Hyatt sold the property to Frances and Effie Jane Shephard Blann. However, today's Blann family believes it was purchased from F. D. and Hazel Redden, and their son James.

The Blann family came from Sullivan, Indiana. Frances bought the land in 1917, but did not move until 1918. Two older sons, Edward Roy and Ray came soon after along with two younger sons, Harry and Bob, who were younger and had mental challenges, who remained in the cabin with their parents. Frances died in 1938, and Effie Jane and the boys continued to live in the home and cabin within its walls. Effie Jane died in 1955, and sometime later the boys had to move to the county home as the could not ad-

equately care for themselves.

Their son George Marion Blann and his first wife Betty, who died of cancer, had a daughter, Janet. George then met Carol Hart of DeMotte. They married and soon moved into the cabin in 1957. Carol was an R. N. and worked many years at George Ade Memorial Hospital. George and Carol had four children, Cindy, Brenda, Brian and Mark. The family did not discover that there was a one-and-a-half story cabin within the confines of their home until they decided to install a picture window. George passed away in 1992. In 2004, while their son Mark was serving their country, Carol decided to sell the home and build a new one.

Mark was a great help with dates and fam-



These photographs taken at the original site prior to relocating it at the Morocco Government Center in 2004.

ily details for this article. Thanks also to Dan Blaney for his assistance with the land abstract, and to our county officials for preserving this historic log cabin for future generations.

Excerpts from the Official Report on the Newton County Log Home
By Leatherwood, Inc. of Franklin, TN
Report to the Newton County Commissioners, made prior to the moving of the cabin to its current location, (2016).

“The structure is a single pen log house with half dovetail notches in the corner. The structure has been moved intact from another location. Indications that it was moved intact include the presence of historic (nineteenth century) daubing over the hand rived chinking boards, contrasted with the type of foundation which was not common to this type of building, the roof showing signs of being detached from another structure and the interior flooring which was installed with original cut nails from the nineteenth century. These mixed technologies and their context point to the probability that the structure was moved to this location. The majority of the logs are made of oak and have been hewn on two sides.

“The west elevation exhibits several interesting anomalies. The openings are uncommonly placed. The opening to the right is unusually large for this type of building suggesting that it has been either added or enlarged in the twentieth century. (Ed. Note: when the Blann family added the picture window). Originally this elevation probably had two doors of the same size or a door and a window that has been modified. If an enlarged door was added, it was

most likely added to the right side toward the corner of the building. The short return is not common to nineteenth century log construction because it has the potential to create an unstable corner.

“There are indications that the building was rebuilt during the nineteenth century. The fourth log from the top has a half dovetail notch in the middle of the wall and hewing is much rougher than the surrounding logs indicating that is a replacement log or one randomly used in the reconstruction of the building during the nineteenth century.

“Traditional log houses have a wall plate supported by a sleeper log. This structure has neither which suggests that it was probably reconstructed toward the latter half of the nineteenth century when log construction techniques were no longer common.

“The brick fireplace in the center of the cabin is also a very uncommon characteristic of early nineteenth single pen log buildings. A center fireplace would most commonly be associated with a saddle bag-double pen constructed cabin. In addition, the materials and the installation are not vintage.

“The roof is made of twentieth century material. The small cricket or gable connector indicates that it was once part of another structure.”

So, this report only thickens the plot as to the origination of the structure, but we know that it was not uncommon for pioneers to relocate structures from one place to another. What a story that would be!

Pioneer Recipes

Submitted by Becky Lyons

Grandfather's Nightcap

Heat the yolk of 1 egg with 1/2 teaspoon allspice and one gill of rum, a Tablespoon sugar melted in one cupful of boiling water.

Whisk this well and stir; strain into a hot glass, placing the beaten egg white on top; dust with nutmeg.

Maple Snow Sugar Candy (pre-1800s)

Our great great grandmothers enjoyed these candies made out of doors in the sugaring off season.

Stuff some snow tightly into a sap bucket and make the top smooth; when the boiling syrup is at the point where it starts to wax, drop it by the tablespoonful on the snow, where it will splatter into fancy shapes. Remove these while they are still soft and roll them into curls.

We can enjoy them today by heating maple syrup very hot until it balls up, that is, when drops turn into little yellow pills when plunged into cold water. Then drop the syrup from a spoon onto a bucket of snow; even a cake of ice will do. Ice cubes are also good if they are frozen smooth in the refrigerator. Children will love this.

Roasting Meat on A String (pre-1800s)

Drive a peg (or a nail) into the mantle directly over the center of the fire. Tie to this one end of a stout worsted string (any strong twine will do.)

Truss the thing to be roasted (weighing up to about 6 lbs.), and fasten it in the middle of the string; tie a stone at the other end to hold it down. Depending on the fire, hang the roast near or away from the flame. Set it turning slowly by twisting the string as taunt as the catgut on a fiddle; the meat will turn as the string unwinds and then rewinds under it's own momentum. The string must be twisted when it runs down (about 5 minutes) and it is work that may child can be set to do and is work he will enjoy. In roasting meat this way, it is well to up end it when half done so that the juice does not gather in one end. Place a dripping pan under the roast and, before you start, rub the roast with fat and sprinkle it with flour or cornmeal. Baste from the drippings in the pan. Birds, as well as small game and meat, can be roasted in this fashion. The method could amuse guests and provide an object of occupation as well as a subject of conversation.

Now You Know!

By Janet Miller - Questions on page 7

1. The original train depot from Kentland was loaded on a flatcar and removed to Effner. It still stands there today.
2. In the Hollywood film “The County Chairman” written by Newton County’s George Ade, the main character Honorable Jim Hackler was played by Will Rogers. This same play has been performed at Brook High School and by the South Newton Production Company.
3. The first use of electricity for the purpose of illumination began in Newton County on Friday night, April 20, 1894.
4. During the Civil War the *Newton County Chronotype* newspaper changed its name to the *Newton County Union*.
5. The dairy farm donated to Purdue University by David Ross and George Ade was to serve as the site of the university’s football stadium. They also donated \$20,000 for the building of the stadium which was dedicated November 22, 1924 during a Purdue-IU football game. Purdue won the game 26-7. The stadium still carries the name Ross-Ade Stadium.

Pages of the Past

Submitted by Janet Miller Excerpts taken from The Newton County Enterprise, Winter, 1916

Kentland

Re-elect McCray State Fair Head. Indianapolis: The state board of agriculture at a meeting in the state house today fixed September 4 as the date for the opening of the 1916 state fair and voted to hold an exposition commemorating the state's centennial in connection with the fair. The board re-elected Warren T. McCray, of Kentland, as president.

An Art School in Kentland. A course of art instruction, including lessons in drawing, painting and the principles of decoration, will be given by Mrs. James Carton in the Women's Rest Room in the Court House, beginning next Saturday, Jan. 8. and continuing for fourteen consecutive Saturdays.

The smallpox scare has about subsided. Most of the patients have been released from quarantine, the school opened Monday and the town is again in full swing.

The ten year old son of Elmer Swaim, accompanied by his father and Dr. Mathews, was taken to Chicago last evening to be operated on for appendicitis. This is the third case of appendicitis among boys of the Strole School since school opened, the other two being the sons of John White and Ocey Franklin.

Warren T. McCray, Newton County candidate for the Republican nomination for Governor of Indiana met with the Secretary of State last week and his name will appear on the primary ballot March 7.

Farmers Discuss County Agent Plan. The merits and demerits of "book" farming were threshed out by a representative gathering at the Court House Saturday afternoon. The meeting was called for the purpose of discussing the feasibility of employing an agricultural agent in this county, and a real lively discussion ensued.

Thomas Gott has resigned his position with the New York Central at Sloan will return to Kentland and work for the Corn Belt Seed Co. Tom's presence was needed in Kentland to fill out the band.

Goodland

Lyle Constable, one of the progressive young farmers of Grant Township, was in Kentland Monday and to some of his friends expressed a desire of representing this district

in the lower house of the state legislature. The district is now composed of Newton, Jasper and Benton counties, and Mr. Constable is located almost in the center of this territory, He is a college graduate and a promising young man. As it has been many years since Newton County had the honor of supplying the joint-representative Mr. Constable thinks it is our turn.

Yeggmen at Goodland. Professional safe blowers operated in Goodland Tuesday night, blowing the safe in Cook's drug store and securing about \$75.00 in money. They first visited Hughes' blacksmith shop and secured the necessary working tools, then broke into the Burgess hardware store and secured four large horse blankets and 12 smaller blankets, then entered Rich & Tedford's store and secured 16 large comforters. The blankets and comforters were used to muffle the explosion of the Cook safe. They also stole an \$18.00 overcoat from the Tedford store. It is believe in Goodland that the post office was marked for the second safe cracking as the rear door had been pried open and the blankets and comforters were in the alley nearby. The burglars probably were frightened away before undertaking this job.

Roselawn

Jan. 11—A Local Romance—a journey of 8,000 miles in a basket bed ended here when C. C. Smith, a mining engineer of Natal, South Africa, arrived at the home of his parents. He suffered a broken back in a mine accident and is paralyzed from the waist down but nevertheless will wed Miss Amy Palmer, an English nurse, who cared for him in a hospital in Cardiff, Wales, and then helped bring him home. Smith and a companion were repairing machinery in the South African workings. A huge rock fell, killing his companion. At Smith's request the company started him home, appropriating \$25,000 for the surgical and other expenses of the trip. The journey was broken at Cardiff so that the injured man might receive special medical attention and it was there that he met Miss Palmer. Because of the size of the basket in which Smith traveled it was necessary to take out the windows of a railroad coach to get him aboard the train.

The Kankakee Country

Some of our citizens have put up their

supply of ice for next summer. It reached a thickness of about 8 or 9 inches.

We believe if the same effort was made to establish boy's vegetable clubs as has been made for the establishment of corn clubs to our county that the north end would be there with the goods. In no place do potatoes and garden vegetables do better. Our boys can't compete with the south end boys in corn raising on the account of natural conditions, so why not enlarge our county corn show into a general agricultural exhibit and give everyone a fair shake.

A number of men are at work clearing the timber along the river for the big river dredge. All trees are cut down for a width of 225 feet and all removed in the center strip to a width of 125 feet.

J. H. Wells, I. W. Burton and Peter Stravos were down from Lake township Monday on business. The latter, a young Greek, took out naturalization papers.

McClellan Township

There was no Sunday School at Oak Grove last Sunday. The janitor lost the key to the building and found out too late to make a trip to Morocco for one in time for the service.

Brook

Supt. Longwell gives a talk each Monday on Indiana history to the high school pupils. It is an excellent idea in view of the Centennial anniversary this year.

The garage firm of Foresman & Lowe has changed to Lowe Bros., John Foresman, Jr., having sold his interest to Elmer Lowe, and other firms will change locations. E. E. Hess & Son purchased the two rooms occupied by J. A. Sell, and Mr. Sell will move into the west room, and Mr. Hess into the east room. Montgomery & Snyder will change locations to the place vacated by Mr. Hess. The Warrick restaurant will then occupy the room vacated by Montgomery & Snyder.

Mt. Ayr

During the cold weather last week Mr. Cavinder, our butcher, put up six tiers of fine ice.

Miss Lucy Harris, who has been attending school at Terre Haute, is at home and is acting as weigher and bookkeeper at the grain office.

Ransom White has purchased the half interest of Ernest Schanlaub in the Witcher & Schanlaub blacksmith shop. The new firm will be known as Witcher and White.

Morocco

Jim Harwood is now wielding a razor in Harry Brewer's barber shop. Jim has been in the business for several years and will prove a valuable addition to the force there.

Joseph M. Chizum, one of the successful and progressive farmers of the county, was in Kentland Monday attending court. Mr. Chizum is heartily in favor of the employment of a county agent, but believes the \$500 fund should be raised by small subscriptions, thus bringing more farmers into participation with the project, and thereby increasing their interest.

Editor's Note: During this winter period of 1916 each town had much in the news of sickness called grippe or La grippe. The following was found in poem about this sickness.

The Grippe

An ache in the back,
and a pain in the head
-That's the grippe!
A choke in the throat, and a
yearning for bed
-That's the grippe!
A river of heat, then a shiver of cold, a feeling
of being three hundred years old,
A willingness even to do as you're told
-That's the grippe!
An arrow of pain, now this is the place
-now that
-That's the grippe!
A feeling of doubt as to where you are a
-That's the grippe!
A stupid sensation
-of course, wholly new!
A stupid depression
-why should you feel blue?
A doubt to whether this is you
-That's the grippe!
Strange visions at night
that deprive you of rest
-That's the grippe!
A taste in your mouth and a
weight on your chest
-That's the grippe!
A tired sensation that
runs through your veins,
A queer combination of aches and of pains,
A vapid admission of absence of brains
-That's the grippe!



Here's an early photograph of Weldon's Corner, formerly located at the junction of US41 and SR16.

E-mail and Preserving Newton County History



Mike Mullen sent an email to me a few weeks ago with an interesting photo (above), I copied the email to Janet and Rich Miller, and this is what transpired:

Mike Mullen: "Found this rummaging through old photos. My grandfather Blanke had a stake in the company. It was my grandfather, Rueben Blanke. At one time there was a cheese plant just north of town. I think at one time there were four or five cheese plants under the Kentland Dairy Products. One in Mulberry, IN, and another in Gibson City, IL, that's all I can recall. I think, not for sure, the cheese plants were in operation in the late 1930s into the 1940s."

Janet Miller: "The Kentland Dairy Products had the cheese plant north of town in the 30s and 40s. Too bad we can't ask Aunt Nev about it-she worked there as a secretary to Harold Foulkes-somehow Uncle Swede Carlson was involved in the plant-then she and Uncle Swede married and they moved to Gibson City, IL where he ran that cheese plant. I remember visiting and touring the plant in Gibson City. Then Swede's brother "Pinkie" Carlson was involved with the Gibson plant. His wife was Marge Steinbach Carlson of the *Kentland Democrat* family. She still lived in Gibson City when she passed last year. Yes, there were other plants in the beginning-somehow I am thinking one was at Farmer's City, IL. That's about all I really know. Rich vaguely remembers the plant north of town-his remembrance was that they wanted to use Grade C milk, while his family had a dairy and were proponents of using and producing Grade A milk. So much for my memories. It would be a great story if we could get it all together. Especially with a picture. Rich, too, thinks Rueben Blanke was involved in the plant."

Mike Mullen: "You are right about Nev. You have jogged my memory and all the names you mentioned were involved. I remember visiting one of those plants. Mulberry, IN, I think. Of course all of us young ruffians played around the plant north of town when Super Crost seed stored grain out there. Rat shooting as I recall. I still have one stock certificate for one share of the Kentland Dairy Products. Those guys were real entrepreneurs. Rueben and some of the others got involved with National Homes out of Lafayette after World War Two and did very well."

Janet added that she thought the photo was of the Gibson, IL plant. *Submitted by Beth Bassett.*

Home is Where Your Story Begins

Bailey and Dawson Connection and The Cox Family, Submitted by Eleanor Bailey

I don't have adequate documentation of my immigrant Bailey ancestor, he may have been in the colonies prior to 1700. I will begin with Horatio Bailey, my great-great-grandfather.

Horatio was born 1786 in Delaware and married Sally Hurst at Laurel, Delaware on June 7, 1807. His siblings were: William, born in Delaware ca. 1782, married Asenath Knowles, their first child was Eleanor Bennett Bailey born 1807 in Delaware; Ellen Bailey, a sister, married Mr. Boyce; a sister, Elizabeth, married Isaac Jones. Another sister, Nancy Sally Sarah, married John Cook in Delaware 1805.

In 1807, these families left Delaware to migrate to Ohio. Their destination was the Scioto River Valley. Their mode of travel is not known. Upon arrival in Ohio, land was purchased in the Virginia Military District, which was located on the west side of the Scioto River.

Land was cleared, cabins built, and crops were planted. Horatio and William each owned one-hundred acres, surveyed by the metes and bounds method. Isaac Jones owned one-hundred acres. The three parcels of land adjoined and would be listed in either Pickaway or Ross Counties depending on when the county boundaries changed. Census records and deeds reveal this to the confusion of those who try to trace the family history. Chillicothe is the county seat of Ross County and Circleville is the county seat of Pickaway County.

During the War of 1812 between the United States and Great Britain, Horatio enlisted in the Ohio Militia and served as a mounted rifleman. He was a Sergeant in Capt. Phillip McNemar's, Rifle Company which was part of Tupper's Brigade. Discharge and pension documents indicate that he served from August 14, 1812 to February 14, 1813. He was awarded two bounty land certificates in 1851, each for eighty acres of land. From 1871 until 1878, he received a pension of eight dollars a month.

Children of Horatio and Sally, all born in Ohio were: Leah J., Jonathan D., Sallie Anne, Horatio J., and Thomas C. (1826-1905). It was about 1828 when the Baileys and other families they were acquainted with began the

move Warren County in west central Indiana. It has been said that they were squatters in the area that would become Medina Township. They built log cabins and a water-powered sawmill near Little Pine Creek.

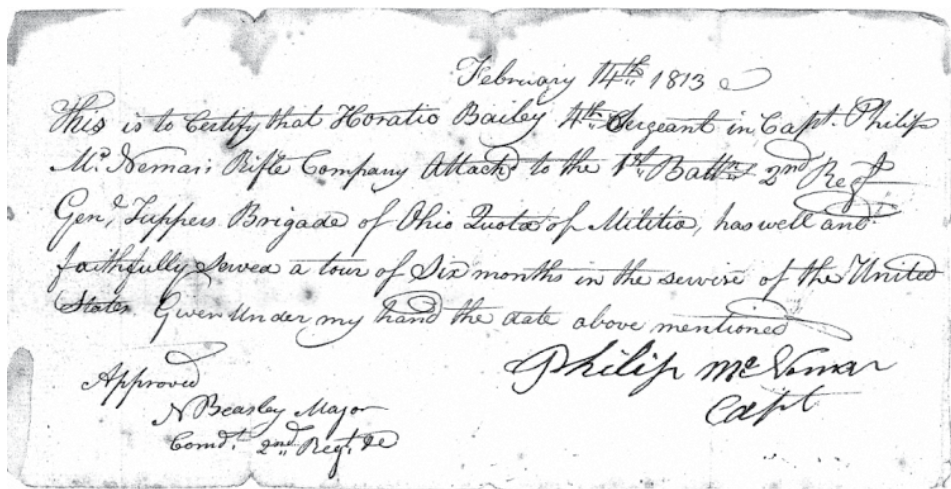
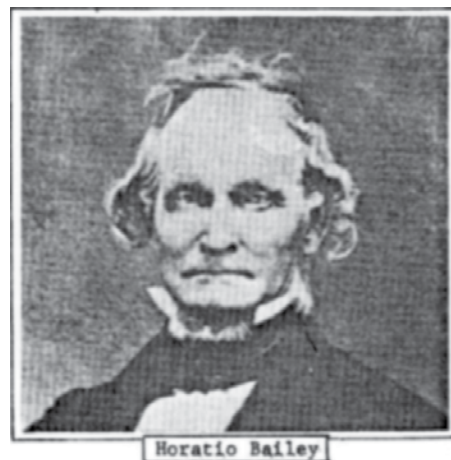
On the 1830 US Federal Census of Medina Township, Horatio and his brother William are listed as heads of households. The Bureau of Land Management General Land Office Records show that on February 2, 1831: Horatio Bailey purchased from the Federal Government, eighty acres of land for \$1.25 per acre. Horatio returned to the land office at Crawfordsville, Indiana on July 1, 1831 and purchased another eighty acre parcel. William made similar purchases. The two brothers platted a town which was known as Milford, Poolesville and then Green Hill.

Thomas C. Bailey married Mahala Mears, June 1847, a daughter of William Mears and Sally Newell, 1829 settlers of Warren County. Mahala was born 1827 in Brown County, Ohio. She had eight siblings, most of who migrated to Black Hawk County, Iowa. Thomas and Mahala's first-born was Wallace Bailey, my great-grandfather, and the father of Perry Owen Bailey. Their other children were: John N., Louella, Sarah, Horatio W., Minerva, and Emma. Sarah, Horatio W., and Minerva died in 1862, possibly during a scarlet fever epidemic. Emma died at age two the following year. Thomas and Mahala owned two stores in Green Hill. Thomas was an apothecary and

postmaster. Thomas died May 1905 and Mahala August 1913. They are all buried at Davis Cemetery, one mile west of Green Hill.

Sally (Hurst) Bailey passed away 1849 at Green Hill and was buried west of town at the Davis Cemetery. On the 1850 US Federal Census for Medina Township, Horatio Bailey's household included Thomas, Mahala and Wallace. Two years later Horatio married Elizabeth Jane (Wakeman) Remick, a native of New York State. 1860 Census indicates that the home of Horatio and Eliz Jane consisted of: Horatio age 75, Eliza J. age 49, George Hall age 10, Sarah Leeper age 6, and Thomas Cook, a 21 year old farm hand.

On the 1870 Census, Sarah Leeper age 16 was again listed in the Horatio and Eliz Jane Bailey household along with her brother,



Above, right, Horatio Bailey; bottom, Horatio Bailey's discharge papers dated February 13, 1813, after his six months in the service of the United States.

Charles Leeper age 10, and Cyrus Smith age 4. The Leeper children were from the marriage of Mary Melinda Remick and Jessie Leeper. Jesse had enlisted in the Union Army, died in a Civil War battle, and is buried at Davidson County, Tennessee. Elizabeth Jane may have been the grandmother of the Leeper children. Horatio and Eliza Jane's home and farm al-

ways seemed to be a place for the children from other families to live and be cared for.

Horatio Bailey passed away January 24, 1878; having lived fifty years in Warren County, he was well known and as it was noted in the local newspaper he was known as "Grand-Pap Bailey" and still driving his team of horses and wagon to Lafayette at the age of

ninety-two.

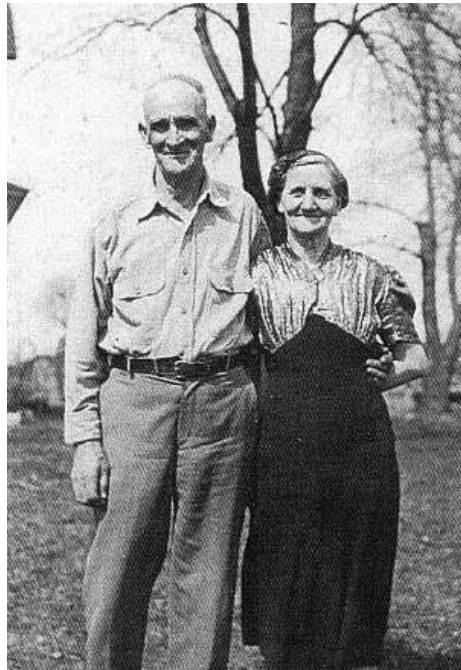
Charles Dawson (1777-1846) and wife Sarah Sally (Jackson) Dawson (1777-1850) moved from Dearborn County, Indiana to Warren County and purchased government land in 1829. Children were: Thomas, Elisha, Honor, Lucretia, Ezechial, John, William, Charles W., Rachael, Elijah (1824-1877) and Dilla. Charles and Sarah (Jackson) Dawson are buried at Clawson Cemetery three miles west of Green Hill. Elijah Dawson married Rebecca Little 1847 in Warren County. Their children were: Ardella, Henry J., Mary Alice, Chesafy, Caroline, Charles F., Perry, Thomas J., and Sarah Florence.

Sarah Leeper married Charles F. Dawson in 1873. They were living in Warren Township, a few miles southwest of Green Hill in 1900 and their neighbors were Elmer and Clara (Dawson) Talbott [Talbert]. Sarah and Charles moved before 1910 to Jackson Township, Newton County. Their children were: Clara, Cecil, Vadne, Walter, Leonard, Arthur Elmer, Homer and Oliver. [Names taken from the 1928 obituary of Sarah Dawson]. US Federal census 1910 lists Charles as head of household with his wife Sarah, son Walter L., an unnamed wife of Walter, and Lawrence E. grandson age 5.

Chesafy Dawson, daughter of Elijah and Rebecca Dawson, was born 1848 and married Wallace Bailey March 14, 1867 their children were: John Oliver, Rachel Arvilla, Nellie,



Chesafy Dawson, 1910



Perry and Aggie Bailey, 1937-1940.



The Perry and Aggie Bailey gathered in 1949 to celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary. Front, l-r, Charles Bailey, Oscar Bailey, Chester Bailey, Paul Bailey; Rear, l-r, Hettie (Bailey) Hiestand, Ethel (Bailey) Harsha, Maude (Bailey) Golden, Perry Bailey, Aggie (Cox) Bailey, Stella (Bailey) Rainford, Pauline (Bailey) Long, Flora (Bailey) Iliff.



Sarah (Leeper), Lawrence and Charles Dawson, 1920

James Oscar, Perry Owen, Fanny Love, Frank A., Charles Albert, and Thomas William. Nellie died at the age of twelve. Thomas died at age two. Wallace was a farmer and dealer in agricultural implements, boots and other items. Most of his business dealings were in and near Green Hill. He owned farm land in Warren and Tippecanoe counties. This family was enumerated on the 1870 and 1880 Census and was living in Shelby Township, Tippecanoe County.

On March 18, 1890, tragedy struck the family; Wallace died of pneumonia after a week's illness. He died intestate and the ensuing legal matters, included appointment of a male guardian for the minor children, appraisal and selling of his estate, and other matters, necessitated a lot of hard decisions by his wife. Chesafy and the children managed to keep some of the livestock and farm tools so they could continue to sustain themselves on the farm. The years of 1897 and 1898 saw a lot of changes, the farm land was sold, and the lots in West Lafayette and Lafayette were sold. The family headed north to Newton County. John Oliver Bailey, wife Rebecca (Gooden), and two children had moved to Beaver Township, Newton County, where John worked as a blacksmith. James Oscar Bailey, wife Lillie, their children: Albert Owen, Francis and Bertha were living in Roselawn in 1900. James was a farm laborer. Perry and his mother were living in Newton County prior to 1898. Perry Owen Bailey and Aggie B. Cox were married October 1899; Perry was working as a farm laborer at either the Lawler Ranch or the Otis Ranch near Roselawn. They lived in Roselawn. He also worked on a dredge near Roselawn when the lateral ditches were being dug. During this time, Chesafy Bailey was managing a hotel in the town of Roselawn, children in the home were: Fanny, Frank, and Charles Albert.

James, his wife Lillie and their children left Roselawn in 1908. They traveled by train to Lincoln County, Montana where James became a logger and Lillie cooked in a logging camp.

The Cox Family

Walter B. Cox (1820-1898) married Lucinda Jane Sallee (1825-1900) June 1840 in Preble County, Ohio. US Federal 1850 Census for Preble County lists: Buell Cox, age 30, laborer, Lucinda age 26, Isabel age 7, and Walter B. age 2. One more child was born in Ohio

before the family moved to Iroquois County, Illinois, seven were born in Illinois. The US Federal Census for 1860 and 1870 indicates that the family is living in Beaver Township, Iroquois County and the post office is Beaver-ville. Israel Lincoln Cox (1856-1944), one of the ten children, was born February 15, 1856 in Iroquois County. He married Matilda Ann David, October 1877, at Milford in the country. Matilda, born 1862 near Kingston, Ontario, Canada was a daughter of John Wesley David and Catherine E. (Babcock) David. The Davids had lived in Iroquois County since 1871.

Israel and Matilda Cox moved near Lake Village in Lake Township in Newton County when their first child, Iona, was two years of age. Israel was a farm worker. On April 29, 1885 two lots were purchased in the town of Roselawn for the total cost of forty dollars. Aggie was born 1882 in Roselawn. Three more children were born at Roselawn: Schuyler, Edward, and James Ira. Farm land was purchased in section 29 of Lincoln Township and the home was built there. The land was part of a sand ridge that bordered the Kankakee Marsh. Matilda's brother Charles W. David lived a mile east and his land was mostly drained farm land near the Knight Ditch.

Israel and Matilda lived there until 1940 except for six years, 1912-1918, when they lived near Bradyville, Tennessee. Israel and Matilda became the grandparents of thirty-three grandchildren. Israel died June 1944 at their home in Morocco. Matilda died one year later in June 1945 at Roselawn.

Perry and Aggie's children; Oscar, Maude, Flora, and Ethel were born at Roselawn. In 1907, when Perry began to travel with a dredging crew, he traveled to various locations in the upper Midwest. Aggie would travel by train to the job locations. While Perry was working in Minnesota, my father, Chester, was born on December 31, 1910, in

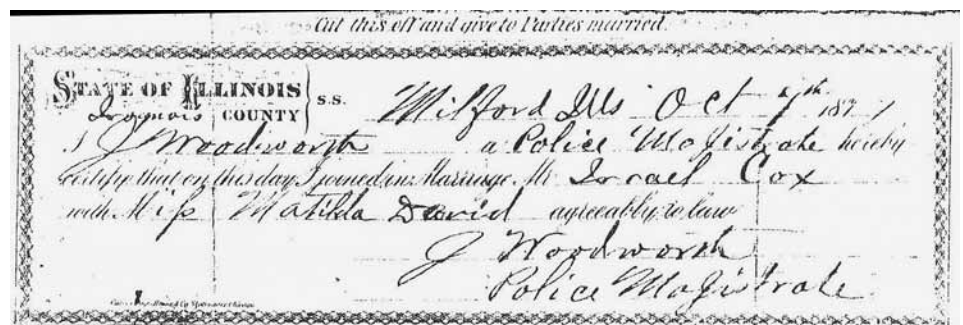


Matilda and Israel Cox.

Norman, Winnebago County, Iowa. Perry's mother was traveling with the family and lived on the shanty boat pulled behind the dredge, the crew lived on the boat, she cooked and it was somewhat like a floating hotel.

A move to Florida early in 1912 did not work out as planned; the land near Tampa needed a tremendous amount of clearing. The family returned to Indiana and soon after, Perry returned to dredging as a means of providing for his family. A move to Tazewell County, Illinois was completed before the end of 1912. Perry operated a dredge clearing Spring Lake. He built a tile factory and made agricultural tile. Children born in Illinois were: Charles D., Edgar, Stella, and Hettie.

The next move for Perry and Aggie and children was in 1920 to West Plains, Missouri and Haldton, Oklahoma. Maude had married and stayed in Illinois where she and her husband Robert Golden raised four sons.



Marriage License for Israel and Matilda (David) Cox, Oct, 1877.

Chesafy Bailey went by train to Montana where she helped Lillie Bailey cook for loggers at Whitefish, Montana and at a logging camp in Canada. She was living with her daughter Fanny Miller in Hoopston, Illinois when she passed away at the seventy-three years of age on February 3, 1922

Oscar Bailey married Elizabeth Slack and they had four children. Perry and Aggie moved to Roselawn where twins, Paul and Pauline, were born in 1923. Robert was born in 1925 and lived just a few months.

Perry's shoe repair shop burnt and the family moved from Roselawn to a small farm west of town, where they lived for about ten years. They grew vegetables, strawberries, po-

tatoes and gladiolas to sell in the surrounding communities.

Flora married Ernest Iliff, seven children; Ethel married Harley Harsha, nine children; Chester married Katherine DeReu, five children; Stella married Russell Rainford, two children; Hetty married Basil Hiestand, three children and William Abbott, one child; Pauline married Nobel Parrish, one child and Robert Long, one child..

Charles D. Bailey returned from serving in the military at a bomber squadron base in England during WWII and married Lois Christenson, five children. Paul Bailey had been in the Navy and he married Aletha Fitzgerald, two children.

Perry and Aggie moved to Morocco and lived on Walker Street for many years where they were the neighbors of Harold and Donna LaCosse, whose children liked to sit on the front porch of "Grandpa Bailey" and "Grandma Aggie" and talk and listen to stories.

Perry Bailey died at the age of eighty-six on June 21, 1963 at Brook, Indiana. Aggie (Cox) Bailey died at the age of ninety-eight and ten months on April 21, 1981 at The Huss Sheltered Home at Sheldon, Illinois. Aggie left 222 living descendants.

The Descendants of Perry and Aggie Bailey hold their annual Bailey Reunion in Brook every year in August.

Money in Early America

By David Truby

When the English colonists arrived in America they naturally continued to use the monetary units of Britain, namely the pound, shilling and pence for which £1 equaled 20s and 1s equaled 12d. This appeared to be a simple transplantation of economic units, but due to British colonial policy the situation became quite complex. Basically, British policy was guided by the supposition that its colonies would contribute revenue and stimulate industrial growth by providing both raw materials and markets for British mercantile expansion. In return the colonies would be protected by British arms and civilized by British rule. Toward this end parliament enacted laws prohibiting the export of British silver coinage as it was felt the colonies should be providing Britain with precious metals rather than draining them away. The result of this policy was that British silver coins were quite scarce in the North American colonies.

Value of a 2015 US Dollar In:	Price of Gallon of Whiskey
1805: \$15	1800: \$.55
1810: \$14	1805: \$.53
1815: \$11	1810: \$.62
1820: \$15	1815: \$.78
1825: \$18	1820: \$.30
1830: \$19	1825: \$.26
1835: \$20	1830: \$.21
1840: \$20	1835: \$.34
1845: \$23	1840: \$.22
1850: \$22	1845: \$.21
1855: \$20	1850: \$.22
1860: \$21	1855: \$.39
1865: \$11	1860: \$.21

This problem was critical as it adversely affected local commerce and forced the colonists to turn to foreign coins, primarily Spanish American silver produced in Mexico and Peru. The most widely used coin in the colonies was the eight reales (piece of eight), primarily clipped underweight examples that had made their way north from Mexico through the Bahamas. The eight reales was the highest unit of Spanish silver in the New World, similar in size and weight to the thalers of the various German states, the French écu, the Portuguese cruzado and the ducatoon of Holland; colonists called the eight reales coin a "dollar," from the Dutch "daalder" (a derivative of the German thaler).

Upon our declaration of independence from England in 1776, our continental congress began printing their own paper money. Owing to the doubtful outcome of the revolution and the fact that such a large quantity of paper was printed, this currency was soon devalued to give rise to the phrase "worthless as a continental".

The war of independence was over and won in 1781 but there was no coinage minted until 1792 when an act of congress established a mint in Philadelphia. The legislation also provided for the adoption of the decimal system based on a dollar divided into tenths, cents and mills. A decimal based system was an entirely new concept unlike any coinage system then in use and quite different from

Year, Occupation, Wages

- 1801: Director, DuPont Gunpowder Plant \$1800/year
- 1805: Clearing timber and fit for plow \$14/acre
- 1805: Ships Captain \$40/month
- 1806: Farm labor \$.40/day
- 1826: Farm Laborer, New England, \$8.83/month
- 1826: Farm Laborer, Southern Atlantic States, \$7.18/month
- 1840: Female Textile worker, \$1.90/week + board
- 1845: Female Worker, non-domestic \$2.00/week
- 1850: Farm Laborer, New England, \$14.73/month
- 1850: Farm Laborer, Southern Atlantic States, \$8.20/month

the familiar British units of pounds and shillings or the Spanish standard of eight reales to the dollar. The bill provided for gold coins designated as eagles, half eagles and quarter eagles (\$10, \$5 and \$2.50); silver coins of a dollar, half dollar, quarter dollar, dime and half dime as well as copper cents and half cents.

In 1830, a full 14 years after Indiana had become the 19th state in the union, it is estimated that ¼ of all money being circulated in these states continued to be Spanish.

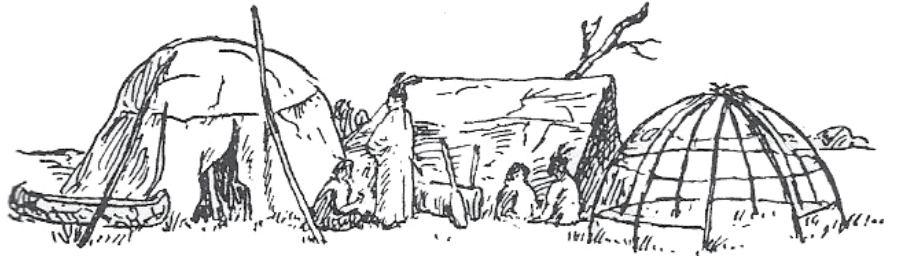
It was not until the virtual eve of the civil war and the creation of Newton County that congress passed The Coinage Act of 1857 repealed prior legal tender laws concerning foreign specie. It fixed the weight and measure of US one-cent pieces at 4.655 grams, which was composed of 88% copper and 12% nickel. It also mandated that this new copper/nickel alloy be received as payment for the worn gold and silver coins turned in at the mint. The effective aim was to limit the domestic money supply by crushing European competition. This was the first major step towards the government essentially having a monopoly over the money supply.

The First Inhabitants

The first inhabitants of what is now Newton County were Indians. They numbered only a few thousand. They lived in little huts such as they could build with their bare hands. They had no tools of iron. With sharp stones they could cut bark from the birch tree, they could cure or tan a few buffalo, deer, and bear-skins, and they could burn a few small logs or poles to convenient lengths with which they did their building.

At Ft. Wayne, or Miamitown on the Miami, on Eel River, at Lafayette or on the Watown on the Wabash and elsewhere, they had what they called ancestral towns. These consisted of a few shacks and maybe a totem pole. The totem was a hardwood pole on the top of which with a sharp rock and fire they had carved some kind of a rude image of a bird, wolf, turtle, or whatever animal they thought they were descended. Around these poles they would gather at stated times and hold their tribal feasts and ceremonies.

Ordinarily they lived in small groups of three or four families. The women cultivated their corn, beans, pumpkins and squash, with their babies on their mother's back or in a cradle hanging from a tree limb and their older children playing with a pack of dogs and becoming experts in catching small game such as fish and turtles. At least one man was scouting the trails for encroaching enemies. One or two men may be hunting or fishing.



Nature was a puzzle to them, believing that there were two spirits, The North Wind, (cold months), and the South Wind, (warmer months), who struggled continuously. When the North Wind prevailed, the fish gathered in the deep pools; bears crawled into hollow caves and trees and slept; deer sought sunny slopes on the hills; and buffalo gathered in long lines and lazily strolled off to the bluegrass and canebrakes of Kentucky, then part of Virginia. With the return of the South Wind, they would return to their every-day tasks, preparing for the expected return of the North Wind Spirit.

Into this Indian land more than four centuries ago, came the white men. The French hunters and traders, known in history as voyageurs, changed their lives in many ways. Improving their abilities to fish and hunt by sharing their steel fish hooks, long sharp hunting knives and steel hatchets. They co-existed, even inter-married with these early Frenchmen for many years. But once the other Europeans arrived in their lands, there would be a change in their way of life, and occupations of our lands forever.

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