

VOLUME 3
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HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS
OF
TALLMADGE MISSELANIOUS

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SEMICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF HUDSON

The fiftieth anniversary of the settlement of Hudson was celebrated by the inhabitants of the place & vicinity on Wednesday the 5th of June 1850, in a manner peculiarly appropriate & affecting. The meeting was held in a quiet retreat, a little removed from the Village which had apparently enjoyed a truce with the hostile axe untill invaded to prepare seats & tables for these festivities. At eleven o'clock an organization was effected by appointing Hon. Van R. Humphrey, President John B. Clark, Frederick Baldwin, and John B. Whedon Esq. Vice Presidents, & Wm. Thompson, Marshall. The President briefly stated the object of the meeting, it was the fiftieth anniversary of the arrival of David Hudson and his little band of pioneers, effect a settlement in these wilds, then so difficult of access & so remote from the bounds of civilization. We have come up hither to pay our tribute of respect to their memories, & to indulge in grateful recollections of their labors & privations, in laying the foundations for our own prosperity. But we had not come together merely to compare tales told us in our infancy, by our grandsires long since departed. The men of other days were with us, who had participated in the earliest scenes of this settlement - in clearing the first pathways, & constructing the first cabins. Men who are familiar with the howlings of the wolf in all their variations from dismal yells in full choir under our verry windows, to the faint tremor of his solitary voice as he sulked away to haunts more congenial to his habits. The men who saw the countenance of the owl first change from its habitual serenity, to a stare of incredulity & scorn at their approach, were present to tell us how that stare was changed to one of discomforture, as he hooted the omens of his own departure, & the wasting away of his forest home before their powerful arms.

It was to commemorate the events of those days, with the severe trials, the deprivations & hair breadth escapes incident to pioneer life - to treasure them up as items of history, interesting to ourselves, and useful to posterity that we were then upon those grounds. After this presentation the order of excercises were as follows:

- Singing - Hundredth Psalm - Old Hundred by the whole audience
- Prayer - by Rev. Wm. Hanford
- Hymn 45 - Lenox "Great God of Nations now The Lord Jehovah Reigns" by the whole audience
- Address by Rev. John Seward
- Hymn 653 - Bridgewater, "Great God of Nations now to the etc. by the audience
- Address by Rev. John C. Hart. (delivered by Prof Day, Mr. H being absent through illness)
- Song - Primitive days. (Music & words written for the occasion) by quartette of male voices
- Address by President Pierce
- Song - W. R. College, by the Village Choirs
(Music and words written for the occasion)

Mr. Seward gave a minute account of the original efforts of Messrs. Hudson and Tappan to effect a settlement in this region - their

difficulty in organizing a band for emigration - their departure - perilous journeyings through the wildest of forests, inhabited by beasts of prey and more savage men, - through rivers & lakes difficult & dangerous of navigation, supplied with the merest scallops, insufficient to encounter the commonest storms to which they were exposed - their long search for the location assigned them as their future homes. Their arrival and settlement disappointment in the failure of supplies, with the painful and sleepless anxiety of their leader, as he contemplated the sad alternative of starvation to himself and those dependent on him, or leaving them to the mercy of their savage neighbors, while he could make his way back to his former home and secure a supply of provisions, his wrestlings at the throne of grace for guidance in so peculiar an emergency, and the final triumph of his faith as he committed all to him who is able to preserve and tore himself away to encounter again the arduous journey, - his return and successful planting and early training of his infant colony.

Mr. Hart resumed the narrative at the period where Mr. Seward had left it, viz: at the end of the first year and brought it down to present time; giving particularly the first organization of the Church and the different Church organizations at different periods. Statistics taken at different times, showing the improvements constantly going on, and the changes in particular localities, known to most present, and interesting to those to whom they are known.

The burden of Pres. Pierce's discourse was:

- I. To recognize the hand of God as exhibited in the settlement of this continent, and especially in the settlement of the Western Reserve.
- II To portray the character of the times in which this settlement was made - the religious character of the men who were chosen to carry out Gods purposes in regard to them, and the motives which actuated them, in their arduous labors.
- III The peculiar nature of the enterprise in which they were engaged as a missionary work, to plant the institutions of religion and Christian Civilization in these western wilds; and
Finally: to present the heroic and Christian virtues of our fathers their ardent piety - their unwavering faith - their cheerful self denial and constant devotion to the work they had undertaken, together with their unbounded liberality in carrying out their benevolent designs as objects of imitation to us, their decendants, earnestly desiring that we who come after them may derive lessons of wisdom from the recital of the past, to guide us in the discharge of duties necessarily devolving upon us. It is incumbent on us, he said, to enter fully into their labors, to cherish the interests which were dear to them, and carry out the designs of benevolence, instituted by them.

Like them, we must see to the cultivation of our soil, to render it productive, and strive to increase the wealth and population of our township.

We must remember our public improvements and encourage and patronize them as the sources of our future wealth and prosperity.

We must attend to our schools and secure the best education to the rising generation, we must cherish our College as an institution of prime value to ourselves and our country, and above all to sustain the institutions of religion, support the preached gospel, and the combined influence of our churches, endeavor to have all our population under the influence of Christianity.

In accomplishing these ends he commended to us the rigid economy practiced by our fathers, and entering into all their movements as a characteristic. Theirs was a wise economy, suited in all respects to their circumstances.

Such an economy we need; not necessarily leading us to do everything exactly as they did it. Economy accommodates itself to conditions. It was, he said, economy for our fathers to eat on trenches, it might be well enough for us to imitate them on the present occasion, as the Israelites on certain days ate unleavened bread and bitter herbs, but their daily use is not necessarily economy. Let us have an economy suited to the Western Reserve and calculated for the latitude and longitude of Hudson, making all needful advancement just when circumstances may call for it.

But with their economy in all things was united a liberality practiced on a great scale - a benevolence partaking of the most generous magnanimity. There was also a habitual recognizing of the Supreme God as the arbiter of events, trusting to his guidance and protection in all their goings. These were separately and forcibly exhibited and commended as worthy objects of imitation. Finally the speaker led us back to scene occurring fifty years before when every soul in Hudson to the number of forty three came together to celebrate the anniversary of our national independence, partaking of course of a public dinner, suited to the occasion as we today. This afforded a good stand point of comparison between Hudson fifty years ago and Hudson now, and as he looked forward from that position, there being no good reason for terminating the view at this particular point, he indulged in a most pleasing prospect for the fifty years to come, when our children and our children's children would be again congregated on this spot to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of our settlement.

We would gladly give our readers a treat to this part of the discourse, but our limits are insufficient for the passage entire, and we have no heart to manage it. We may say however for their consolation that there is a movement on foot to publish the proceedings entire, in pamphlet, or rather book form, for distribution and it only requires a "little more of the same sort" of encouragement so often exhibited by our own people on all fitting occasions, to place the whole in a convenient and beautiful form for preservation and consultation.

At the close of these addresses the audience retired to the tables, bountifully supplied with "nicknacks and substantial". (Our Hudson ladies never fail to accomodate our tastes as well as our wants).

Served up on identical pewter platters used on a similar occasion fifty years before and the identical trenchers to be used we hope on a similar occasion fifty years hence.

But they soon returned to listen to the tales of personal adventures related by some of the chief movers in the scenes commemorated today. These of course cannot be given here, but will probably be given entire and verbatim in the book, (if published) not failing to mark the exact word on which the stage fell, precipitating speaker, officers of the day and all to the ground, and some to the foot of the hill below.

The letters also received on the occasion will be given. At the close of the exercises, the meeting adjourned to meet on the same spot on the fifth of June, A.D. 1900 at eleven o'clock.

The adjournment and the time appointed for our next meeting, gave occasion to some appropriate and touching remarks by Prof. Barrows, on the changes that must necessarily occur before that time. He thought the picture of these changes drawn by one of the regular speakers (Pres. Pierce) not overdrawn The Times - the places - the persons - all must be different. How different none can tell. We appoint a meeting, but not for ourselves, as few of the many present excepting the merest youth, can hope to attend. These now in active life must of necessity have passed away. So transient is life. Of the children present, some would probably see that day.

To them he appealed to remember the appointment. They would be scattered over the country, engaged in the various occupations of life, but wherever they may be - whatever may be their occupation, he hoped they would remember the day, and if possible be present.

Copied from the Ohio Observer Vol. 24th, No. 22 June 12th, 1850

Copied from the Summit Beacon of the date of Feb. 21st, 1867

PERSONS MARRIED BY THE REV. JOHN SEWARD DURING THE FIRST

TEN YEARS OF HIS MINISTRY FROM 1812 TO 1822

- 1st - Justus Parrish & Roxana Bissell, Aurora Sept. 13th, 1812
- 2nd - Jabez Gilbert & Electa Daniels, Palmyra, Oct. 12th, 1812
- 3rd - Israel Coe & Ascenath Fowler, Burton, Feb. 17th, 1813
- 4th - Sanford Baldwin & Hannah Witter, Aurora, March 24th, 1813
- 5th - Artemas Baker & Mehitabel Conant, Windham, Aug. 17yj, 1813
- 6th - Tyler Smith & Eunice Bissell, Aurora, Jan. 11th, 1814
- 7th - Heman Oviatt & Sophia Kilbourn, Tallmadge, April 6th, 1814
- 8th - Isaac D. Faxon & Corinna Lewis, Mantua, Oct. 13th, 1814
- 9th - Norman Rogers & Minerva Lusk, Hudson, Nov. 24th, 1814
- 10th - Gad Hollenbeck & Phebe Bishop, Hudson, Dec. 8th, 1814
- 11th - Jonathan Metcalf & Abigail Root, Aurora, Dec. 26th, 1814
- 12th - Eli Cannon & Fanny Cochran, Aurora, Dec. 28th, 1814
- 13th - Nicholas McConnell & Alford, Windham, Jan. 24th, 1815
- 14th - Seth Harmon & Mary McCown, Windham, Jan. 25th, 1815
- 15th - Horace Ladd & Eunice K. Moore, Mantua, Feb. 25th, 1815
- 16th - Milo Hudson & Hannah Rogers, Hudson, April 1815
- 17th - Ephraim Gloyd & Lovicey Jackson, Aurora, April 10th, 1815
- 18th - Oliver Humphrey & Anna Birchard, Windham, June 18th, 1815
- 19th - Erastus Johnson & Anna Sherwood, Nelson, Aug. 27th, 1815
- 20th - Festus Sheldon & Sally Spencer, Aurora, Oct. 12th, 1815
- 21st - Jonathan Foote & Huldah Lyman, Windham, April 15th, 1816
- 22nd - Ephraim H. Selah & Alma Birchard, Windham, May 2nd, 1816
- 23rd - Alpheus Streeter & Orilla Bonney, Windham, Oct. 27th, 1816
- 24th - George W. Kneeland & Sally Carlton, Mantua, Nov. 28th, 1816
- 25th - John Parsons & Amy Spencer, Aurora, Feb. 19th, 1817
- 26th - Charles H. Paine & Parthenia Mason, Hiram, May 19th, 1817
- 27th - Anson Owen & Sally Seley, Windham, Sept. 24th, 1817
- 28th - Daniel C. Goodsell & Almira Connoughey, Aurora, March 5th, 1818
- 29th - Daniel Smith & Lucy Witter, Bainbridge, June 20th, 1818
- 30th - Henry Hewin & Phebe Tomlinson, Burton, July 23rd, 1818
- 31st - John Esty & Betsey Janes, Mantua, July 28th, 1818
- 32nd - Samuel Taylor & Hannah Baldwin, Aurora, Aug. 27th, 1818
- 33rd - David McIntosh & Sally H. Smith, Bainbridge, Nov. 2nd, 1818
- 34th - Wm. Wolcott & Persis Bosworth, Mantua, Dec. 10th, 1818
- 35th - Hopson Hurd & Betsey Lacy, Aurora, Dec. 22nd, 1818
- 36th - George Cannon & Bathsheba White, Aurora, Dec. 31st, 1818
- 37th - Jarvis McConnoughey & Dolly Witter, Bainbridge, Jan. 28th, 1819
- 38th - Gilbert Graham & Tryphena Seward, Aurora, Feb. 28th, 1819
- 39th - Bohan Blair & Julia Powers, Aurora, Sept. 23rd, 1819
- 40th - Simeon Sheldon & Eunice Harmon, Mantua, Dec. 1st, 1819
- 41st - Charles Dudley & Celina M. Frost, Mantua, Dec. 2nd, 1819
- 42nd - Jonathan Ely & Lucinda Howard, Bainbridge, June 22nd, 1820
- 43rd - John Barnes & Emilia Eldridge, Aurora, Sept. 20th, 1820
- 44th - Timothy Cooley & Sally Lewis, Mantua, Sept. 27th, 1820
- 45th - Benjamin Cram & Melicent Bissell, Aurora, Feb. 22nd, 1821
- 46th - Justin Kennedy & Betsey Hathaway, Aurora, March 8th, 1821
- 47th - Bradley Hawkins & Polly Waldo, Shalersville, Oct. 11th, 1821
- 48th - Epaph Loveland & Sally Riley, Aurora, Nov. 19th, 1821
- 49th - Thomas Black & Clara Cochran, Aurora, Dec. 16th, 1822

GENEALOGY OF THE CHAPMAN FAMILY

The Rev. Fredrick Wm. Chapman, son of Abisha & Mary (Goss) Chapman, was born at Canfield, Mahoning County, Ohio Nov. 17th, 1806, was hopefully converted while attending the Academy at Tallmadge in the year 1821.

He entered immediately upon a course of study preparatory to college under the instruction of Deacon Elizur Wright, a graduate of Yale, of the class of 1781.

He entered Yale in the fall of 1824 and graduated in the Class of 1828. He taught the Academy at Sharon one year, when he entered the Theological Seminary and graduated in the Class of 1832. Having received a unanimous call from the Congregational Church in Stratford, Conn. about three months previous to the close of his theological course, he was ordained and installed Sept. 5th, 1832. He married May 6th, 1833, Miss Emily Hill, eldest child of Henry and Emily Hill of West Brook. Her mother being the youngest daughter of Lieut. Sebbens Chapman and the sixth generation from Robert in the line of his youngest son, Deacon Nathaniel Chapman. By her he has three children. Having received a unanimous call from the church in Deep River, Conn. May 16th, 1839, and installed at Deep River May 29th, 1839. After serving the latter church about eleven years and six months, he received a call from the church in South Glastenbury. He was dismissed at Deep River Oct. 1st, 1850 and installed at Glastenbury the 24th of the same month, where he now resides (1854).

Mr. Chapman died young and he being left without means, was obliged to rely principally upon his own exertions in procuring a collegiate and theological education. Knowing the trials of such a course, he has aided several young men in fitting for college by hearing them recite in their preparatory studies without any charge. Throughout his entire ministry he has been occupied most of the time, in the instruction of youth, either in private classes or in select schools. During a period of little more than twenty years between five and six hundred pupils have shared his instructions, for a longer or shorter period of time, over thirty of whom have entered the learned profession. He has 3 children: Frederick Wm. born May 21st, 1838, Mary Emily born Aug. 12th, 1840 and Henry Abisha born Sept. 1st, 1845.

The Rev. Frederick Chapman mentioned above was the author of a book entitled "The Chapman Family, or the descendants of Robert Chapman, one of the first settlers of Saybrook Conn and as Dea Nathaniel Chapman was one of the first settlers of Tallmadge I have thought proper to make some extracts from the book.

Robert Chapman, the first settler, who came from Hull in England, to Boston in August 1635 and in the month of Nov. to Saybrook, married Ann Blith (or Bliss as is supposed) April 29th, 1642. According to the family tradition, he was born in the year 1616. He died Oct. 13th, 1687. Mrs. Ann Chapman's death transpired Nov. 20, 1685.

Robert Chapman, the first settler was a verry prominent man in

Saybrook. Was deputy to the Gen. Court that set at Hartford according to the colony records from 1654 to 1680. He was in the Pequot War. The colonial records show that he was appointed to offices of trust in the colony and on committees for various purposes.

The following extract from the colony records Vol. 2nd, Page 269

Gen Court of Hartford, Oct. 14th, 1675

"Mr. Robert Chapman is by this courte appoynted Captn of the Traine Band of Say Brook, during these present Comotions with the Indians". He had 7 children, 3 sons and 4 daughters. His 5th child and 3rd son was named Nathaniel, born Feb. 16th, 1653. Married to Mary Collins of Guilford June 29, 1651, had four children, his 2nd son Nathaniel, born July 19th. 1686 married to Elizabeth Spencer, Aug. 1709. he had two children, Nathaniel the 2nd child was born Oct. 1714. He married Mary denison Feb. 1737 by whom he had 10 children. He resided in West Brook about a half mile east of the Cong. Church on the place now occupied by his grandson, Gideon Chapman, of the seventh generation from Robert, the first settler.

His 5th child and 2nd son Titus born Sept. 30th, 1744. He married Elizabeth Kelsey, Sept. 30th, 1767(was by trade a ship carpenter) by whom he had 7 children. He died in Tallmadge, Ohio at the residence of his eldest son Dea Nathaniel Chapman, Nov. 4th, 1808, age 64. He was the first adult that died in the town and was buried in the old cemetary in Middlebury. Nathaniel Chapman the eldest son of Titus and Elizabeth Chapman was born in Say Brook Conn. March 12th, 1768. In early life he lived in the family of Col. Joshua Porter of Salisbury. The father of Peter B. and Augustus Porter, both pioneers in Western New York with whom he was intimate and named one of his sons Augustus Porter. Nathaniel Chapman was thrice married: 1st to Hepzibah Smith Sept. 27th, 1789 and removed to Vermont. His children 1st, Sally, born in Vt. Dec. 3rd, 1790, 2nd Titus born in Vt. April 20th, 1793; 3rd William, born in Vt., June 21st, 1795. 4th, Augustus P. born June 6th, 1797. He removed from Vermont to Salisbury Conn where his 5th child Richard was born April 16th, 1800. 6th, Polly born in Canfield, Ohio Dec. 4th, 1801. 7th, Nathaniel born in Canfield, O. March 10, 1806. A son in 1808 died in infancy. Dea Chapman came from Salisbury to Canfield in 1801. He had visited the Western Reserve in the previous year (1800) He removed his family from Salisbury Conn to Canfield in Trumbull County, Ohio. His brother William who remained in Canfield while he went to Conn for his family. Taking what was at that time known as the South Road that is over the mountains through Pa to Pittsburgh with an ex team when about 10 miles short of his new home his team stuck in the mud away from any help. He seated himself on a log reflecting on his situation when the dog of his brother in Canfield came to him. He often remarked that he never met a friend he was as rejoiced to see as he was that dog. He knew that relief was near; his brother soon appearing with a yoke of oxen and helped him on to Canfield. His education was obtained in the common school, his occupation a farmer. He experienced religion in 1795. In 1808 he was induced through the influence of Rev. David Bacon to dispose of his property in Canfield and come to Tallmadge and accordingly he removed his family

into the town in April 1808. He settled on Lot No. 3 in Great Lot No. 14. It was his expectations to have been present at the organization of the Congregational Church in Tallmadge on the 22nd of Jan. 1809. But he went to Canfield with his neighbor Mr. Jonathan Sprague and was prevented from getting home by high water and they united on the 25th of June 1809. But he was chosen 2nd Deacon of the Church April 18th, 1816 and was dismissed from the church in Tallmadge to the Pres Church in Middlebury March 14th, 1833 and soon chosen deacon in that church untill his death Nov. 12th, 1834. Aged 66.

Mrs. Hepzibah (Smith) Chapman, his first wife died Jan. 28th, 1813, aged 41. Mrs. C was one of the nine that organized the church (Cong) in Tallmadge and was the first member that died and was buiried at Middlebury. His 2nd wife was Martha Spicer who he married May 9th, 1813, who died July 23rd, 1816; his 3rd wife was Mrs. Rozella Aikins, widow of Asher Aikins of Vernon, Trumbull County. They were married March 3rd, 1817 by Rev. H. Coe. She was born in Norfolk, Litchfield Co., Conn and was among the first settlers of the Reserve, suffering almost incredible hardships and privations incident to new settlers so far from the old settlements of that day. She died Jan. 24th, 1834, aged 67.

Deacon Chapman some years before his death became surety for a friend in business in Middlebury that was the cause of much trouble in his affairs. He was the first Justice of the Peace elected at the organization of the town in 1812. He was a verry exemplary Christian man. His eldest child Sally was married to John Collins on the 1st of Jan. 1809 by Joseph Harris Esq. of Randolph. John Collins was born in Marietta O. and resided in that region he came to Tallmadge in the summer of 1808. He remained in Tallmadge 2 or 3 years and then removed to the old village in Stow living in a house with George Hartte. He removed from there to Hudson and from there to Coventry in 1820. From there he removed to Guilford in Medina County, O. from there to Mich where he died in 1845.

He experienced religion in Guilford and joined the ME Church. Mrs. Collins united with the Cong. Church in Tallmadge March 13th, 1813 was dis Sept. 7th, 1829. She had 7 children, viz. Mary, Mahala, Eleanor, Betsey, Elizabeth, Sylvia and William. They all reside in Michigan and Wisconsin and all married but one (1859). Mrs. Collins died in Tallmadge Jan. 28th, 1851, aged 60 at the house of her brother Dr. Titus Chapman, Dr. Titus the 2nd child of Dea. N. Chapman was 15 years of age when his father moved into Tallmadge. He studied the medical profession with Dr. Luther Hanchett of Springfield (Summit Co) and commenced practice in 1821. He had an extensive practice in 1844. He has been married three times - 1st to Heziah Merwin Nov. 5th, 1815, who died Sept. 23rd, 1819 - 2nd to Eliza Gillette the eldest daughter of Nathan Jr. and Abigail (Wolcott) Gillet, a lineal decendant of Nathan Gillette who came to Windsor Conn with Mr. Wareham in 1633 he was one of the original planters they were married Oct. 15th, 1820. By whom he had 2 children 1st. Heziah born July 4th, 1824, George born July 26th, 1826. Mrs. Eliza G. Chapman died in Tallmadge Sept. 12th, 1846. 3rd to Sophia Newton August 27th, 1847. He removed to Oberlin where he died June 30th, 1866, aged 73.

He made public profession of religion by joining the Cong. Church in Tallmadge August 26th, 1813, was dismissed to the Church in Middlebury Dec. 12th, 1831.

William the 3rd child was 13 when his father moved into Tallmadge, he married Rhoda Culver Sept. 3rd, 1819. He has 6 children he was a hatter by trade.

1st Mary Ann born June 20th, 1820; 2nd Parkman born Dec. 20, 1821; 3rd, Martha born Feb. 16th, 1824; 4th Titus born Oct. 21st, 1827; 5th, Harriett born Feb. 14th, 1831; 6th Eliza born Sept. 19th, 1835. He moved from Middlebury to Sharon, Medina Co O from there to Wisconsin.

Augustus P the 4th, married Marilla Sprague, daughter of Jonathan and Sarah (Tousley) Sprague May 5th, 1827 by whom he had 2 children; Hepzibah, born April 4th, 1828, married Joseph Johnson and lives in Richfield Summit Co O; Laura Rozella born May 2nd, 1830, married Charles E. Walton resides in Mich.

He died March 14th, 1841 in Tallmadge, his occupation a farmer. Marilla Chapman died April 1st, 1859. He made a profession of religion with his wife Nov. 6th, 1831, uniting with the Cong. Church in Tallmadge. They were dis Oct. 27th, 1833 to Middlebury. Dea. Richard, the 5th child, he was by trade a carpenter and joiner. He was twice married, 1st to Miss Prudence Williams of Portage Township Dec. 23rd, 1823, by whom he had one child. Mrs. Chapman died June 23rd, 1827. 2nd to Miss Sylvia Neal, Dec. 1828, by whom he had three children. He died at his residence in Middlebury Jan. 4th, 1852. Deacon Chapman made a public profession of religion by uniting with the Cong. Church in Tallmadge Sept. 4th, 1831. Dis to the Pres Church in Middlebury Dec. 12th, 1831. He was a Dea and elder in the church about 20 years. Such was his life, that he secured the respect and confidence of all who knew him, "as a just man, one who feared the Lord, and was full of faith and good works". His child by his first wife was Richard, was born April 1827, died Dec. 1827.

By 2nd wife - 1st; Prudence born April 7th, 1830, married Spencer 2nd; William, born July 22nd, 1832, died Dec. 20th, 1834. 3rd; Denison, born Jan. 20th, 1836. Polly, the 6th child died at her fathers house in Tallmadge Dec. 16th, 1820, aged 19 years.

The 7th child Nathaniel married Lucinda Brewster Feb. 28th, 1828 by whom he has 6 children Stephen born May 27th, 1829; Richard born April 1st, 1831; Henry N. born March 12th, 1833; James B, born Aug. 8th, 1836; Leonard G, born Feb. 13th, 1838; Milo born Aug. 16th, 1841.

Mr. Chapman is a farmer and resides in Burnette Dodge County, Wisconsin. The transcriber of these notes of the Chapman family would say that there is not at the present time (1867) but a single one of the decendants of Dea. Nathaniel Chapman residing in Tallmadge or vicinity except Henry Chapman, a grandson C. C. Bronson, Dec. 20th, 1867

The following biographical sketches were read to the Tallmadge Historical Society by C. C. Bronson Jan. 1st, 1868:

Died in Tallmadge Feb. 27th, 1866 Mrs. Pamella (Hale) Oviatt, wife of Mr. Wm. C. Oviatt aged 57. Mrs. Oviatt was the daughter of Jonathan and Mercy (Piper) Hale and was born in Glastenbury, Hartford County, Conn. Aug. 10th, 1808.

The Hale family trace back to Samuel Hale who came into the country at an early period. The history of the town of Glastenbury, says Samuel Hale was at Hartford in 1637 and was a soldier in the Pequot War for which he received a lot in the Soldiers field. It appears he settled first in Wethersfield and then in Glastenburg about 1669 and it is considered that from him have descended all who bear the name of Hale in this country. That patriotic martyr of the revolution Capt. Nathan Hale, a native of Coventry Tolland County who was executed at New York by the British as a spy Sept. 22nd, 1775 aged 22 was a descendant of this man.

Mr. Andrew Hale of Bath Summit Co O (to whom I am indebted for these notes) says my father Jonathan Hale was born in Glastenbury Conn April 23rd, 1777, and was married to Mercy Piper July 11th, 1802. Mr. Hales mother Rachel was a Talcott, a prominent name in the early annals of Conn. Mrs. Hale was born April 28th, 1779. And died Oct. 16th, 1829, aged 50 years. Mr. Hale's education was limited and like others of his age it was obtained in the common district school, he was a man of good sense and judgment, a great reader of history, a fine musician in his day both vocal and instrumental. His occupation through life was a farmer. In the year 1810 he moved from Conn to Ohio his destination being Town 3 Range 12 of the Western Reserve in company with Jason Hammond and Elijah Hale and these three families were the first actual settlers of Hammondsburg, now Bath and they bought 1,500 acres of land. Mr. Hale settled and spent the remainder of his days on the farm now owned by his son Andrew Hale. After suffering the hardships and privations incident to pioneers life, giving his family an education and also accumulating a handsome property, he departed this life May 14th, 1854, aged 77. He was the father of six children; 1st - Sophronia, 2nd - William, 3rd - Pamella, 4th - Andrew, 5th - Abigail died in infancy, 6th - James Madison

Mr. Hale feeling that educating his family was a good investment he sent his 3 eldest children to the Tallmadge Academy then under the instruction of Elizur Wright Esq. In this way they became acquainted with the people of Tallmadge. Mr. and Mrs. Oviatt were married at her fathers house in Bath on the 10th of Sept. 1828. Mrs. Oviatt was a woman of energy, a good housekeeper very industrious and frugal. If she was disposed to express her feelings it was in language not to be misunderstood. She made a public profession of religion by uniting with the Cong. Church in Tallmadge Nov. 6th, 1831. She was a constant attendant on the Sabbath and weekly meetings of the church untill the disease that terminated her life prevented her further attendance on the worship of the Sanctuary. She died Feb. 27th, 1866, aged 57 years.

OBITUARY OF E. V. CARTER

Elbert Victor Carter was the eldest child of Ira and Charity (Beach) Carter and was born in the town of Eaton in the County of Madison in the state of New York. (Since it has been made the County Seat of Madison County) on the 22nd of March 1810. His parents left this place in 1813 and removed to Tallmadge and settled on Lot No. 2 in Great Lot No. 7. His education was obtained in the Common Schools and the Tallmadge Academy and had expected to take a collegiate course and entered the Western Reserve College but for the death of his father Nov. 9th, 1832. This sad event compelled him to abandon the idea of a college course. He married Mary, the daughter of Aaron and Bethia Hine of Tallmadge March 5, 1834. He removed to the state of Michigan, he did not remain long returning to Tallmadge and entered into copartnership with Homer S. Carter in the mercantile business at the center of Tallmadge.

He united with the Cong. Church in Tallmadge Sept. 4th, 1831. And was dismissed by his own request June 11th, 1847. He was a man highly esteemed in this community and was Justice of the Peace, Clerk of the Cong. Church etc. He was afflicted with the asthma for the last 30 years of his life. He made his last visit in Tallmadge in Dec. 1865. The following obituary was copied from an Iowa paper for the writer through the kindness of the family of T. Spalding Beach.

Died in Elkader on Saturday, April 21st, 1866 - Major E. V. Carter of consumption in his 57 year.

The above sad announcement will fall heavily upon a verry large circle of esteemed friends. The deceased was widely known and respected by all. He bore the name of Christians and possessed of that quality which makes man the noblest work of God - an honest man. He came among us in 1847. Since which time he has been actively engaged in many public enterprizes. As a merchant here in company with his brother (Hon Henry B. Carter) as President of the McGregor State Bank and as paymaster of the U. S. Army he had established and maintained a reputation for integrity and promptness in his dealings which made him esteemed, respected and honored by all who knew him. It may be said of him that he had no enemies. Old and young alike loved him. Here where he was best known, the announcement of his death caused general sorrowing and all who knew him accompanied his remains to the last resting place. He was buried on Monday. Rev. S. P. Sloan of McGregor of whose Society Mr. Carter was a member delivered an impressive sermon and paid a just tribute to the deceased. A good citizen and an honest man has left us, but the memory of his many good deeds will be cherished many, many years hence.

At page 12th of this book there is an obituary of Dr. Titus Chapman which was read to the Historical Society Jan. 1st, 1868 CCB

BIOGRAPHICAL OF MRS. ESTHER U. SPERRY

Mrs. Esther (Upson) Sperry, a former resident of Tallmadge died at the residence of her son Newton Sperry in the town of Streetsborough Portage County Ohio on the 12th of Sept. 1866, aged 67 years.

Mrs. Sperry was a lineal decendant of Thomas Upson who was an early settler in Hartford. He was an original proprietor and settler of Farmington. He married Elizabeth Fuller in 1646. He died July 19th, 1655. Thomas of Hartford and Farmington had 5 children, 2 sons and 3 daughters. Serj. Stephen the son of Thomas had 8 children, 3 sons and 5 daughters, the sons names were Stephen, Thomas and John. Serj. Stephen was among the early settlers of Waterbury. He was an accepted proprietor by signing the articles of agreement by his mark Dec. 29th, 1679. To show that he was a man of consequence among the settlers, he was one of the committee to settle the township line between the towns of Waterbury and Woodbury in April 1702. He was also surveyor, school committee, grand jurer and often townsman and 3 times deputy to the general court, that is in May 1710, Oct. 1712 and Oct. 1729. He became a serj. in the train band in 1715 and in 1729 he had a seat with the veterans in the new meeting house. He married Mary, daughter of John Lee of Farmington Dec. 29th, 1682. He died in 1735, aged 80. His wife died Feb. 15th, 1715-16. He was by trade a carpenter.

Stephen, the son of Stephen and grandson of Thomas born Sept. 30th, 1686. Married Sarah, daughter of Isaac Bronson and died Sept. 10th, 1777, his wife died in 1748.

Stephen Upson Jr. represented the town in the Colonial Assembly in Oct. 1743, at which time he bore the title of Captain. Stephen Esq. son of Stephen married Sarah, daughter of Thomas Clark, Jan. 14th, 1749-50. He died March 27th, 1769. His widow died Sept. 29th, 1813 aged 90.

They had 8 children, 4 sons and 4 daughters. Mark, the 7th child was born Feb. 21st, 1766, married Lucena Allen. He died July 19th, 1820. Mark, son of Stephen had children 1st, Olive, the second wife of Jotham Blakelee of Tallmadge. 2nd, Esther, born in Waterbury Nov. 25th, 1799. Married Amadeus N. Sperry March 22nd, 1819. 3rd, Sarah died young; 4th Lucena, married Wm. Stow, Died . 5th, Lucius Died young; 6th Rosetta died unmarried; 7th Jesse lives in Waterbury Ct.; 8th Sarah Ann resides in Oberlin unmarried; 9th Davis who died at the house of Jotham Blakelee in Tallmadge 1837 aged 22.

Mrs. Sperrys education was obtained in common district school, was a well informed woman had a taste for reading and a retentive memory. She was subject of the great revival of 1816, enjoyed by the first Cong. Church of Waterbury under the preaching of Rev. Asahel Nettleton D.D. She united with the First Cong. Church in Waterbury Ct. on the .

In July 1819 they left their native state for the then far west with ox teams, their destination being the Western Reserve. They arrived in Tallmadge in Sept. . The whole party was composed of the following persons Viz. Lyman Sperry & Lydia (Peck), his wife and the following children; Phebe N (now the wife of Horace Porter and Adna by a former wife) Lyman, Lydia, Betsey, Levinas, Lewis, Ira P. & Miss Sally Richardson, these occupied one ox waggon, 2 yoke of oxen and one horse waggon, another waggon with 2 yoke of oxen was owned by Amadeus N. Sperry & Samuel (Mansfield) Stone who married Amanda, the daughter of Mr. Lyman Sperry. Mr. L. Sperry bought of Mr. Martin Camp Lot No. in Great Lot No. 3 in Tallmadge, about 40 acres were surveyed to Amadeus on the north east corner of said Lot No. and built a log cabin in the spring of 1820, here they lived untill 1835 when they sold and removed to Streetsborough in the county of Portage. Where Mr. Sperry died Sept. 18th, 1842. They transferred their church relations from the Church in Waterbury to Tallmadge June 4th, 1820 and from the Church in Tallmadge to the Church in Streetsborough Nov. 25th, 1835. They had 10 children, 4 died before the mother. Mrs. Sperry was a woman that was able to defend her position in the doctrines of the Church of which she belonged was well posted in the news of the day moral, civil & political. She and her husband endured the hardships and privations of that day hopeful of better days which she lived to see and to enjoy. The last years of her life she was a cripple (owing to an injury of the hip caused by being thrown from a waggon. That compelled her to use crutches the remainder of her life. She was an industrious and frugal woman. And lived to see her six surviving children all settled in life.

She died of apoplexy Sept. 19th, 1866 aged 67 years.

MRS. LOUISA A. (NEAL) JOHNSON

Mrs. Louisa Anna (Neal) Johnson, daughter of Jesse and Nancy (Dudley) Neal was born in New Hartford Oneida County, N. Y. April 22nd, 1812. Her parents removed into Tallmadge that same year. She united with the Cong. Church in Tallmadge on profession of her faith May 4th, 1828. Was dis to the Presbyterian Church in Middlebury Dec. 12th, 1831.

May 16th, 1836 she married Rev. Benson C. Baldwin, by whom she had 3 children 1st - Theoren Curtiss, born Aug. 14th, 1837; 2nd - James Neal, born Feb. 22nd, 1839, married Augusta Eldred. 3rd - Benson Dudley, born Aug. 11th, 1842. Mr. Baldwin died and she married for her 2nd husband Enoch Johnson of Hudson. Where she resided the remainder of her life. She was a firm decided Christian woman. Mrs. Johnson died Sept. 16th, 1866 aged 54 years. Was buiried in Middlebury with the other members of the family.

MRS. REBECCA C WHITTLESEY

Mrs. Rebecca (Camp) Whittlesey, was the daughter of Riverious Camp of New Milford Litchfield County Conn. Where she was born May 28th, 1776. Thus was she ushered into life amid the stiring scenes of the Revolutions. Her father was a merchant, began business by bringing his goods in saddle bags on a horse to New

Milford and exposing them for sale in a cupboard in his house and from this small beginning he became very wealthy.

She married Mr. John Whittlesey of Salisbury, Ct. Feb. 12th, 1817. She lived in Salisbury until she removed with the family of Dr. Lucius C. Walton to Tallmadge in 1848. She transferred her church relations to Tallmadge by letter Nov. 5th, 1848. From thence to Connersville, Indiana Dec. 20th, 1863 from thence back to Tallmadge, readmitted July 1st, 1866, by means of her position in society and the wealth of her father she went in the first society of her day. She died Dec. 27th, 1866, aged 90 years, 7 months and 29 days.

MRS. NANCY (HART) PRESTON

Died on the 28th of Dec. 1866, Mrs. Nancy (Hart) Preston, aged 75. Mrs. Preston was the daughter of Samuel & Rosanna (Clark) Hart and was born in Southington Hartford County, Conn July 7th, 1791. She left her native place and came to the Western Reserve in 1814. Her sister Mrs. Vesta, wife of Asaph Whittlesey, had removed from Conn in 1813 and settled in Tallmadge. She became acquainted with Mr. David Preston and they were married by Rev. Simeon Woodruff Dec. 11th, 1815. The last 25 years of her life she was a great sufferer by chronic rheumatism. This deprived her of going to the sanctuary and mingling in the active scenes of life, still she was cheerful and happy ever exhibiting the character of a firm decided Christian.

She died without a murmur at Gods dealings with her and living happy with her husband the long period of 51 years.

MR. DAVID PRESTON

Mr. David Preston was the son of David and Cynthia (Sprague) Preston and was born in Canaan Litchfield County Conn. April 16th, 1792. His education was obtained in the common schools of that day. He lived in his native town until the year 1810. Elizur Wright Esq. of Canaan having disposed of his farm in Canaan and taken about 3,000 acres of land in part payment in the township of Tallmadge of the Brace Company. He made such offers to Mr. David Preston, Sr. such inducements as to sell his property in Canaan and remove to Ohio with his family which consisted of the following viz.:

- 1st - Sophia, born Nov. 25th, 1782
- 2nd - John S., born Sept. 9th, 1784.
- 3rd - Samuel, born Aug. 2nd, 1788
- 4th - Milo, born April 26th, 1790, died July 26th, 1791
- 5th - David, born April 16th, 1792, married Dec. 11th, 1815,
died Dec. 31st, 1866
- 6th - Lot, born Sept. 27th, 1794
- 7th - Cynthia born Feb. 1st, 1798

Mr. David Preston Sr. came to Ohio with Elizur Wright Esq. in 1810 bought his land of Esq. Wright and built his log cabin on or near the place now occupied by the residence of Elijah Lyman at the SW

Six Corners in Tallmadge. Mr. Drake Fellows married Sophia, daughter of Mr. D. Preston Sr. In a conversation with Mr. Fellows a few months before his death he stated that he went to Esq. Wright to rent a piece of land for a summer crop that Clarissa Wright then a little girl of 3 or 4 summers came while he was talking with her father about the land and looking up into his face with an inquiring look and in artless manner inquired "why don't you go with father to New Connecticut"? He said it set him to thinking of the subject and it resulted in his disposing of his property in Connecticut and removing to Ohio in company with Esq. Wright David Preston and others in 1810. Mr. Preston was the last survivor of his fathers family. On becoming of age or 21 in 1813, made an arrangement with Elizur Wright Esq. and on the 16 of April his birthday. He girdled the timber on the farm afterwards bought by Dea. Clark Sackett, now owned (1867) by his son Clark A. Sackett. The land that was girdled by Mr. Preston on this day was between the east road and the diagonal leading to the Center now occupied by the orchard and extending east of where the barn now stands. He however gave up his contract with Esq. Wright, shouldered his knapsack and started on foot over the mountains to Conn taking (what at that day was called the south road). About 1817 or 18 he bought of Benj. Meacham a piece of land and built a double log house near the house now occupied by Aaron Morris and Mr. Seth Meacham says articulated of Col Tallmadge for the lot now owned by Calvin Treat. He finally gave up his contract to Col Tallmadge and Benj Meacham and returned to his fathers farm built a log cabin near his fathers, purchased a portion of his fathers home farm. Here he could attend to supplying things for the comfort of his parent who had become somewhat infirm. He built the house where he lived untill the last year of his life in 1828 and 29. His occupation was farming and by his industry, had obtained a handsome property. A communication in the Summit Beacon of Jan. 10th, 1867, signed W. Written I suppose by L. C. Walton:

"Mr. Preston coming into town three years after its settlement and becoming identified with the inhabitants of the township he has always taken a lively interest in every thing pertaining to the interests of his fellow men and to the cause of morality and religion not only in his native land but throughout the world. His contributions to the needy and to the various benevolent societies were generous and methodical and having no natural heirs, he has willed nearly the whole of his property to those institutions whose object is to spread the gospel of and the knowledge of Jesus Christ throughout the world. It is perhaps superfluous to say that such a man was a firm supporter of the government in everything that was right. He has always been a thorough going union man, and at our last state election, he was carried to the door of the town hall in a carriage that he might deposit his vote in favor of Republicanism. During the last year he has felt the infirmities of age and disease pressing heavily upon him and looked forward with the Christians faith and hope to the time of his release. When informed of the death of Mrs. Whittlesey he said, "Well no one could reasonably wish it otherwise, and if the same could be said of me tomorrow morning, I should rejoice".

Nearly his last words were unwavering trust in Christ. In these sketches I have made use of an obituary notice signed W in the Summit Beacon of Jan. 10th, 1867 written as I suppose by Dr. Lucius C. Walton at whose house the three individuals mentioned above died viz, Mrs. Whittlesey, Mr. & Mrs. Preston. Mr. Preston and his wife made a public profession of faith by uniting with the Cong. Church in Tallmadge Feb. 16th, 1817. Dis to the Pres. Church in Middlebury April 8th, 1832. Was one of the ruling Elders of the church for many years and a verry active and efficient man in sustaining the Church and the ministrations of the Gospel. After the Pres. Church in Middlebury disbanded, he was readmitted with Mrs. P to the Cong Church in Tallmadge May 4th, 1856.

He was always at the weekly meeting of Church for prayer and taking untill his last sickness. After he had become unable to attend to his affairs by advice of friends with whom he consulted he made arrangement with Dr. L. C. Walton to take the care of him and his wife while they lived, a trust faithfully performed and the place they occupied so many years of his life was sold and they lived in Dr. Waltons family about nine months. He died on Monday Dec. 31st, 1866, aged 74 years 7 months, 12 days. Thus in the short space of 5 days, 3 deaths ocured in one house.

MR. HARVEY SPAFFORD

Mr. Harvey Spafford was born in New Hampshire in the year 1790. But his parents removed at an early day from New Hampshire to the Whitestown Country (as it was then called) His parents settled in New Hartford in the County of Oneida, State of New York. He was by trade a shoemaker. He married Miss Julia Dudley, Dec. 13th 1815. They removed to Tallmadge in 1816. And settled North of the Southwest Six Corners.

He and his wife united with the Cong. Church in Tallmadge March 10th, 1822. He died Sept. 17th, 1867, aged 77 years.

MISS EMELINE SACKETT

Miss Emeline Sackett was the daughter of Aaron and Huldah C. (Tanner) Sackett and came with her parents into Tallmadge about 1837. Miss Sackett united with the Cong. Church in Tallmadge Sept. 1st, 1844. By letter. She went into the southern states where she spent several years teaching. She came north a year or more before her death to recuperate her health. But that fell destroyer of mankind consumption had laid his hand upon her. She died August 5th, 1867.

HENRY G. SPARHAWK

Henry G. Sparhawk was the son of Henry and Lucinda (Lamb) Sparhawk. Henry and Lucinda Sparhawk emigrated from Templeton, Worchester County, Mass into the town of Rochester, Windsor County, Vermont, where he was born Aug. 23rd, 1811. He never had the privelege of attending any school but the common schools of his native state but he made good use of his time in school. He wrote a beautiful

and taught school for many years. He was indentured to his older brother and with him came to Norton, then in Medina County in 1826. He remained with his brother until he was 21 when he purchased 130 acres of land in Norton clearing most of it himself. On the 27th of Sept. 1838 he was married to Miss Lucy C. Baker, a native of the same town in Vermont. Mrs. S came to Norton to visit a sister and thus has made it her residence ever since. He made a profession of religion before his marriage, uniting with the Cong. Church in Norton. When that church was disbanded he came to Middlebury and united with the Cong. Church there, Some time before he lived in Tallmadge. He sold his farm in Norton and bought of Lucius S. Strong of Tallmadge and moved April 1857. He had an attack of sciatic Rheumatism in Norton and from that time has been a great sufferer particularly for the last 3 years of his life.

He died at his residence in Tallmadge Aug. 2nd, 1867 aged 56. Mr. Sparhawk was considered by his acquaintance as a very conscientious man, in his dealings with his fellow men, strictly honest. In his politics radical to the core if his mind was once made up on any question there he would remain if everyone left their position he would remain unless convinced that he was wrong..

The doctrine of expediency was not a part of his creed. He was among the first abolitionists and continued to advocate those principles through life. It is said he would not allow himself to be disturbed in the least if he was assailed, they might abuse him and call names when defending his principles religious or political he would maintain his equanimity of temper and good will to all men.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF REUBEN B. BEACH & HIS WIFE PHEBE

Reuben Burton Beach was the son of Reuben and Hannah (Kimball) Beach and was born in Warren Litchfield County Conn Aug. 26th, 1798. He removed with his parents from Warren to Tallmadge arriving in May 1815. His advantages for an education was as good as could be had at that time always attending school winters until he was 21. He was a farmer and was a laborious man when young chopping, logging, making rails, building fence and other labor connected with the clearing land and pioneer life.

His father was a man of wealth having means to hire land cleared and build a frame barn and in 1821 built the house now owned (1868) by Francis D. Alling.

He was an honest man in all his dealings with his fellow men and taking this view that all men was honest like himself, he became involved it seemed to have an influence upon his mind he in some measure lost his ambition for business. He was a man of few words, a man that was ready to help a neighbor and a man of intelligence, very quiet and unobtrusive.

He married Miss Phebe B. Upson April 18th, 1822. He died Dec. 17th, 1864, aged 66.

MRS. PHEBE BRONSON BEACH

Mrs. Phebe Bronson Beach, wife of Reuben Burton Beach was the daughter of Reuben and Hannah (Richardson) Upson and was born in Waterbury, New Haven County Conn. Oct. 13th, 1801. Mrs. Beach was the 2nd of 10 children, 2 died young, the last died in 1817, her father died Oct. 23rd, 1848. Her mother died Dec. 30th, 1860. Mrs. Beach being the first of 8 children that has been removed by death in 50 years. Her parents removed from Conn to Suffield in Portage County, Ohio in 1809. They removed from Suffield to Tallmadge in 1812. At that early day the houses were few and far between the hardships of pioneer life was what Mrs. Beach knew by experience, her facilities for an education were very limited but she made good use of what opportunity she had and with a good degree of native talent she was as well prepared to battle with the realities of life as any of those who were cotemporary with her. She united with the Cong. Church in Tallmadge on the 10th of March 1822. Mr. Beach uniting at the same time 2 months before their marriage. "And as the remark was made by Rev. Mr. Segur in her funeral sermon for more than 45 years she had been a member of this church, a consistent Christian". As her sister Collins remarked, always cheerful and sunny, always looking at the bright side. The troubles and trials of life seemed to have the good effect to work out a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory for her. In answer to the question of her sister (Mrs. Chloe Collins) is Jesus still precious? She was only able to answer Yes; and these were about her last words. Mrs. Beach died Dec. 19th, 1867, aged 66 years. Mr. and Mrs. Beach had 6 children:

1st - Laura Pease		Died Aug. 14th, 1871 aged 47
2nd - Thomas Spaulding	married Elizabeth Bierce	
3rd - Elizabeth Phebe	married Andrew Kerr	
4th - Hannah Maria	married Charles Noble	
5th - Electa Cynthia	married Francis D. Alling	
6th - Mary Lucinda		died March 22nd, 1881, aged 37

A COMMUNICATION FROM CYRUS HARD ESQ.

A few notes which I obtained of Cyrus Hard Esq. of early days in Tallmadge may not be deemed out of place. C. C. Bronson

Mr. Hard was born in Addison County Vermont July 25th, 1795. He removed from there to the town of Berkshire in the County of Franklin, Vt., and there worked at wool carding and cloth dressing. In 1815 he left Vermont with Mr. Wm. Phelps. After they left Cleveland coming south through the mud roads of that day, they met a man on horseback and as the custom of those days on meeting emigrants, was asking where are you from and where are you going and what is your occupation? Mr. Phelps says "I am a farmer, but this young man is by trade a clothier." This man was Judge Aaron Norton of Tallmadge, now Middlebury. The Judge says to Mr. Hard, "Young man you are the very man we want in our place". Now he says "I am on my way to Cleveland, but you go on to Grangers Log Tavern in Northfield and be sure not to turn to the left for that will take you to Hudson. But you go by Wallaces at Brandywine Mills,

By Bishops Tavern in Boston, Northampton Mills to the Village of Tallmadge, stay there untill I come home". They having no place in view after consulting together, they moved on following Norton's directions, Mr. Hard said he and Phelps were five days coming from Cleveland to Middlebury. He bought out the cloth dressing shop of John S. & Samuel Preston and set up for himself. Here he lived and carried on the business untill 1828, when he disposed of his property and went to Wadsworth in the county of Medina Ohio. Here he erected mills. About 1860 he feeling the infirmities of age and wishing less care he disposed of his mills in Wadsworth came to Akron and purchased a house and lot on Spicer Hill; (So called) within the corporation of Akron. He went to Wadsworth on a visit was taken sick and died there in August 1865, aged 70 years. I will give some of his recollections.

In 1817 a Millitary Band of Music was formed of which Nathaniel M, W, Bettes was Leader. Mr. Hard, Ara Gillett, Hollister, John M. Gillett, Noah Joy Spicer Estabrook, James B. Hendershot, Silas Bettes and others. Messrs. N. M. W. Bettes, Silas Bettes, Cyrus Hard, J. M. Gillett, Spicer and perhaps others used clarionetts, Mr. Estabrook the Hautboy, Hollister and Hendershot played the violin, Ara Gillett, the bassoon, Mr. Joy an instrument called the Clarrion. In 1818 the band had an accession of Nathan Gillett Jr. a musician of much taste who could play on several instruments. Some at this day will remember this band performing in 1821. At the close of the winter term of the Academy under the tuition of Elizur Wright Esq. I recollect that the Salutatory Oration was in Latin (said at that time) to have been composed by Esq. Wright. I think it was pronounced in Latin by Aaron Kinne Wright and a translation was spoken by his brother Amos (now Dr. A. Wright of Tallmadge) in the forenoon among other exercises was a dialogue entitled Pattent Grammar composed by Esq. Wright the principal characters were performed by Miss Anna Aikins, now Mrs. Woodruff of Oberlin and Mr. Lyman Burrill of Sheffield now of Calafornia. The opening oration in the afternoon was in Greek by Julian M. Sturtevant, now Rev. J. M. Sturtevant D.D. of Jacksonville, Ill. Pres of Illinois College. A dialogue was acted in P.M. written by Mrs. Allen of Woodbridge, Conn. It was called the Missionary Drama, the scene was laid in the Cherokee nation. The principal character was the celebrated Catharine Brown and that part was acted by Miss Harriet Hine, afterwards the wife of D. S. Coe. The part of the King of the Cherokee nation was personated by Dr. Geo Richardson of Norton. To all who are conversant with the missionary intelligence of that period or were present will remember the story of the little Osage captive, this part was represented by Almira Fenn, the youngest sister of Mrs. Clement Wright. A large number were assembled and the exercises were interspersed with vocal and instrumental music.

Nathan Gillett Jr. Esq. played the Bass Viol on that day. Mr. Hard gave a few locations of the dwellings as they were in Middlebury in 1815. On the spot where Samuel Newton afterwards kept a hotel for many years. A man lived by the name of Hazen in a log house the next log house owned by Aaron Garrett down in Main Street Dr. Luther Hanchett lived in frame house next north owned by Jotham Blakeley.

Next a log house owned by Mr. Babcock, next a log house owned by Daniel Himes and he was the miller in the log mill. Judge Aaron Norton lived east of Himes at the foot of the hill east of the street. Mrs. Anna Hart the widow of Capt. Joseph Hart lived the west side of the creek. Samuel Preston lived next north on the west side of the creek. Coming into the village from the east opposite Col Potters Tannery lived Josiah Wilkes Brown in a log house the east side of the marsh. Passing along the north side of the marsh where you first come to the creek was a watering trough and a frame house and barn these were built by Major Samuel Jones it was a two story upright with two wings the south wing occupied for a store, the north one occupied by the family this was the first house he and Phelps stopped at on their arrival in Middlebury. Mr. Hard said a barrel of whiskey stood in one corner by the chimney and a tin cup on the barrel to drink the whiskey with. The next building south on the east side of the street was the gambrel roofed store which many of us will remember in this building O. Pitkin had a store. The sawmill and log grist mill stood on the east side of the creek a little below the lower stone bridge. The cloth dressing shop was on the west side of the creek opposite the mills. Liverton Dixon lived over the creek in the south part of the village he was a tanner. The Cuyahoga Furnace was built by Laird and Norton in 1816. And the forge was built by Asaph Whittlesey in 1817. In 1818 Hard and Sumner built a rolling mill, and also manufactured cut nails. Mr. Hard purchased 80 acres of land of Esq. Wright on the west side of Great Lot No. 9 Lot No. 4 and his father Abraham Hard lived on the farm about 2 years, he lived on the top of the hill north of the forge. This was the second settlement on Great Lot No. 9, the first being Alpheus Hart from New Hartford Oneida County N.Y. He came in 1815. And built a double log house on or near the ground now occupied by the residence of Mrs. Sparhawk. Mr. Hard married Miss Lydia Hart, the daughter of Capt. Joseph and Anna (Hotchkiss) Hart Feb. 28th, 1819 by J W Brown.

KILBOURN GENEALOGY

A book entitled "The History and Antiquities of the Name and Family of Kilbourn (in its varied orthography) by Payne Kenyon Kilbourn, a member of the New England Historic & Genealogical Society "He who is not proud of his ancestors, either show that he has no ancestors to be proud of, or else he is a degenerate son". Grovesnor New Haven: Durrie and Peck 1856.

This book shows great perseverance in the search of ancient records, both in England and America. The first Kilbourn mentioned in the book is William De Kilbourn, lord of the manor of Kilbourn in Yorkshire, England. He died A.D. 1233, aged about sixty years. Thomas Kilbourn the common ancestor of all in America was born in the parish of Wood Ditton, in the county of Cambridge, England A.D. 1578. On the 15th of April 1635 Thomas Kilbourn with a portion of his family, embarked from London for New England in the ship Increase. The family settled in Wethersfield, Conn where Thomas Kilbourn Sen. died previous to 1639. George Kilbourn the 6th generation in regular

youngest son of Benjamin Fenn and Sarah (Treat) Fenn. C.C.B.

Mr. C. C. Bronson

Hartford, O. May 21st, 1869

Dear Sir,

My Uncle William was my grand fathers 4th son. He was born, as he once mentioned to me, in the year which had three sevens, 1777. He married Mary Fenn, then called Polly. She was, as I believe, a descendant of James Fenn the youngest son of the first Benjamin Fenn.

They had nine children: Aaron William, Mary whitman, Eliakim Tibbals, Aaron William, Eliza Lucretia, William Aaron, Harriett, Sarah and Harriet; four of whom are now living, Elizkin Tibbals, Eliza Lucretia, Aaron William and Mary Whitman.

He was Colonel in the Militia and Deacon of the first church in Milford. He died Oct. 15th, 1858 in Orange (once a part of Milford) aged 78. His wife survived him a short time. He was a man of more than average talent.

His public education, though unfinished was of great service to him. He was in Yale College when I was a little shaver, and I suppose it was one of his pranks that one evening at my Fathers house, they stripped stark naked and placed me on my feet on a table. How young I was I do not know. I was able to stand alone and use my limbs with some activity. I remember that he and my parents were sitting around the table and laughing merrily. I also remember stretching out my arm and that I did not stand still. I was merry too. I suppose they were admiring my fine proportions as well as laughing at my activity. I distinctly remember standing on the table intirely naked. That doubtless was one of my uncles ways of studying "the human form divine". I congecture I was about three years old. In giving an account of his mother, I mentioned how when a member of college, she effectually cured him of dancing. Having spent about three years in college, he was induced by his future father and mother-in-law to leave college, marry their daughter, their only child and live with them. This step he took in opposition to the advice of his strong minded mother. She advised him to complete his college course. But the promises of Pollys parents, her beauty and affection decided him, for that time, to go contrary to his mothers advice. Though happy with his wife and in his growing family, he found, in after life, that his mother was right and that he was foolishly wrong in leaving college as he did. When I was a youth he was verry sick and it was thought that he would die. I went to see him and after conversation and as I was going to leave he said, "Benjamin, don't forget me". This he said in view of what appeared to be approaching death.

In the latter part of the summer of 1815, or 16 he had a verry severe illness, called camp distemper, worse than dysentary. His daughters, the first Harriet was sick with the same disease and died about the middle of Sept. I remember being present

at her funeral. Dr. Carrington was their family physician. But there was a Dr. Austin in Milford, a sagacious, long headed old man. My uncle sent for him. He came and examined into the case said, "Col. Fenn where have you been? You have been somewhere" My uncle answered that he had not been anywhere to be exposed to disease. "Yes you have", said the doctor. "Think back where you have been". Uncle thought back through August, July, June, May, April and he remembered that in April he opened or heap in his garden where he had buried some cabbages. The cabbages had rotted and the scent was verry strong and verry bad, and his daughter Harriet he remembered stood by him as he was leaning over the hole, her face close to his and she looking in "Ah" said the doctor, "You need go no further, that was the place." This case is interesting because it shows two things, one, the dangerous character of effuvia arising from rotten vegetables, especially cabbages; the other, that the miasmatic poison may be in the system from April to August without indicating its presence. Prayers were offered in both congregations in town for his recovery and he did recover, and do much good to immortal souls. His education was of good service to him, and to the cause of religion. He was a man of exemplary piety, few laymen in his day were more active than he in laboring for the conversion of sinners. He also did good in healing serious difficulties between individuals. In his last sickness, and not long before his death, he said, "Do tell me what ails me! I never felt so well in my life".

Of his nine children five are dead, Aaron William, Sarah, William Aaron, and the two Harriets. His eldest son was a verry promising lad and died while a lad. Mary Whitman married one Tomlinson, an Episcopal Clergyman, one of the high sort who are exclusively right, and every body else is wrong. His wife as I understand, has at length come fully into his views. Eliakim married into the Platt family, and is a substantial and important pillar in the Methodist Church in Milford.

Aaron William, named after his brother who died, has been a successful physician and resides in Roxbury, Conn. highly respected as a man of piety and worth. I think he is a deacon of the church in that place. He is as a matter of course a decided Republican. Eliza Lucretia married my brother-in-law, Nathan Gunn of Milford, and resides there. She is a noble woman, active in piety and a nurse in sickness of the first order, generous and self denying.

William Aaron moved to Georgia or Alabama, became a southern man in feeling and action. Stood high among the secessionists lost all his property in the war, returned to the north poor, was furnished with necessaries by his republican brother in Roxbury, and died about two years since.

My Uncle had a mind of large scope. I have been intimately acquainted with no man who was so ready and able to converse on a wide circle of subjects. Mathematics, astronomy, mechanics,

inventions, the affairs of the church, of the nation, agriculture, the wonders of nature, of art, the Bible theology and Christian duty. His range of thought was extensive, in many cases original, and always interesting.

He was once engaged in the beautiful and fascinating theory of perpetual motion, which has dazzled so many minds. He had a machine in construction and was quite confident of success. It was about the year 1814. He made his Pastor a confident and explained his plans to him. But Mr. Pinneo said to him, "Colonel fenn, by and by some old man will stick up his head in your machine and won't get away at your bidding". Uncle, however, thought differently and proceeded with his machine. He got it completed, and nicely made, and then lo and behold, it stood perfectly balanced. He then saw an important point which he had overlooked, and which was an immovable obstacle in his way. I saw the machine and he explained to me the point he had overlooked.

My grand father had two daughters between William and Richard, born between 1770 and 1777, Clemence and Sarah. Clemence died young. Sarah married Elisha Edwards of Berlin Conn, and died some time after the birth of her daughter Sally. This Sally, her only child, married Hopkins Austin, son of the sagacious old doctor whom I have mentioned. She is not living.

Respectfully yours,
Benjamin Fenn the 8th Gen.

Richard Fenn was the 5th son of Benjamin and Sarah Fenn. He was born July 4th, 1779 and died in Tallmadge O. Feb. 20th, 1868, aged 88. My uncle was but 1 year three months and twenty three says old when his father died. He lived with his mother until he was old enough to go to a trade. He went to Derby, about five miles from home and served an apprenticeship to the hatters trade. While there in Derby, he was induced to become a free and accepted Mason. He was initiated into the first degree, (that of entered apprentice) but never took another; nor as I understood him, did he enter the lodge the second time. His reasons as he informed me were these: when in taking the first degree he was led round in the lodge by his conductor, blindfolded, with a hatter round his neck, "neither clothed or unclothed, shod or unshod" his conductor having his arm drawn within his own, whispered to him to step high. The conductor in such a case is the candidates special friend, or supposed to be, and he is to be trusted and his directions followed. When his special friend whispered to him to step high, he, supposing that ropes were tied across the passage, or that some obstructions were placed in his way for him to stumble over, raised his feet alternately so as to form a right angle at his knee and thus he passed over a level floor with no obstructions on it to the great merriment of the members who were sitting by the sides of the lodge, and looking on the ridiculous figure which my uncle in all seriousness was presenting. On ascertaining how he had been imposed upon he thought he had got enough of Ancient Masonry. He settled in Milford and carried on the hatting business for several years, sending hats into the southern states, and sometimes

not, experiencing sometimes much difficulty in obtaining his dues, as others have done who trusted the slave holding chivalry of the south. In 1818 he in connection with his brother Peck, moved to Ohio with their families and arrived in Tallmadge on the fifth day of Oct. He chose a farm located a mile and a half east of the center. His brother Benjamin chose one a half mile west and his brother Peck one a mile north of the center.

My uncle Richard was a modest man and a careful prudent man, wise hearted, tenacious of his convictions, progressive and yet conservative, taking a deep interest in religion, the church and the Sabbath School, which last he conducted with good sense as Superintendent.

He was slow of speech and never put himself forward. When he had entered his 80th year, he said to me one day, Dr. Watts says

"Our age to seventy years is set
How short the term, how frail the state
And if to eighty we arrive
We rather sigh and groan than live

"Now said he" I think that is not so, I feel that I live. And he did live, with one exception he was as I suppose, enjoying good health and was active in supplying eggs for the New York market, after he had given up his farm to his son in law. He thus obtained money yearly to make some one a life member of the Bible Society or to educate some of his grand children or both.

Richard Fenn married Miss Mabel Platt, daughter of Capt. Platt of Milford. Mabel Platt was born in Milford March 1st, 1781.
Births of the children of Richard and Mabel P. Fenn.

Twins (Dennis Born Feb. 14th, 1803, Died Nov. 16th, 1827, aged 24
(Wyllys " " " " Died Nov. 19th, 1880, aged 78
Treat, born Dec. 10th, 1804
Mabel, born Oct. 6th, 1808, Died Oct. 21st 1856, aged 48
Delia, born June 23rd, 1812
Sally Edwards, Born June 3rd, 1815
Martha Platt, born May 22nd, 1817
Julia Ann, born Jan. 2nd, 1820

Mabel, wife of Richard Fenn died Jan. 18th, 1855, aged 74

This closes the seventh generation from the first Benjamin Fenn one of the original planters of Milford, Conn.

The eighth Benjamin Fenn, the writer of these letters says: I was born in Milford Conn. Oct. 29th, 1792, and was baptized in 1798. He graduated at Yale College in 1813. And taught a common school in Plymouth the following winter. Containing one hundred children. But one was brought in her mothers arms to make the full number of one hundred.

He studied divinity with Rev. Kezaleel Pinneo of Milford, was licenced to preach the Gospel in 1816, and was ordained and

installed Pastor of the church in Nelson, Portage County, Ohio on the 16th of June 1819. The place of installation was Eber Mansfields new barn, the only public building at the Center being a common school house, in which the Presbytery of Portage ate the installation dinner. Frame buildings were at that time in that township verry scarce.

After residing there sixteen years he accepted a call from the church in Gustavus, Trumbull Co Ohio (of which the Rev. Joseph Badger was one of the early missionaries from the Connecticut Missionary Society was then Pastor).

He was dismissed from Nelson, and installed in Gustavus June 16th, 1835. In 1847 he received a call from the church in Hartford in the same county, and was installed there June 16th, 1847. In 1861 he was recalled and reinstalled in Nelson June 19th, 1861. In 1867 he asked for a dismissal on account of his age 75. In the spring of 1868, he with his wife moved to Hartford to live with their son. His wife was Anna Gunn, a grand daughter of "Old Esq. Gunn", of Milford as he was called, a prominent citizen of Milford Conn, and a descendant of Jasper gunn who settled in Milford with the first Benjamin Fenn.

They have had four children viz.

1st, Sarah Gunn, born Aug. 26th, 1822

2nd, Benjamin, born Oct. 30th, 1827

3rd, Stephen Wilberforce, born in Gustavus, Nov. 8th, 1835

4th, Richard Baxter, born August 23rd, 1843

At page 75 of this book the reader will find the obituary of Rev. Benjamin Fenn the winter of these letters.

The ninth Benjamin Fenn, son of Rev. Benj. and Anna G. Fenn was born Oct. 30th, 1827. He graduated at Western Reserve College in 1854. Was principal in the Academy at Granville Ohio one academic year, and then removed to Hartford. The state of his eyes preventing him from studying and having a taste for mechanical pursuits, he engaged in that line of business.

His first wife Jennie, the daughter of Bidwell Tinney of Paris, Ohio. They were married May 17th, 1860. She died of consumption Oct. 18th, 1865. His second wife was Sarah A. Pardy of Windham, Ohio. It was a run away match. She was of age, being 22, but her father opposed his daughters marriage, he wishing her to continue to keep house for him as she had done since her mothers death, which took place when she was sixteen. Public sentiment in that place was strongly in her favor.

They had one child Benjamin

THE TENTH BENJAMIN FENN

Was born Oct. 2nd, 1868. He will probably, if he lives to mans estate, make a figure in the world; but whether as Governor of an independent state, or as President of the United States I cannot now determine. Benjamin Fenn and Sarah A Pardy were married at the Parsonage in Nelson by the bridegrooms father, early in the morning of the first day of June 1867, Sarah G. Fenn was a graduate of Mount Holyoke in 1848. Was married in Hartford Ohio to William P. Clark, and now lives in Medina, Ohio. Has three children, Stephen Wilberforce, when last heard from he was in Chicago, Ill., Richard Baxter, he served in the war against the rebellion three years under Gen. Burnside, Schofield and Cox. He was in the terrible battle in Franklin, Tenn. where the rebel General Hood was defeated.

Baxter is now in New Haven.

This closes the correspondence of the Rev. Benjamin Fenn. He died June 25th, 1869, aged 77.

I purpose to continue the sketch of the Fenn families as I can gather information from various sources regreting Mr. Fenn could not have lived to finish his account of the 8th and 9th generations. The second child and son of Benj. and Comfort (Fowler) Fenn was Fowler Fellows, born March 15th, 1794. Came with his parents to Ohio in 1817, being 23 years old. His father died leaving a large family, he being the oldest at home. This affliction though great did not prevent carrying out the plans that had been made for the comfort of the family. The mother was a woman of great energy and being in possession of considerable property they soon had a frame barn and house. As the family were thus placed in good circumstances, his younger brothers could carry on the farm at home, he selected a farm his father had bought of Col Tallmadge before his death. This was Lot No. 4 in Great Lot No. 8, 138 acres. In 1818 he cleared 3 or 4 acres and built a small log cabin and went to North Milford, Conn. for a wife. He was married to Miss Esther Law Dec. 24th, 1818. Mr. Fenn on returning to Ohio went on to his farm and with his own and wifes industry, prudence and good economy and with help from his fathers estate he was able to clear his farm of timber and erect frame buildings. Mr. Fenn was a verry quiet man. A good common school education, of good judgement and decision of character. He was a man kind in sickness, ready to help at all times those that needed help. He made a public profession of religion with his wife March 10th, 1822, both being subjects of a revival in 1821. He ever after adorned his profession living the life of a Christian. His first wife died Feb. 16th, 1829. She was an excellent Christian woman. Mr. Fenn married for his second wife Miss Abigail A. Law, a sister of his first wife who still survives (1870) They were married by Rev. John Keyes March 31st, 1830. He died Oct. 21st, 1837, aged 43 years.

Alfred Fenn, the third son and child of Benj. and Comfort F. Fenn was born January 20th, 1796. He also emigrated with his parents

to Ohio. He lacked a few weeks of being 21 when he arrived in Tallmadge. He was a verry cheerful man, fond of humor, playful in company with the young. Still would never indolge in any thing low or degrading but would be of that nature that would be pleasing, making his society verry pleasant. He was Justice of the Peace and held other offices in the township. He lived on the old homestead. He married Miss Henrietta Law, a sister of his brother Fowlers wives. He was married Jan. 27th, 1825 by Rev. John Keyes. He made a public profession of religion by uniting with the Cong. Church in Tallmadge March 2nd, 1828. He died July 27th, 1833, ag 37. His wife united with the church in Tallmadge by letter July 10th, 1827. She died in the triumph of faith Aug. 5th, 1837, aged 33 years.

Sally the fourth child was born Sept. 17, 1797. She was a successful school teacher for many years. She united with the Cong. Church in Tallmadge May 7th, 1837. She resides in Akron and is unmarried.

Nathan H. the fifth child of Benjamin and Comfort F. Fenn was born Sept. 22nd, 1799. He was a young man verry much respected. He went to Nelson to enter upon studies with his brother Rev. Benjamin Fenn preparatory for a college course, was taken sick and died in Nelson Dec. 21st, 1820, aged 21 years.

The sixth child Lucinda, born March 30th, 1801. She was a verry amiable and lovely young lady, but she was after a short illness consigned to the tomb at the early age of 18 years. She died Nov. 12th, 1819.

The seventh child and fifth son Johnathan Fowler, was born August 17th, 1802. After he was 21 he had a farm allotted him belonging to the estate of his father in Tract No. 4 Tallmadge on which he resided a while clearing etc. He then went into the mercantile business not succeeding well in that he disposed of his farm and attempt retrieve his fortune he went the over-land route to Calafornia in 1850 where he died. He was married to Rhoda H. Randall Nov. 9th, 1846. She died Jan. 9th, 1847, aged 28. Mr. Fenn made a public profession of religion joining the First Cong. Church in Akron.

The eighth child named Elmina was born Dec. 15th, 1805. She died Oct. 1st 1813, aged 8 years.

The ninth child was Hannah. She was born May 4th, 1808. She was adopted by her Aunt Bryan and did not come to Ohio with her parents. She took the name of Bryan, her signature being Hannah F. Bryan. She married Harvey A. Howard, a merchant doing business in Middlebury and Akron. They were married Feb. 1st, 1827. He died in 1828. She married for her second husband William M. Dodge. They were married Jan. 4th, 1833. He was a lawyer and at the time of his death which ocured on the , he was probate judge of Summit Co. She resides in Akron, died Dec. 11, 1892, aged 84.

OBITUARY

Died in Tallmadge, Aug. 5, Mrs. Henrietta S. Fenn, aged 33. For a considerable length of time, she had manifestly been ripening for heaven. Four years ago she stood a widow and mourned over the remains of the companion of her youth. From that period till her death, her health was feeble and she probably anticipated an early grave. Such an anticipation, however, had not the effect to render her gloomy, nor did it lead her to neglect any of the duties of her station. She sought to train her children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Knowing that they were soon to be left orphans in the world, her solicitude for their spiritual welfare was strong and unremitting to the last, and earnestly did entreat her friends to be faithful to them. Still she could yield them up to God, and did not find here a cord binding her to the earth too strong to be broken. Her last hours were sweet and peaceful, as we might have anticipated from the general tenor of her Christian Course. She enjoyed the presence of God and the consciousness of his favor. Her hope was clear and consistent.

Her Savior stood by her, imparting not the rapture of hope which some Christians have experienced in their dying hours; but the calmness, the patience, the steadfastness, the sweetness of hope.

The reader will find the remainder over the leaf.

The exercises of her mind during her last illness, as gathered from her conversation were such as were calculated to convey to all who beheld and heard her, an impressive recommendation of the religion of Jesus Christ.

Not a cloud seemed to intervene between her and the sun righteousness. It shed its bright beams on her to the last.

"Oh for the death of those
Who slumber in the Lord!
Oh be like theirs my last repose,
Like theirs my last reward"

Copied from the Ohio Observer

1879

The tenth Clemmence C. Born March 23rd, 1810. Married Dr. Amos Wright March 31st, 1831, resides in Tallmadge.

The eleventh child in this family was Edward M., born June 13th, 1812. Died Sept. 11th, 1813, age 1 year, 4 months.

The twelfth child of this family was a daughter who was named Elmina E. She was born July 4th, 1815. Consequently she was but two years of age when her parents moved into Ohio. She died Oct. 31st, 1828, age 13 years.

DEACON PECK FENN

Dea Fenn was a verry thrifty farmer and a verry highly respected citizen of North Milford, his native place, but having a family of children, five being sons and expecting that they would all want farms, he in company with other well to do farmers in New England deemed it best to dispose of his property and go west where land was cheap and buy farms for his sons and they settle around the new parental home. Ohio was the selected state. His brother Benjamin and family and Mr. Aaron Hine and family left their native place for Ohio destination Tallmadge in the then County of Portage.

In July 1811 they arrived. In this company came Dea Fenn and his brother Richard and Mr. Abraham Hine, a brother of Aaron Hine. These three came to see the country and had in view if they liked the country to sell out in Conn, come to Ohio with their families. They being pleased with the situation of Tallmadge they at once decided to make Tallmadge their future residence. Dea Fenn at once negotiated with Mr. Edmond Strong for his farm being Lot No. 6 in Great Lot No. 6 north of the center, many acres of improvement, orchard and frame barn. Deacon Fenn returned to Conn, sold his farm and in 1818 moved with his family to his new home in Ohio.

The three brothers bought several hundred acres of wild land of Col. Benjamin Tallmadge of Litchfield. Dea Fenns family lived in the log cabin on his farm and in the spring of 1819 commenced building the house now occupied (1870) by John C. Treat. Dea Fenn had been a verry active and efficient man in his native place and he was no less here, he was willing to do his duty and helped to build up society, was a heavy subscriber to erect the Cong. Meeting House, was ever ready to help the poor and distressed from his farm or his purse.

He died March 12th, 1824. Aged 56 years. Deacon Fenn made a profession of religion early life and joined the 2nd Church in Milford. At the time of the organization of the Church in North Milford in 1805 he transfered his connection and was one of the original members of the Cong. Church in North Milford and was one of the first Deacons. On comeing to Ohio he transfered his church relations to Tallmadge, he and his uniting with the Cong. Church in T, Feb. 28th, 1819.

Mrs. Fenn was a woman of decision of character, ruling well her

own household industry strict economy and frugality were predominating characteristics of her life. Although she lived to an advanced age, her physical and mental faculties were remarkably good until the last six months of her life when a paralytic shock rendered her partially helpless.

For several years she had resided with her youngest daughter Mrs. F. H. Wright, visiting her children when she was disposed and also her old acquaintance and friends, passing the evening of life very pleasantly in the society of her children and friends. Having naturally a strong constitution and the faculty of not overtaxing herself and being temperate in all things of a happy and peaceable disposition and enough of this world's goods to place her beyond want and with that unwavering trust in the promises of God. She passed from earth at the house of her son Andrew Fenn Sept. 15th, 1862, aged 93 years.

CHILDREN

- 1st, Miranda, born Nov. 3rd, 1794, died March 11th 1796
- 2nd, William Peck, born May 1st, 1796, William P. was a farmer had a common school education, a very ambitious and energetic man industrious and untiring in his efforts to provide for his family and also being possessed of that propensity that is so prominent a feature of the inhabitants of New England to not only have a competence but to lay up something against a wet day, or in other words to get rich. With this end in view he felt that the West was the place for him. When his father thought of disposing of his farm and remove to Ohio, Wm. heartily coincided in the measure. He married Miss Susan Smith June 4th, 1818. And soon after his father left with his family with ox and horse teams his native place and began the toilsome journey across the country by way of Albany and Buffalo N.Y. to Ohio arriving in Tallmadge. William driving the ox team. He remained with his father until the spring of 1820 when he removed onto a farm his father had given him. He had four children, Wm. Peck, born May 1819, Miranda born , married Joseph Spellman, died Sept. 17th, 1845, Benjamin born , died 1863, Susan born died in the fall of 1862. Mr. Fenn labored very hard being on a new farm to be cleared of the timber and to be brought under cultivation and being ambitious to do as much as anyone and not waiting to be acclimated the intermittent diseases incident to a new country fastened upon and his naturally strong constitution gave way and he died April 15th, 1824, aged 28 years. His widow married John M. Steele, they had four children.
- 3rd, Miranda, born Jan. 1st, 1798. She married Mr. Anson Ashley March 10th, 1820. Has resided in Tallmadge ever since, her father moved into the town in 1818. She had the misfortune to receive a severe fall many years since making her a cripple for life. She has had a large family of children, some of which are dead. Mr. Ashley died of apoplexy July 5th, 1870, aged 75.

- 4th, Harvey, born Dec. 7th, 1799. He was a farmer, educated in common school, came into Ohio when he was 19. He married Miss Cynthia Beach, daughter of Mr. Reuben Beach, April 18th, 1822. He also began for himself a new farm which his father gave him. He improved this farm, built a frame house and barn upon it and then sold to Mr. Cyrus Pierce. And removed to Sullivan, Ashland Co., O. He was the father of three sons, Harvey Peck, Richard Kimball and Durand A. Harvey died in the army in Kentucky, R. Kimball in Calafornia. Mrs. Fenn died in Sullivan by her request buiried in Tallmadge. She died April 10th, 1861, age 56. Mr. Fenn now (1870) lives in Tennesea.
- 5th, Joseph, born March 2nd, 1802. His occupation was farming and after his fathers death, he had the farm his father lived on. He was married Sept. 6th, 1827 to Miss Nancy, daughter of John and Nancy A. Carruthers. They had three daughters, Clarinda, Mrs. James W. Upson of Tallmadge, Eliza Jane, died April 19th, 1844 and Harriet Peck, wife of wilbur F. Saunders of Montana. Mr. Fenn was a good and successful business man, a quiet peacable citizen. Making a profession of religion by uniting with the Cong Church in Tallmadge Sept. 25th, 1827, adorning his profession with a well ordered life. His death by cancer took place July 10th, 1846, aged 44 years.
- 6th, Clarinda, born April 22nd, 1804. She made a profession of religion and joined the Cong. Church March 10th, 1822. She was married to Mr. Frances H. Wright of Tallmadge, Sept. 18th, 1823. She had one child, Eliza, now the wife of Abel P. Berry of Vt. She died Oct. 19th, 1827, aged 23 years.
- 7th, Eliza, born April 12th, 1806. She married as his 2nd wife, F. H. Wright. May 21st, 1829. She has a family, Clarinda married Lewis Sperry, has one child is a widow resides with her parents. Harriet S. married James E. Baldwin, resides in Tallmadge. Francis H. Wright Jr. resides with his father on the farm, has a family. And Martha, wife of J. Park Allexander of Akron. Mrs. Wright united with the Cong. Church in T. Sept. 3rd, 1848.
- 8th, Sereno, born July 8th, 1809. He was a child of only 9 years when his parents came to Ohio. His father dying before he was 13, he in the distribution of his fathers estate received a portion of the home farm and with a part of another sub division he began to work for himself on becomeing of age, a verry prudent and industrious man, he began clearing his farm and living with his mother, he erected a small frame house on the NW diagonal in Tallmadge, the only house on that road for many years between the Center and Six Corners. He married Eliza Cruthers Sept. 27th, 1832. They had two children, Anna E., married Lewis Ford of Cleveland, and Sereno, who resides in Cleveland. Mrs. Fenn died Oct. 30th, 1868, aged 59 years. Mr. Fenn after the death of his wife disposed of his farm, is living at present with his daughter in Cleveland (1870)

9th, Alpheus Andrew, born Feb. 5th, 1817. He being less than two years of age when he came to Ohio and but little more than seven years old at his fathers death. He lived with his mother, working on the farm and attending school untill he was 21. A farm was given him in the east part of the town belonging to his fathers estate. Here he began for himself clearing a few acres and put up a log house. He married Miss Anna E. Carruthers April 11th, 1838. Soon after he sold his farm in Tallmadge and went to Northfield where he resided untill 1849. He came back to Tallmadge and bought the farm owned by Henry B. Stephens and has continued to reside in Tallmadge ever since. He joined the Cong. Church in Tallmadge May 4th, 1834. He was ordained Deacon July 1st, 1855, resigned March 12, 1868. We have here an instance of three brothers marrying three sisters which is not often seen. Mr. Fenn and his wife has four children, two sons and two daughters. I would here wish to insert that Mr. Sereno Fenn joined the Cong. Church April 6th, 1834.

MR. RICHARD FENN

Mr. Fenn was by trade a hatter and carried on his trade in Milford, Conn. He was a shrewd, close calculating man, prudent, and honest, but the best sometimes fail; and he putting to much confidence in southern honesty and chivalry by sending hats to them and not getting his pay and a family growing around him induced him to change his business and also his location. Accordingly he selected Tallmadge as his future home. He with his family came into Ohio in 1818.

CHILDREN

1st, (Twin) Dennis, born Feb. 14th, 1803, died Nov. 16th, 1827 age 24
2nd, (twin) Wyllys, " " " " " Nov. 19th, 1880 age 78

Wyllys is a large and successful farmer living in Tallmadge. He served an apprenticeship with Col Samuel Porter at the joiners trade. For several years he carried on the carpenter and joiner business. But he turned his attention to farming and bought the farm owned by the heirs of Fowler F. Fenn and other land adjoining making in the whole some 300 acres. He married Miss Emeline H. Root and has raised a large family of children. He united with the Cong. Church with his brother Dennis and others March 10th, 1822. He was married Dec. 10th, 1826.

3rd, Treat, born Dec. 10th, 1804. He also lives in Tallmadge, His father gave him a farm, the south side of the road from his own residence where he resides at the present time (1870) He also united with the Church at the same time with his brothers. He has had three wives, his first wife was Miss Harriet Bierce of Nelson, Portage County, Ohio. They were married June 4th, 1833. She had six children. She died of consumption June 30th, 1850. His 2nd wife was also from Nelson, Mrs. Rachel (Fuller) Baldwin, married Sept. 27th 1852. She had one daughter by Mr. Fenn. She died Sept. 27th, 1857. His 3rd wife was Augusta Florilla, daughter of Dea.

David and Laura (Knowlton) Wright of Morgan, Ashtabula, Ohio. They were married Nov. 21st, 1861.

- 4th, Mabel, born Oct. 6th, 1808. She married Sydney H. Wright and resided in Tallmadge several years. United with the Cong. Church July 6th, 1845. She died in Ill. Oct. 21st, 1856 aged 48. They were married by Rev. Caleb Pitkin Oct. 7th, 1832.
- 5th, Delia, born June 23rd, 1819. She after she was about 24 years went to Oberlin to prepare herself for teaching, and became acquainted with Edward W. Andrews who she married. A devoted Christian woman resides in Oberlin (died there March 5th, 1882, aged 70.
- 6th, Sally Edwards, born June 3rd, 1815. She united with the Cong. Church May 4th, 1834. Her sister Delia joined June 28th, 1835. She married Wm. B. Ashmun. After her own mother became infirm she returned to her fathers to perform the filial duty of taking care of her aged and infirm parents, this duty with the aid of her husband and children, she most tenderly performed doing all that was necessary to make the evening of life pleasant, making a quiet home for them in their last days. After the death of her father, considering it best for her family, they sold the farm that her father had owned for fifty years and went in the spring of 1870 to Nebraska.
- 7th, Martha Platt, this was their youngest child when they came to Ohio in 1818. She was born in Milford May 22nd, 1817. She also joined the Cong. Church the same day with her sister Ashmun, May 4th, 1834. She was united in marriage with Lucius L. Strong June 13th, 1837 by Rev. J. C. Parmelee. And removed to Mayfield Cuyhoga Co., O. Came back to Tallmadge, then to Richfield and then to the town of Austinburg Ashtabula County where they now reside.
- 8th, Julia Ann, born in Tallmadge Jan. 2nd, 1820. She obtained a good education, united with the Cong. Church in her native town, July 6th, 1845. She married Rev. Elias S. Peck and lives in Wisconsin.

This closes the account of the Fenn families and well they have acted their part in the affairs of Tallmadge for the last fifty years and as their ancestry has been, may it actuate future generations to the same acts as far as maybe. Tallmadge, Aug. 15th, 1870.

C, C. Bronson

THE FAMILY RECORD OF MR. TREAT FENN

BIRTHS

Treat Fenn, born in Milford New Haven Co., Ct. Dec. 10th, 1804
Harriet Almeda Bierce, born in Cornwall, Litchfield Co., Ct.
Dec. 21st, 1808
Mrs. Rachel (Fuller) Baldwin, born in Kent, Litchfield Co., Ct.
Dec. 22nd, 1812
Augusta Florilla Wright, born in Morgan, Ashtabula Co., O. June
21st, 1814

CHILDREN

1st, Curtiss Treat, Born May 23rd, 1834
2nd, Philo Bierce, born June 25th, 1838
3rd Frederick Bierce, born May 25th, 1839
4th, Emily Augusta, born Oct. 19th, 1841
5th, Hellen Alevia, born July 17th, 1843
6th, Harriet Francis, born Oct. 12th, 1845
7th, Nelson Wallbridge, born Oct. 23rd, 1847

BY SECOND WIFE

8th, Sarah Estella, born Oct. 26th, 1853

MARRIAGES

Treat Fenn and Harriet A. Bierce married in Nelson June 4th, 1833
Treat Fenn and Mrs. Rachel (Fuller) Baldwin " Aug. 30th, 1852
Treat Fenn and Miss A. F. Wright, married in Morgan Nov. 21st, 1867
Curtis Treat Fenn and Miss Mary Hall, married Nov. 5th, 1867
Hellen A. Fenn and Lucius F. Reed, married Sept. 12th, 1871
Harriet F. Fenn and William Jenks, married April 15th, 1875

DEATHS

1st, Philo Bierce died August 12th, 1838, aged 7 months
2nd, Mrs. Harriet A. died June 30th, 1850, aged 42 years
3rd, Mrs. Rachel F. died Sept. 27th, 1857, aged 45 years

THE HOLLAND PURCHASE

The origin of this famous land speculation - a curious and interesting bit of history.

A subscriber asks us how the western part of New York State came into the possession of parties in Holland, through whom all original titles to land there have come; in other words, what is the history of what is known as "the Holland Purchase"? This involves quite a curious and historical chapter of which we give the outline.

July 4th, 1608 Samuel Champlain, the French navigator with two white attendants and a company of Canadian Indians entered the lake which bears his name, being the first white man that ever set foot upon the soil of New York.

Sept. 8th, 1608, Henry Hudson the English navigator in the employ of the Dutch East India Company discovered the Bay of New York, and three days after entered the river which has since borne his name. The land discovered by Hudson was claimed by Holland and named New Netherlands. The colony spread to the east and west the next 45 years until it came in conflict with the English settlement on the Connecticut and Swedish colonies on the Delaware. Contests arose and the latter was subjugated by the Dutch and annexed to New Netherlands. The border contests in the east continued as long as the Dutch held possession of the country, the English claiming New Netherland as part of Virginia, founded upon the prior discoveries of Cabot.

March 12th, 1664 Charles II of England granted a charter of all the lands lying between the Hudson and Delaware Rivers to his brother, the Duke of York. This included New Netherlands and a portion of the territory which had been granted to Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire, and before the year 1664 had closed by a sudden and bold movement; the country was wrested from the Dutch by military force and passed from their control. In 1664 the Duke of York sold the present territory of the state of New Jersey. It was not until 1731 that the disputed boundary with Connecticut growing out of this grant was settled. The claims of Massachusetts, arising under the same grant was not adjusted till 1736, after the close of the Revolutionary War. Then a compromise was effected which gave New York the sovereignty of the whole territory but yielded to Massachusetts ownership of the soil in that portion of the state which lies west of the meridian line passing through the 82 mile stone of the Pennsylvania boundary. This line, known as "preemption line" commences at the south east corner of Steuben County, extends along the west shore of Seneca Lake, and terminates in Sodus Bay on Lake Ontario.

In 1787, Massachusetts sold to Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham the whole tract lying west of the preemption line containing 6,000,000 acres for \$1,000,000. About two thirds of this

tract reverted to Massachusetts and was subsequently sold to Robert Morris. Morris sold about seven eighths of his purchase to a company of capitalists of Amsterdam, Holland and this tract was afterwards known as the "Holland Purchase". The Holland Land Company pursued an exceedingly liberal policy with regard to their lands. They thoroughly surveyed the whole region, built roads, mills, and by every means encouraged settlement. Their lands were sold on easy terms of payment, and it is probable that now there is but very little of this vast tract that is not held by actual owners who have secured their title from this famous company, who must have made themselves and their succession immensely rich by the operation.

For more than half of his life, Gov. Seward was the principle agent and attorney in superintending the disposal of their lands, the foreclosing of their mortgages in cases of default in payments and the other details connected with this vast property interest. And today, the little land office that holds the records of this Holland Company's doings and conducts the remnant of its business may be seen in the village of Westfield, Chautaugua County, N.Y. 45 miles west of Buffalo, being in charge as it has been since Gov. Seward relinquished it of Ex Lieut Gov. Geo. W. Patterson of New York.

To make this of historical reminiscence complete we will add that the conflicting claims which New York had with New Hampshire, also growing out of this same Duke of York grant, led to frequent violent collisions and almost Civil War, and were only settled in 1790, when the territory in dispute was erected into the State of Vermont and the State of New York was paid \$30,000.

The transcriber would add that in 1819 (when his parents moved from Conn. to Ohio) that the land office of the Holland Land Company was in the Village of Batavia, and that the tract of land known as the Holland Purchase comprised all the land in the State of New York west of the Genesee River.

Copied from the Hillsdale Standard, a paper printed in Hillsdale, Michigan. Aug. 16th, 1870 by C. C. Bronson

decent from Thomas Kilbourn of Wethersfield was the son of Joshua and Mehitable (Mather) Kilbourn and was born at Berlin, Conn Nov 19th, 1769. At 22 he was married to Miss Almira Wilcox, daughter of James Wilcox of Simsbury. After residing in Farmington and Goshen for about ten years, in the fall of 1801, he joined emigrating company which had been formed in the latter place with a view of settling in the far west. Mr. Kilbourn is a wealthy farmer of Hudson, Ohio.

Mrs. Kilbourn died Dec. 19th, 1859 aged 87. Their children:

- 1st - Sophia, born in Farmington, Conn. Feb. 24th, 1792 married Capt. Heman Oviatt of Hudson April 6th, 1814 by Rev. J. Brown. She died Oct. 3rd, 1836.
- 2nd - Asahel Esq. born in Goshen, Conn. July 9th, 1796. Removed to Hudson with his parents in 1801; married Sophia, daughter of Solomon Curtiss of Chillicothe, Ohio in 1828. He was elected Justice of the Peace, an office which he held several years and was for fifteen years deacon of the first Cong. Church in Hudson. For some years previous to his death he was a deacon of the Free Cong. Church in that town. He died universally lamented, Dec. 1850, aged 54 years, leaving 8 children.
- 3rd - George, born in Goshen April 24th, 1798. In 1820 married Almira Wolcott.
- 4th - Col. Timothy E. Born in Goshen Conn July 2, 1801. He married Louisa, Daughter of Dea. Jonathan Baldwin of Atwater Ohio in 1821.
- 5th - Eliza, born in Tallmadge, Ohio Aug. 15th, 1808 Married Harlow Davis of Hudson in 1826. He died in 1843. Her 2nd husband was Dr. Taylor, a graduate of Western Reserve College.
- 6th - Justin Edwards born in Tallmadge, Ohio Aug. 14th, 1819 Married Amanda, daughter of Col. Luther Fitch of Sharon, Ohio in 1839. He has one child, resides in Hudson

Mr. Payne K. Kilbourn says at my request, Mr. Kilbourn has furnished me with the following particulars of his life and history which cannot fail to be read with interest by his kindred. The incidents and hardships of pioneer life especially as they existed half a century ago, can hardly be realized by those of us who are dwellers in the older states.

MR. GEORGE KILBOURNS NARATIVE

When I was about three years old my father Joshua Kilbourn removed from New Brittain, a parish in the town of Berlin into the west part of Farmington and two years after in Jan. 1774 he departed this life, leaving a family of five children. My mother married James Lusk for her second husband, and my eldest sister and myself were put out Col Isaac Lusk with whom I remained until I was fifteen years old. I then after choosing my uncle Joseph Mather my guardian, went to reside with him for the purpose of learning the tanning and shoemaking business. When in my 20th year, my uncles shop having been destroyed by fire, he gave me my time and I finished my apprenticeship in Wethersfield. I commenced business for myself in the Tannington Village where

in 1791 I was married and soon after removed to Goshen in Litchfield County. In the latter place I remained eight years during which period my four oldest children were born. As I received but ten dollars from my fathers estate, and as my education being only as the common schools of that day afforded, I was under the necessity of beginning with a small business and living economically. My first two years in Goshen yielded me no surplus means but been rich in "lessons of experience" which were subsequently turned to good. At the end of eight years I had purchased and paid for some 15 acres of land, a house and tannery was doing a prosperous business and laying up money. As David Hudson Esq. formerly of Goshen held agency of the land in the township of Hudson, Ohio he emigrated to that place in 1800. Returning the next spring he held out inducements to myself and neighbors to sell out and go into the "wilderness of New Connecticut".

As Deacon Thompson and his three sons, all of whom had families, had resolved to remove and as I desired to connect a farm with my other business, I made it a subject of thought for many months. The undertaking seemed so great and important that I hesitated. But knowing the resolution and good judgement of my wife, who had prudently managed all our domestic concerns, I felt safe in referring the whole matter to her decision. Having at length decided to go, I sold my place to Birdseye Norton Esq., who was the original proprietor of the township of Hudson and in part payment selected of his lands, by the aid of Mr. Hudson and the map of his survey, 240 acres receiving the ballance in money and such articles as we needed for our outfit. My affairs were settled without sacrifice and we commenced our preparations for removing. As a part of our outfit we made a purchase of a library of about 100 volumes which was carefully and appropriately selected by our Pastor the Rev. Asahel Hooker. On the 1st day of Sept. 1801 we found ourselves ready to start. After taking the last farewell look of our friends, with the blessing of our venerable pastor and the many good wishes from his lady (whose name is held in verry grateful remembrance) we commenced our long tedious journey. Our teams being all oxen excepting one, our loads heavy, (there being 33 persons aboard) and the weather warm, we only drove ten miles the first day, and put up at the tavern in Canaan. The next day we traveled ten or twelve miles. Finding my load to heavy for my teams, I purchased a horse in addition. We directed our course to Fishkill, where we put up for the Sabbath. As we were in the habit of buying and cooking our own provision the landlord furnished a small back room for the purpose. After purchasing such necessaries as we needed, we spent the Sabbath as a day of rest. On Monday morning after paying for we had bought of him, we were about to take our leave when he presented us with another bill of seven dollars for the use of the room we had occupied. We paid the bill, and moved on, crossing the North River into Newburgh and thence proceeded to Easton where we stopped the next Saturday night. Here I would say that at the commencement of our journey we proposed not to travel on the Sabbath; but owing to the many inconveniences we were subject to and not being able to obtain suitable accomodations for

so large a company it was thought expedient that we should continue our journey on Sunday. As we proceeded on our way the next morning I could not but feel that such a step would not likely result in our favor and so we found it. We had not gone far before we were accosted by a stranger who presented us with a bill for ten dollars for trespass, as some of the children of the company had been seen in his orchard for apples. However, after having the matter explained, he became satisfied with one dollar, we then continued on until afternoon when the daughter of Abraham Thompson about three years of age had her leg broken by falling from the waggon, the wheel ran over her. We placed her in the waggon and making her as comfortable as we could, drove on, it not being far from an Inn, where we put up. On Monday it was ascertained by the Dr. Moses Thompson (the younger son of Deacon Stephen Thompson) that he brother would not be able to travel for two weeks, in consequence of the accident. In order that suitable provisions might be made for him, it was proposed that the horse be left for him, and such articles as his family might need. In order to do this, it became necessary to fit out an entire new team. As the doctor owned one half of the waggon and one yoke of the oxen which I drove, I sold him the interest which I had in the waggon, and purchased another one for which I paid seventy dollars. As it was a "Pennsylvania Waggon" I was under the necessity of spending a few dollars fitting it up for my oxen. On Wednesday morning, having taken leave of our afflicted friend and brother, we again resumed our journey. We went on very pleasantly and prosperously except that our loading was rather heavy for our teams, as I now had only one yoke of oxen and a horse. However, by uniting our teams in bad places, we got along very well. We went on through Reading to Womelsdon, where I put up for the Sabbath. The next morning the company drove on, leaving us behind, where enjoyed a pleasant season of rest. As our team was light and feeling it important that we should be with our company when climbing the Alleghenies, and as the evening was pleasant and cool, we drove several miles by moonlight. Early on Tuesday morning we came up with our company. We then on through Lebanon, Harrisburg, Carlisle, Shippensburgh, Strasburgh, where we came to the mountains called the "three brothers" apart of the Allegheny range.

After laboring three days excessively hard, we succeeded in getting over them. The day following we found the travelling through the valley much easier for our teams. The next morning however, we again began to climb the hills. In going up one called the "Sideling Hill" our horse tired out. Selling him to a widow who lived for a loaf of bread, we started on, having but a single yoke of oxen for our team, thus we travelled for three days, during which time it often became necessary for me to lay my shoulder to the wheel. In applying my strength thus in concert with the team, we succeeded in getting up many of the hills. My wife possessing a strong physical constitution and ambition equal to her strength, leaving her infant babe at the foot of the hills, in charge of our daughter was often found with me exercising her strength lifting at the waggon, blocking the wheels and sometimes in more difficult places, with the whip driving the team. On one occasion our team became faint and weary and our company being far advanced, my wife, exhausted and

discouraged, gave vent to her feelings with sobs and cries, and being in the forest among the hills, I knew not what to do. While we were thus veiled in discouragements, a stranger came along with a pair of oxen which were for sale. The price was sixty dollars. I inquired if he would take a certain amount of shoes in part payment; as I had a large stock aboard. He said he would take some, but not to the amount I desired. He passed on. Having considered the matter further I concluded to make him another offer. By this time he was out of sight; but by hard running I soon overtook him and succeeded in effecting a purchase. We now felt that we were amply provided for, as it respected team. As my family had walked a greater part of the way, since we had become disconnected with the company, I was happy in the thought that they all could ride the remainder of the journey. In the course of the day we came up with our company. We then went on through Bedford, Somerset and soon to Pittsburgh. Here we purchased such articles of provisions, groceries etc. as we might need. The company not being ready to start and it was Saturday afternoon, I determined to drive on about six miles and put up for the Sabbath. As we started out, not being careful to observe the many roads which led in various directions, we passed the one we should have taken and went on several miles before we were apprized of the fact. As this road lay nearly parallel with the other, we soon learned that by taking a cross road and descending a long hill which was said to be passable the right road could be gained without retracing our steps. Changing our course we soon came to the hill, where we found ourselves up even with the tops of the trees on either side and in front. A more frightful and dangerous place I never saw in the shape of a road. As we drove onto the bow of the hill, where it began to descend, found there was not room for a man to walk between the waggon and the falling precipice and whether to attempt going down or return back was a matter yet to be settled. As we were thus hemmed in, in order to turn I found it would be necessary to run my waggon back several rods; as this was difficult to do, and the shades of night were fast coming over us, we resolved to try the former. Sending one yoke of oxen forward, which very reluctantly led the way, I took my place by the side of the team where I could hold on to the bow of the yoke and started down, knowing that the least accident or misstep would plunge us beyond the reach of hope. Our oxen also seemed to be aware of the danger, for they managed with the utmost care and caution until we arrived at length at the bottom of the hill in safety; where finding our road and an Inn, stopt for the Sabbath. The next day in the afternoon our company came up. About this time the company feeling it important that they should have more teams to help them through sent Mr. Leach, one of our number to our friends in Ohio for that purpose. We crossed the Ohio River two miles below Beaver; from there we proceeded to Griensburg and so on until we came to the place called "Eight Mile Swamp" This swamp was a low and marshy piece of ground, yet productive of many kinds of timber which grow on uplands. It presented a miserable passage for travelers.

On Friday morning, as my team was the best able to break the road it was proposed that I should take the lead and clear the way.

I had not gone far, however before my company was left far in the rear. I continued on, working a passage until nearly night when we drove out of the swamp and planted our feet upon the long looked for and most welcome soil of New Connecticut, it being the south east township of the Western Reserve (Poland) We then drove to Boardman and stopped for the night. The next day we drove in the forenoon to Canfield, it being only five miles where we once more put up for the Sabbath. Here we found old Connecticut friends Gen. Wadsworth from Litchfield, Capt. Tanner and Mr. Steele from Cornwall, Dea. Chapman from Sailsbury Mr. Sprague from Sharon, who had purchased land and were preparing to move their families on the next spring and also Mr. Pease, who was sent by our friends in Hudson with a yoke of cattle for the purpose of helping the company on. After directing him where they could be found, he went on. At this place also, we heard much said about Indians; as they had done much damage in the settlements at this place. Sabbath night the company came up. Monday morning as there was no settlement between this place and Deerfield, which was fifteen miles, we took an early start, hoping to get through that day; went on several miles quite well, when we came to a low and flat piece of land, and making but slow progress, we were obliged to encamp for the night. As the sons of Mr. Day who lived about three miles from our encampment were out that night on a raccoon hunt, they gave us a call. They were surprised at finding so large a company. yet seemed to enjoy their new and unexpected associates quite well.

After making some enquiries relative to our destination, etc. they returned to their homes. About noon the next day we arrived at Mr. Days, where we stopped to feed, while the rest of the company went on about a mile farther to Mr. Elys. Mr. Days people expecting us about this time, had not only prepared to feed our teams, but provided a good fat and well roasted raccoon for our dinner, which we relished very much. We then drove on to Mr. Elys where the company stopped. Finding they had concluded to stay overnight, as Mr. Ely had proposed helping them with his team as far as Revenna, twenty miles distant, we continued our journey till night when we came to what is called Yellow Creek. The banks of the stream being high as the waggon descended, our beds and clothing fell overboard into the water. After getting up the opposite bank, we built a fire and encamped for the night and about midnight had our cloths dried and put away in good order.

The next morning after driving about three miles, we came to Mr. Halls in Atwater formerly from Wallingford, Conn. where we got hay for our teams and milk for our children. We then took a northwest to Revenna and put up at Walkers Mills awaiting the arrival of the company; during which time I sold my waggon for a cow and grain for my years supply. Friday noon the company came up and we all moved on together until night when we were again obliged as we hoped for the last time to prepare our lodgings in the woods. The next day it being Saturday, and the sixtieth day of our journey, by the assistance of Mr. Hudson and several others who met us with their teams and axes, we were enabled to reach our desired haven in Hudson.

We stopped at Mr. Bishops where we enjoyed his kind hospitality for the term of three weeks during which time I rolled up a log house and covered it and moved into it, where we enjoyed verry much our new home.

After the people had made their dwellings comfortable for winter, they came together for the purpose of making a distribution of the library. As this organization became more generally known, shares were sold in townships around for the distance of fifteen miles, and the members were regular in their attendance at the meetings of the Society. Our leisure time was employed in the perusal of these books, treating mainly on subjects of morality and religion. Our little colony was also in the habit of meeting every Sabbath at some private house for public worship which was conducted among ourselves by reading sermons, etc. except occasional calls by Rev. Joseph Badger, who travelled in the western settlements as a missionary. In the course of two years, I had cleared some twenty five or thirty acres of land, and was beginning to realize a comfortable support, when in the spring of 1803 while assisting in the raising of a building, by the pulling of one of the timbers, my thigh was broken; which together with the ague disabled me for any kind of farming business for two years. During this my wife was obliged to turn her attention to the cultivation of land, as well as her own domestic affairs, and with the help of our eldest son, who was seven years of age, planted, hoed and harvested the best piece of corn in our vicinity.

Thus with her untiring energy, she labored almost unceasingly night and day for the support of the family untill 1805 when account of my misfortune, I found it necessary to resume my trade; and for that purpose I sold my farm in Hudson and removed to Newburg, it being an older settlement. There I remained three years and a half, and was prospered in all my undertakings; but on account of society in that place, and with the persuasion of Rev. David Bacon, who had pruchased the township of Tallmadge, for the purpose of building up a moral and religious society, I sold my place and moved into the wilderness, subjecting myself and family to many trials and hardships. Here I resided nine years during which time I cleared my farm, built a good house and barn and was enjoying the comforts of life when through the influence of Capt. Oviatt, my son-in-law, I returned to Hudson where I have since remained. One object I had in view of come in to Hudson was to assist in building up a good society and establishing church and literary institutions for the benefit of the rising generations and if affords me much pleasure even at the advanced age of 85 years to see the effect of our labor realized in some good degree realized. Thus have I endeavored to give you a brief sketch of the private, domestic and social occurances of my life being subject to prosperity and adversity which is the common lot especially of those who emigrated to this country. I cannot but express the deep interest I feel in our kindred associations as they are enjoyed at the present day; although my age must necessarily deprive me of the pleasure of a personal participation in them. Yet it is a source of pleasure and gratification to me to learn what has been and is being done by your generous and untiring efforts in searching out the vast territorial extent of our race, that we may be brought into one grand and social band

of brotherhood.

The above narrative was written in 1854, and it needs to be carried still further as some incidents of his life are not mentioned.

His first location that is mentioned is Northwest of the Center of Hudson lately owned by Joseph G. Bishop. (1860) He settled in Newburgh in 1805, in the tanning currying business and also shoemaking.

In 1808 Rev. David Bacon who had the agency of Town 2 Range 10 (Tallmadge) offered good inducements for him to sell his place in Newburg and again go into the woods. It has been said that Mr. Bacon gave him the two center lots between the SW and SE Diagonals, the truth I would not vouch for) Suffice to say, he disposed of his place in Newburgh in the spring of 1808. I have been informed also that when moving from Newburgh they came to the Cuyahoga River at what is now Monroe Falls and found the water so high that dare not ford the River, and were compelled to turn and go to Franklin and cross the river at Bradys Leap, this bridge had been built by the united efforts of the few inhabitants of Hudson, Franklin, Stow, and Revenna. It was 30 feet across the chasm, the first bridge built across the Cuyahoga River. Having crossed the River they made the best way they could to Tallmadge through Brimfield. Here he remained until 1817, when he sold out to Mr. Aaron Hine of Conn. He went to Hudson and purchased the farm now owned by his son Justin E. Kilbourn on which he resided until his death. He bought his farm in Hudson of Capt. Heman Oviatt.

He was expecting to purchase farms for his sons. He owned the farm now owned by Isaac T. Gaylord being Lot No. 4 in Great Lot No. 2. Lot No. 4 in Great Lot No. 12, now owned by Dennis Treat the tract on which Dennis Fenn now resides (1858) the farm now owned by I. T. Gaylord was given to his son George who lived on it several years. Mr. Kilbourn built the barn now owned by Mr. J. C. Snyder, he also built a large 2 story house the same size and on the same ground that Mr. Snyders house now stands. The first house was burnt several years since.

Mr. Kilbourn and his wife made a public profession of religion in Goshen (I suppose they being subject of the great revival of 1798 under Mr. Hooker) on the 4th of Sept. 1802, the Cong. Church in Hudson was organized by Rev. Joseph Badger, this was the third church organized on the Western Reserve, the church in Youngstown being the first and Austinburg the 2nd. At the organization of the church in Hudson. The following is the record. "A number of persons in this town, who had been members of other churches, part in Goshen, Conn. and part in Bloomfield, N. Y. met for the purpose of taking some regular steps toward being formed into a church. Rev. Joseph Badger, missionary from the Missionary Society of Connecticut, presiding as moderator opened the meeting with prayer. A system of doctrine was then attended to with a view to their being adopted as articles of faith.

"Each individual having given his particular assent to the said system of doctrines, a covenant was read and considered, which being also approved, after due consideration there was an examination of each person respecting the ground and evidences of his hope." "The next day, after due and solemn consideration of the duty and importance of forming a church in this; the following persons presented themselves to be constituted a Church of Christ, viz. Stephen Thompson & Mary his wife, David Hudson, Abraham Thompson & Susanna his wife, Stephen Thompson Jr., & Abigail his wife, George Kilbourn & Almina his wife, Heman Oviatt & Eunice his wife, Amos Lusk & Hannah Lindley, (the two latter from Bloomfield, N. Y.; the rest from Goshen, Conn.) 13

"A system of faith was then read, to which they gave their consent. They were then led to the solemn adoption of a covenant in which they engaged to give up themselves to keep and walk in all the ordinances of the gospel of Christ. They were then declared to be Church of Christ, commended to His blessing, and charged solemnly to keep His covenant and walk worthy of the followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, the head of the Church".

From a letter before me from Rev. Franklin Maginnis Pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Euclid, that the church in Euclid, by Rev. Wm. Wick of Youngstown Aug. 27th, 1807. The following were the persons that composed the Church at its organization were as follows, viz. Nathaniel Doane, Sarah Doane, John Ruple, Thomas McIhath, Elizabeth McIhath, Sarah Shaw, Eunice Eddy, Abraham P. Norris, Abigail P. Norris, George Kilbourn, Almina Kilbourn, Andrew McIhath, Anna Bunnell & Isabella McIhath. 14

The first pastor of this was Rev. Thomas Burr. Mr. Kilbourn was one of the original 9 members at the organization of the Cong. Church in Tallmadge on the 22nd day of Jan. 1809. Consisting of the following persons viz. George Kilbourn & Almina his wife; Ephraim Clark & Alla his wife, Amos C. Wright & Lydia his wife, Justin E. Frink, Hepzibah Chapman and Alice Bacon.

Mr. Kilbourn and his wife were dismissed from the Church in Tallmadge at their own request Oct. 26th, 1817 to the Cong. Church in Hudson. Mrs. Kilbourn died Dec. 19th, 1859 aged 87 Mr. Kilbourn died March 15th, 1866 aged 96 years.

Mr. Kilbourn was a man small of stature, but of indomitable energy and perseverance, honest but shrewd and a close calculator of verry industrious habits, verry frugal, and had by the aid of his wife, who was his equal in industry, frugality, and close calculation, they had accumulated property, giving their children a good start in life. When their youngest child Justin E. became of age, wishing to commence business for himself, he gave his son the home farm and he and his wife retired from the cares of a large farm occupying a small house a short distance from their old home on the same farm. Here with the less care they for several years enjoyed each others society and the society of their numerous friends and acquaintance. After the death of Mrs. Kilbourn in 1859, he spent the remainder of his life in the family of his son Justin. He had a verry pleasant room

assigned him. Here was his bed, his books and papers and as idleness was no part of his nature, he would have his shoemakers seat and tools and thus he would pass his time with working in the garden in its season furnished him with employment, and making the evening of life verry pleasant by the kind attentions of his son and wife who supplied all his wants.

RECOLLECTIONS OF MR. JOTHAM BLAKELEY 2ND

Mr. Blakeley was the son of Jared and Phebe (Belcher) Blakeley and was born in Sheffield, Berkshire County, Mass. Sept. 27th, 1790. His maternal grandmother was a French woman. He went to live with his uncle Jotham Blakeley in Kent, Litchfield County, Conn. In 1805 his uncle Jotham had disposed of his property in Kent Conn and in part pay had taken land in Town 3, Range 8 (now Revenna Portage County) and also six hundred acres in Town 2 Range 10 (now Tallmadge Summit County) and in the fall of that year moved with his family to the Reserve arriving in Revenna in Oct. They stopped at what is now known as Campbellsport. The first settlement was begun in Revenna by Benjamin Tappan in 1800. There was but few families in the town in 1805 Robert and John Campbell, Conrad Boosinger, the Ward family, John McManus, Henry Sapp, William Price, Moses Bradford, William Chard, David Jennings, Samuel Simcox, Wright and perhaps others. The winter of 1805 and 1806 he worked for his uncle. They chopped and cleared a piece of land on his farm in the north part of the town of Revenna, hunting some of the time, game being plenty in the spring, he was sent with a team for some potatoes at Judge Amzi Atwaters in Mantua cutting his road some of the way through Shalersville. In May or June 1806 Mr. Blakeley in company with Gen. Wadsworth of Canfield, Selah Payne and Mr. Stewart made an exploration of town 2 Range 10 (Tallmadge) encamped for the night in the West part of the town near the present residence (1868) of Daniel Hine. In the morning they came east by lot lines to the Center Gen. Wadsworth says to Blakeley, "Boy let us cut a brush heap here at the Center; I shall not live long to tell of it but you may". At this time Gen. Wadsworth offered if he would go home with him and stay a year he would give him thirty eight acres of land. Soon after this he went to Conn in company with Judge Atwater and wife and the wife of Justus Bradley afterwards a resident of Tallmadge he visited various localities he was in a little hamlet called Guntown the birth place of his Aunt Blakeley who was the daughter of Nathaniel Gun. He left Conn for Ohio worked 3 months in Pittsburgh making wrought nails. He left Pittsburgh and came to his uncles in Revenna. In March 1807 George Boosinger having purchased a piece of land of Jotham Blakeley in Great Lot No. 14 in Tallmadge and being desirous of going to work on it as early as possible and living in Revenna at this time he made arrangements with the following individuals to help him build his log cabin viz. George Boosinger (the owner) Jotham Blakeley, (still living 1868) John McManus, Henry Sapp, Moses Bradford, Philip Ward, William Price, David Jennings, William Chard, Robert Campbell, Abel Forshey and Henry Bozor. They left Revenna the morning came onto the land selected his place to put up his cabin near a fine spring of water a few rods from the township line on the farm now owned by Sherman Pettibone.

They cut the logs and raised the house about 16 by 20 and made the shakes as they were called or long shingles put on the roof, cut out the place for a door and he put in the puncheon floor, chinked it and moved into their new log house. Mr. Blakeley thinks that they war in it about the first of April, 1807. Soon after they moved into their house they had a pair of twins, a boy and a girl. The girl lived a few days when she died. These children of George and Nancy (Simcox) Boosinger by abundant evidence from many witnesses all tend to prove that George and Nancy Boosinger were the first actual settlers in Tallmadge and their twin children were the first born in town and the one that died was the first death in the township. Mr. Blakeley says Rev. Mr. Bacon was often at his uncles house after he had made his arrangements with the owners of Tallmadge for their land. His uncle having purchased of Ephraim Starr previous to Mr. Bacons negotiations he was verry anxious that Mr. Blakeley should adopt his plan by having his land be made to support the gospel before he came here. After corn was knee high in the summer of 1807, Mr. Blakeley remarks that my uncle came home from Town 2 Range 10 and said Mr. Bacon was then building a house. The following I copied from the Records of Marriages "July 6th, 1808. Jotham and Roxy Blakeley were married by Henry O Neil J.P. both of Franklin Township Benjamin Whedon Clerk. This is the 2nd marriage license issued after the organization of Portage County. Esq. O Neil was a resident of Rootstown. Mr. Blakeley married his cousin and lived in Revenna. Mr. Blakeley in the fall of 1808 cleared a piece of land in Tallmadge and sowed it with wheat and in the spring he built his log house near a spring on the farm now owned and occupied by the widow and heirs of Lorenzo Clark (1868) Mr. Blakeley and his young wife came with them to Tallmadge. Feb. 22nd, 1809. He bought of Elizur Wright Lot 1 in Great Lot 16 on this he built a log house near a spring and near the house built by Mr. Mark Clark, this he sold to Ira Lampson, then it was owned by Nathan Battison who sold to Mark Clark in 1818. Blakeley then made a contract for the farm west of his father in laws J. Blakeley, Sen. He worked at making wrought nails. He made the nails for Dr. A. C. Wrights barn in 1810. He chopped and cleared land in 1814 he sold out his improvements to John McMillan and went to Middlebury and built a log house and built a shop and made blacksmithing his only business. Here he remained, built him a frame house and shop. He then sold and inducements being offered him to remove to the Forge and they would make what was called at that day plough share moulds in the forge and he would take them and make plough shares for the wooden ploughs of that period. Here he made a failure, his family was sick and his wife died Sept. 9th, 1822.

He was thus left with a family of five children and his property gone in consequence of so much sickness in his family. He then came up on the Center and commenced work in a little log shop belonging to Esq. Whittlesey standing on the corner where James Baldwins waggon shop now stands (1868) this took fire and was burnt I think in 1823. He then bought of Mr. Aaron Hine I think one acre north of the burying ground, built a shop and went to work, built a small frame house, married Miss Olive Upson March 1st, 1824, a native of Waterbury Conn. a verry industrious

Christian woman. She had 10 children, she died Feb. 16th, 1848. He had previous to this sold south of the center and bought the place owned by Mr. Joel Bast, then exchanged places with his present wife for the place now occupied by Deacon Andrew Fenn, he sold this and bought out Wm. Boyd where he is living at this date 1868.

His present wife is a daughter of Mr. Drake and Sophia (Preston) Fellows. Mr. Blakeley had five children by his first wife:
1st - Philemon, born May 21st, 1809, married Amanda Hill Oct. 5th, 1829, died
2nd - Roxy Ann, born Feb. 1812, married John Morehouse Oct. 5th, 1829
3rd - Mariette, born May 31st, 1815, married Luther Barn ard Feb. 12th, 1825, died Aug. 13th, 1847
4th - Florinda, born Feb. 1818, married, died Jan. 10th, 1871
5th - Larmon, born June 21st, 1821, married Betsey Huchins

After Mr. Blakeleys death which ocured Dec. 25th, 1870, aged 80 years, I obtained the following which I insert. Mr. Blakeley was left when a mere boy to look out for himself and not much restraint was put upon him in the days of childhood. At the age of 15 he came to Ohio with his uncle and here he could hunt or work or ramble about as he pleased, and he has verry often expressed himself that it was indeed wonderfull that with his temperament and disposition that he did not fall into greater temtations, but he always felt he was wonderfully preserved. He was a man of a verry retentive memory, cheerful and a good jovial turn of mind, full of good humor, having a great fund of anecdotes to illustrate his stories. He was a close hearer and having the gift of language to express his ideas; and being left to battle with the world at that age when parental restraints is necessary for this his education was quite limited. He was a kind husband, an affectionate father, a good neighbor, always ready to help those that needed help. He was a very industrious man, but in the days of his youth and when he lived in Middlebury he was not as prudent in his expenses as he was in after life, or after he came to the Center of Tallmadge, if he had he would have been among those in good circumstances.

Mr. Blakeley continued to do country work, by hiring journeyman to do horse shoeing, and other work. He at one time was engaged in the manufacture of pitch forks and at another time he was manufacturing hames, but for the last forty years, the iron work of waggons the last years of his life it was his constant employment while able to labor. The last year of his life he was entirely laid aside, he failed gradually untill the weary wheels of life stood still. Mr. Blakeley experienced religion I think in 1823. He united with the Methodist Episcopal Church in Tallmadge, being among the first admitted after it was organized in 1824. He walked with them for many years, but was never a bigot, his second wife belonged to the Cong. Church, and he helped support both churches and in the afternoon would come with his wife to the Cong. Meeting. He left the Methodist denomination, uniting with the Cong. Church by profession, Sept.

2nd, 1838, The last few years of his life was a very active man in the church. He was growing in grace, increasing in knowledge and ripening for that rest that remains for the people of God.

Mr. Blakeley was the last pioneer that was head of a family that came into this township in 1809, he came in from Revenna on the 22nd of Feb. 1809. Mr. Blakeley many years since gave me the names of all the heads of families residing in Tallmadge when he moved into the town viz: in Middlebury Joseph Hart, Aaron Norton and Liverton Dixon, in Tallmadge proper, Conrad Boosinger, and his son George Boosinger, Samuel McCoy, Ephraim Clark Jr., Rev. David Bacon, Moses Bradford, Jonathan Sprague, Dr. Amos C. Wright, Nathaniel Chapman, Wm. Neal, George Kilbourn, Thomas Dunlap, Peter Norton, Charles Chittenden, Jotham Blakeley and Jotham Blakeley Jr., my informant, Eli Hill (a single man I believe) who returned to Virginia soon after before spring opened, Capt. John Wright and his son John Jr. with their families Edmund Strong, and Ara Gillett and families came into town. But would say in conclusion that Mr. Blakeley has always resided within the limits of Tallmadge almost 61 years. What a change he has lived to see in Tallmadge. In connection with his working in the nail factory in Pittsburg, he used to relate the following incident.

He was at work in a shop with a large number of others making wrought nails, for this was before the invention of machinery for cutting nails as at the present day. There were several carts standing upon the bank of one of the rivers as he and his fellow workmen were passing by, they in a very thoughtless manner run those carts down the bank to or into the river. They were in the shop at work when a civil officer came in and arrested every one in the factory; Mr. Blakeley says "look here, I do not want to go looking like this in my working clothes, just let me go to the house and change my clothes", the officer granted so reasonable request. He went to the house and informed the proprietor of the factory that he wished to settle in just three minutes, he paid him his wages and he left for Ohio. A few years after he went to Pittsburgh and he thought he would go to the shop where he was working at the time of his arrest. He found one or two of his old shop mates, he asked the result and they told him that scrape cost them \$30 each to settle with the owner. When his uncle Jotham Blakeley moved into Revenna in 1805 the township north now called Shalersville was unsettled, Joel Baker and his wife were the first settlers in 1808. Baker was no hunter but had brought a pound or two of gun powder for his own use if he should want. Mr. Blakeley went to Baker to borrow some of his powder untill he could send to Pittsburgh and Baker would not let him have any the bears would kill his hogs and he might want it. Blakeley was standing in the door of Bakers log house, looking out into the woods see what a fine flock of turkeys there is just out there. If I only had some powder. Mrs. Baker says we should like a turkey, here you take the cannister and bring in a turkey. He went into the woods put about half of it into the corner of the flap of his shirt. He killed a deer and a turkey and sent to Pittsburgh and got a supply. Went to Bakers to pay him and he had not missed it.

Mr. Blakeley had a large family of children by his first and second wife, he had no children by his third wife.

The following obituaries appeared soon after Mr. Blakeleys death:

ANOTHER OF THE FATHERS GONE

Mr. Jotham Blakelee died in Tallmadge Saturday evening, Dec. 24th, 1870. He had been in poor health for the most of the time for two years, but was about somewhat during the past summer. As the autumn came on he began to decline and at the approach of winter failed quite rapidly.

He was born in Sheffield, Mass. Sept. 27th, 1790, and was consequently in his 81st year of his age. In 1805 he came with an uncle to Ravenna. In May or June 1806, in company with Gen. Elijah Wadsworth of Canfield and others, he explored the town of Tallmadge, encamping for the night on the hill near where Mr. Daniel Hine now lives. In the morning, following lot lines to the Center, they cut and piled a brush heap on what is now the public square. In March 1807 he helped build the first log cabin in Tallmadge, on the farm now owned by Sherman Pettibone. In February 1809, he moved into Tallmadge with his uncles family and lived in this township from that time till his death. From 1814 to 1823 he lived in that part of town which is now included in the village of Middlebury. Since 1823 he has resided at the Center of Tallmadge. He has been married three times. His first marriage was on July 6th, 1808 and the licence was the second issued in Portage County. He made a profession of religious about 1827, uniting with the M.E. Church. He united with the Cong. Church in 1838, and continued a worthy membership of it until his death. In many respects, Mr. Blakelee was a remarkable man. His physical constitution was of the best, so that he was capable of great endurance and of continuous hard labor. His intellectual endowments were of the first order. He had but very few advantages for early education and mental discipline, and yet being a great reader and having a tenacious memory, he was excelled by few in general information and valuable knowledge. The workings of his mind were quick, clear and incisive. He apprehended at once the point of a remark and the force of an argument, nor ever failed to make a point whenever he spoke, and to make it so clear that everyone must see and feel it. His extensive knowledge, treasury of anecdote, fund of wit and humor, appreciation of the ludicrous and fluency of speech combined to render him a favorite in conversation alike to old and young. Had he been favored in early with thorough mental discipline and culture he would, without doubt have been known as a leader among us.

He had a keen sense of justice and a hearty sympathy for those in oppression. He was one of the first in this community to espouse the cause of the slave, and was the life long friend of those whom the nation so greatly oppressed. No one felt a more profound gratitude than he, when this land was freed from the blighting curse of slavery. Mr. Blakelee was what may

properly be termed a Bible Christian. He was a faithful student of the word of God and delighted in its blessed truths. He received them as Gods message to men. He loved the worship of the Sanctuary and the plain and earnest preaching of the Cross of Christ. He took great interest in the social meetings of the Church and was espeicially efficient in them. His prayers will long be remembered for their earnestness, tenderness and pathos and his remarks for their clearness and pungency, and the forcibleness of the illustrations with which they were accompanied. During the last few years of his life it was evident to every observer that he was fast ripening for the heavenly home. The prosperity and purity of the church lay very near his heart, and he had earnest longings for the conversion of those away from Christ. Conscious that death was approaching, he was calm and peaceful, "knowing in whom he had beleived and being persuaded that he was able to keep that which he had committed unto him against that day". Who will not say: "Let me die the death of the righteous and bet my last end be like his".

Com. Obituary

In passing away from earth of those who have been pioneers of a new country, and who have been more than ordinarily conversant with its material, educational, social, civil and religious condition and prosperity whatever pertains to their history is more or less interesting to their surviving friends and those who succeed them in the enjoyment of those blessings as they have aided in securing. Of that number was Mr. Jotham Blakelee, who was born in Sheffield Berkshire Co., Mass. 1790. At the age of 15 years in the month of Oct. 1805 he came to Revenna. In May or June in company with Gen. E. Wadsworth of Canfield, Selah Payne and Mr. Stewart, he explored Tallmadge, encamping on the hill near Mr. Daniel Hines, and during this exploration, the company cut and piled a brush heap on what is now the public square, and in connection with this incident, Gen. Wadsworth said to Mr. Blakelee; "Boy I shall not live long to tell of this, but probably you will, now let us cut and pile the first brush heap ever made at this Center", which they did with hatchets. In March 1807 Mr. B. helped build the first log cabin in Tallmadge, on the farm now owned by Mr. Sherman Pettibone. And in Feb. 1809 he moved into Tallmadge with his uncles family, and has lived in the township from that time to his death. In 1814 he went to Middlebury but has lived at the Center all the time since 1823. He was first married July 6th, 1808 to his cousin, Miss Roxy Blakelee, by Mr. Henry O'Neil, Justice of the Peace of Rootstown, under the second marriage licence issued in Portage County. She died Sept. 9th, 1822. For his second wife he married Miss Olive Upson of Waterbury, Conn. and she died Feb. 16th, 1848. His third wife was Cynthia K. daughter of Drake and Sophia Fellows, who is still living. Mr. B. made a profession of religion in 1825 and united with the M.E. Church in Tallmadge; and in 1838 transferred his church connection to the Congregational order, which connection he maintained untill his death, Dec. 25th, 1870. In the church he was efficient and highly esteemed. No member of the church was listened with greater attention and interest at the prayer and conference meeting

than he. From early life to the time of the downfall of the great national curse, he was an ardent and firm supporter of the anti-slavery cause, and his interest and sympathy for the poor slave unlike many pretended abolitionists was not confined to, and satisfied with mere talk, but his heart and purse were open to his relief. He belonged to that class, who constitute the true nobility of the land - the working class to the great industrial power of the nation, he contributed his full share in the capacity of an honest and upright worker in life.

By nature Mr. Blakelee was richly furnished. He was physically endowed with an iron constitution, which with prudent physiological management would probably have given him a centenarians lease of life. His intellectual qualities were above mediocrity and though early deprived of school advantages, he by a course of general reading and a retentive memory acquired a good stock of knowledge which with other requisite qualities rendered him an interesting and agreeable conversationalist.

Mr. Blakelee lived to a good old age, respected and loved by all who knew him, and died in full faith of the Christian hope Tallmadge, Jan. 10th, 1870. Avarro

Mr. Blakelee by his first wife Roxy Blakeley had five children
By his second wife Olive (Upson) Blakelee, he had eight children; Viz. Eliza M. Born Oct. 14th, 1825
Lucena Born Dec. 16th, 1828, married Charles Powere, died May 22nd, 1859, aged 30
Fanny, born Nov. 22nd, 1830, died March 17th, 1848, aged 18
Elvira, born Feb. 14th, 1832. Died Nov. 2nd, 1834, aged 2
Daniel Upson, born Dec. 8th, 1833, Died June 21st, 1857, aged 23½
Olive C. Born Nov. 17th, 1835. Married John Beauchamp Oct. 15th, 1857, by Rev. L. L. Holden Epis. Minister
Julia Elvira, born Dec. 20th, 1837
George & Jerome (Twins) born Oct. 12th, 1839, died Aug. 13th, 1840, aged 10 mos.

FROM THE SUMMIT COUNTY BEACON MARCH 5TH, 1868

A trip to Cleveland fifty years ago Written by Wm. S. Clark

About the year 1818, Peter Wilson (Uncle Pete) Archibald Christy, J. B. DeHaven, T. Hourel and W. S. Clark, neighbors in Springfield township, now in Summit County agreed to rig out and load a sled each, with produce, to-wit: Wheat, Rye, Corn, Flax, etc and make a journey to Cleveland to procure some things we could not get at home, such as salt, fish, etc. Thus agreed and arranged we rendezvoused at Uncle Peters, all together to get an early start which we could not do otherwise, living in remote parts of the township. Having breakfasted on buckwheat cakes, sausages, pumpkin butter and (boughten coffee) and packed our baskets with cooked ham, chicken, jerked venison, etc. plenty for our journey we started. Snow about 12 inches deep, but mud underneath, especially in the woods, south side of the hills rather bare.

We found it hard sledding and being well loaded, we were obliged to double teams to get through mud holes and up the hills. At Tinkers Creek we met some men from Stark County, among them, one Swartz of some note in the days of Brown, Ashley, Latta & Co., who bartered Archy to trade horses. Well Archy was a kind of leader of our company and he could not take a stump, therefore we were detained some time. When we started again, we ascertained that the narrows on the hillside were blocked with teams that could not get up. A horse too had fallen over the bank some 40 or 50 feet and must be reseeded, which it took all hands to do. Finding it getting late we backed down to the tavern (Clarks or Gleasons) This tavern mentioned by Mr. Clark was Parkers which stood at the foot of the tremendous hill on the north side of the creek. The house stood between the creek and the foot of the hill on the old state road from Canton to Cleveland the locality is now (1868) called Gleasons Hill CCB) Stayed untill next day which was nearly spent in getting to Newburgh. When stopping to warm feet and get some refreshments, Uncle Peters team ran away and scattered his load and broke the wooden shoes of his sled, which we repaired by getting some dogwood saplings and pinned them on to the runners. Got to Cleveland and after sometime spent in bartering, we exchanged our produce, mostly for fish and salt, no bush at any price. Returning I think on the sixth day we put up on the old state road in Boston at a log cabin tavern, kept by one Post. Our teams cared for, with some deer skins, bear skins and feed bags we made our beds on the floor in front of a good fire, made of logs. In the morning as we found our stock of provisions getting dry and rather low, we proposed to have a warm breakfast. But how should we pay for it? For our five loads of provisions we did not get money enough to pay for a meal. The good landlady agreed to take anything we had to spare, and we got a good warm breakfast, went to our sleds and broke in the head of fish barrel and paid our hostess in white fish. We got home on the seventh day.

Copied April 13th, 1868 By C. C. Bronson

W.S.C.

SCRAP OF HISTORY

BY REV. JOHN SEWARD

The subject of building a college on the Reserve was agitated and incipient measurers were taken before the act of incorporation was passed in 1826.

Being a member of the Board of Trustees and of the Prudential Committee, I officiated as such till my resignation in 1854 about 28 years. By refference to my diary, the result of labors are as follows: Meetings of the Board and of the Committee, 186. Days employed on College business 420. Miles travelled on College Business 4,075. This does not include what I did in 1838. My diary for that year is missing. These services were gratuitous, without asking, expecting or receiving any pecuniary compensation; but I have had my reward in seeing the fruits which the College has already brought forth, and in the anticipation of what it will continue to bring forth untill time shall end.

Tallmadge Feb. 21st, 1868

John Seward

Copied from the Summit Beacon of March 5th, 1868 by C. C. Bron son

HISTORICAL SCRAP NO. 3 THIRTY NINE YEARS AGO

Saturday, March 7th, 1829

I left my home in Aurora on horseback and rode to Boardman, 45 miles where I arrived about 8 o'clock in the evening and the next day (Sabbath) preached for Rev. Mr. Wright in Poland. Monday rode 43 miles to Jacksons Tavern 15 miles this side of Pittsburgh and the next morning rode into the city before breakfast, where I stopped untill afternoon and then rode out nine miles to Rev. Mr. Grahams, 14 miles from my starting point. The next day rode 34 miles to the residence of the Rev. Thomas Davis where I halted. But why this horseback trip in the stormy month of March when the roads are muddy and travelling disagreeable? At a meeting of the Trustees of the W.R. College, March 4th, they elected Elizur Wright Jr. Professor of Mathematics, in the institution. It was believed he was somewhere east of Pittsburgh, among the mountains of Pennsylvania. We then had no telegraph in operation, it was uncertain how or when a letter would reach him. The College was suffering for want of instruction. I was detailed to hunt him up, and if practicable, bring him onto the ground. On arriving at the house of Mr. Davis as above stated, I learned that he made his headquarters there, but was out on an exploring trip, as agent for the Tract Society and would return in about a week.

To find him among the mountains would be a dubious undertaking and I concluded to wait for his return. This waiting period I spent in the vicinity preaching as I found opportunity, and on Wednesday 18th I met Mr. Wright at his mountain home, near Blairsville, Indiana, Penn. On Friday March 20th, we started for home, where we arrived on the 25th and Mr. Wright entered

at once upon the duties of his office as Professor of the College.
Tallmadge March 25th, 1868 John Seward
Copied from the Summit Beacon of April 2nd, 1868 by C. C. Bronson

From the Summit Beacon of April 30th, 1868

TWINSBURG PIONEERS

ETHAN ALLING, ANOTHER PIONEER GONE

Died in Twinsburg on the evening of the 22nd (April) Ethan Alling, aged 67 years, 8 months, 9 days, leaving a widow, 2 sons and many friends to mourn his loss.

About 30 years ago Mr. Alling was attacked with measles which left a cough, that gradually developed into a disease of the lungs and from which he never entirely recovered.

He was a man of most sterling integrity - of great ability, and for many years has been a professor of religion. In all of his eventful life, he has had one great principle, as the guide and rule of all his acts, whether in prosperity or adversity, in sickness or in health, in sunshine or in storm, and that was to fearlessly, faithfully and manfully do right. With large means at his disposal, acquired through long years of frugality, industry and toil, he has taken a leading part in all great enterprises, where the public were to be benefited, lavishing his means, his time and his influence with a prodigality rarely excelled.

Many years ago, he gave to the citizens of Twinsburgh a beautiful burying ground, called "Locust Grove Cemetary", with his own exertions and the assistance of generous neighbors, enclosed the entire ground with a fence, five and one half feet high, and about sixteen inches in thickness, constructed of heavy block stone, some of them weighing several tons each. During the War he took an active part on the side of the Union. He hired and put John E. Carter into the field as his substitute (who laid down his life for his country) although by reason of old age and infirmity of body. Mr. Alling was in no way liable, nor had he the physical ability to spend a day in the Army. He sought out the widows, the fathers, the sons and daughters of those who had been in the service and who had been unfortunate promptly rendering them thqt pecuniary aid that they so much needed, with kind words of encouragement gave all such to understand that they had in him a friend and protector in time of need. He had a great, generous manly heart ever open, to all legitimate calls, for noble deeds, one of his last being to assist others in the erection on the Public Square of Twinsburgh that grand monument to the noble soldiers of the township who sacrificed their lives that this great nation might live. On the fourth of July last when the monument was dedicated, although Mr. Alling had given much time to the subject, yet he was unable to leave his house for any great length of time. He rode upon the ground and stayed a short time, the excitement of the occasion bore heavily down upon a weak body, but the fire of

his eyes showed that he felt as deeply as anyone present for the honored dead whose memory was being perpetuated by friends and relations assembled on that occasion. A great man has fallen, a noble light has been blotted out; a bright star has left lifes firmament. Let the living commemorate his memory - live as he lived and die as he died - A Christian.

In 1861 Mr. Alling wrote a short article for publication in regards to the early history of Twinsburgh and his connection therewith, which will be interesting to many and which we copy using his own language:

"I was born in North Milford, Conn. (now Orange) five miles west of New Haven City, the 13th day of August 1800. My father, Lewis Alling, was bred a farmer, but my earliest recollections was selling goods in New Haven, where he lent his name freely and suffered loss as he afterwards told me.

After his failure in the above business, he took heavy jobs building turnpike roads, etc at the same time working a small farm and keeping a country tavern on the Derby Turnpike, four miles west of New Haven. He was an industrious saving man, but unfortunate in pecuniary matters. My mother, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Clark, died in New Haven, July 15th, 1806, leaving two children, myself and brother Lewis, who was then about fifteen months old. From that time, untill my father remarried in 1809 (to Nancy Wheeler of Derby, Conn, who came and died with him in Ohio) I lived or stayed with my Grand father, uncles, etc. four miles from New Haven and fared hard, not being much cared for by anybody. My brother Lewis was kept during his orphanage in Derby, Conn. There was a school kept six months in the year about a mile from where I lived to which I was sent with my little basket, containing my dinner and Websters East Lesson Spelling Book, with instructions that if I passed any one older than myself to take off my hat and make a bow, rain or shine. This instruction was given at both ends of the road, and its observance strictly required of all school children and youth in that day. In 1812 I had a severe sickness that made a cripple of me for more than a year, and put an end to my school opportunities (which will account for my bad spelling and worse grammar) with the exception of studying the surveyors art, a few months in the fall of 1816. In the spring of 1814 my father got a situation for me in Loomis and Johnson Grocery store in New Haven by paying my board the first year, where I stayed untill the company failed in 1816. Young men now expect large sallaries the first year, often get more than they earn.

In the winter of 1816 - 17 my father sold his farm and other property and took notes which he traded off (guaranteeing payment) to the amount of five thousand dollars, to Mills and Hoadly for 1,000 acres of land in Tract 3rd, Township No. 5 Range 10, Connecticut Western Reserve, which township they, after the above trade was made, called Millsville..a part of the notes were never paid, consequently we had but 400 acres of the land.

On the 3rd day of March, 1817 I started for Ohio with three hired viz, Teri Alling, Rodolphus (called Tom) Wolcott and Lex Johnson. We had muddy roads all the way, except one days travel on the Ice from Buffalo to Dunkirk and arrived at Tina Posts in Hudson on the 31st day of March. Staid overnight and the next morning went Esquire Gideon Mills with a letter of introduction from Isaac Mills, one of the firm we bought the land of. We took an early dinner with Esq. Mills, and he started with us for the town north, as he called it, having not heard of its being called Millsville. From Mr. Chamberlins we followed a line of marked trees called Chagrin Road, untill we came to the line of Tract No. 2, (afterwards known as the Wilcox tract) which Esq. Mills said was the center of the town. There we sat down under a beach sight tree, which spot is now the exact SE corner of the Public Square. The lay of the land was uneven and bad and a bad slough hollow a few rods south of where we stopped and nothing looked inviting to situate a village upon. We then took a south easterly course up the creek to the Falls (since called the Mills) there we found some sticks of hewed timber, which had been drawn by the people of Hudson, and I believe Aurora to build a saw mill, they had also put up a log cabin with one roof which we afterwards occupied, thence we passed over the hill, now known as the Hawkins farm, and returned to Esq. Mills.

Thus ended my first day in this town. We staid two weeks with Esq. Mills, and cleared off a piece of his old slashing to plant with corn upon shares, and in the meantime selected the hill named to commence operations upon. Tract No. 3 had not yet been surveyed into lots. But was surveyed that season by Samuel E. Baldwin, Esq. of Newburg, Ohio. The question having often been asked, why we preferred that spot to the center, I will here give the reason: First there we found excelent plough and grassland, water, stone, timber, sugar trees, etc. and secondly, the water power of the falls was the best for mills around, probably three times the water there then that there is now, and we business would center there as it had at Middlebury and other places regardless of the center and I still think there would have been a smart village built up had not the owners Mills and Hoadly attempted a foolish speculation by laying out a village and asking fifty two hundred dollars apiece for lots containing less than one half acre of land, thus shutting out mechanics, etc. On the 15th day of April we took bed and board in the shanty at the falls.

Our stock of provisions was a barrel of poor port, that I paid Capt. Oviatt twenty five dollars for; one barrel of flour, eight dollars; ten bushels of potatoes, five dollars; and one gallon of whiskey \$1.50. The latter being in those days indispensible in the best of families had to soon be replenished. Our entire cooking utensils and furniture consisted of a bake kettle without a bail, two tin bake pans, one care knife, one iron spoon, and a board two feet by six that was got for a door to the shanty (each one had a jack knife and provided himself with a sharp stick ford and a clean chip plate, every meal) with which I cooked and kept house for a family of from four to six,

entertained lots of company. Ours being the only hotel in the place, we had many hungry visitors and enjoyed life first rate. About the 20th of May, Elisha Loomis and Lester Davis arrived from New Haven and stopped with us part of the time; on the 31st day of May, Fredrick Stanley arrived (from Hartford Conn) on the 1st July my brother Lewis Gideon Thompson and Zenas Alling arrived with a drove of merino sheep, 104 in number, having driven them from Derby, Conn. to Hudson, Ohio, 660 miles in 30 days. But the country was too new for sheep; many of them were killed by wolves, some by dogs and others died. It proved a bad speculation. On the 7th of July my father and mother, sister Elizabeth, then seven years old, Irene Thomas, afterwards the wife of Luman Lane, Levi Cook Taylor, father of Timothy Taylor, (now 1861 at Macedonia) and Wilson Whitticus, the colored boy (called Tone) arrived, making in all 15 souls from our neighborhood in Conn, that had arrived to that date July 7th, 1817; two whom however, Johnson and Davis had in the meantime seen the elephant and returned. About the 1st of June we raised a log house; early the next spring (1818) we built a frame barn and in the fall of the same year raised and partly finished a frame house which were the three first buildings of the kind in the township.

The sawmill was erected in 1817, the grist mill in 1818. Joel W. Thompson had a distillery in operation in 1821 at the spring where O. Appleby now lives; the whiskey was carried away in gallon bottles, generally as fast as it run from the pipe, but the machine soon stopped for the want of rye.

The average number of our family the first year was 14, mostly men; all lived and got along well and comfortable in a log house which had but two rooms, one below and one above; poorly chinked and no mud at all; fireplace without jambs, calculated for wood 6 feet long. All were healthy and could eat three meals a day without inconvenience. Provisions were dear, except venison.

In the fall of 1817 we paid for 8 poorly fatted hogs 8 dollars a hundred. The meat of a good sized deer only cost from 50 cents to a dollar, or less than one cent per pound, consequently we devoured many of those noble animals. Flour was eight dollars a barrel, salt ten dollars - goods were still higher, 3/4 cotton sheeting was 50 cents a yard, calico 75 cents, etc. The transportation from New Haven to Cleveland on a box of log chains, drag teeth, iron wedges etc. cost us six dollars the hundred pounds. Thus with the best economy we could use, our money was all gone before we could raise anything to sell, and when that good time come (1819) money was scarce, produce was plenty and verry low, wheat fifty cents in trade; other grain and meat in proportion. In the fall of that year I lent Oliver Brown of Hudson eight dollars in money for a few days. When I called for it he said he would deliver me 24 bushels of best white seed wheat for the debt and I did so. Every prudent man stopped making contracts to pay money. Notes were given payable at a time and place in cattle, grain etc. at the market price, which was not understood to mean exactly what the article would fetch in

money, but less than the trade price. The price of chopping the timber on an acre of land, ready for logging was six dollars; chopping, clearing and fencing, twenty dollars - at which price Gideon Thompson, John S. Thompson and Nathaniel Palmer (known as the Twinsburgh Land Clearing Company) chopped, cleared and fenced some 80 acres of land, in 1818, 19 and 20. In the fall of 1820 I shook severely with the ague, forty two days in succession, accompanied with inflammatory rheumatism, the latter stuck to me for more than six years. But good health was enjoyed generally until 1821, when there were a number of cases of billious fever about the mills. But 1823 was the fatal year hardly an adult person living within a mile of the mill pond escaped a course of billious, intermitant and typhus fever; and not more than two, I think, that was forty years old and upwards that recovered. I lay sick through July and August and but partially recovered when our father and mother were laid in the grave, on the 7th day of September. Immediately after Nathaniel Palmer and E. W. Mather, who assisted us in taking care of the sick were taken down and barely escaped death. Lights were not extinguished during the night in our house, probably for more than four months. My brother Lewis escaped the fever that year, but suffered severely with it the next spring and summer.

Doctors Israel Town and Oliver Mills of Hudson were our principal physicians and up to that time, the Rev. John Seward of Aurora and Rev. Wm. Hanford of Hudson (both of whom still survive 1860) were our principal spiritual advisers and true friends. They often called to see us and preached in the township. I respected them then and love them now - believing that their labors among the few that were then here, did mean to shape the future character of the township and bring about the high state of intelligence, moral and general prosperity which we now enjoy. In Feb. 1824, I went east in search of a wife - "Struck up a bargain" with Eliza Blackman (my present wife) in Bridgeport, Conn. was married the 24th of April and returned with her to the farm in Twinsburgh in May. In the spring of 1825 we went into the dairying business with twenty two cows, the price of a good cow that spring was 12 dollars. The butter we made I took to Akron once a week, where they were building the Ohio Canal, and sold for eight cents a pound. We made a good quality of cheese, but being raw hands at the business, and having no suitable place to keep it through the summer, as was then necessary, the skippers took advantage of our management and we lost all but about 500 pounds, which I sold in the fall to a Mr. Converse in Aurora for five cents a pound, which was the first cheese made to sell in the township and the last we ever made.

That fall 1825 I commenced building the tavern, now a part of Mr. Bissells school building. Moved into it Dec. 6th, 1826, and opened for business with a Christmas Ball on the 25th. After the death of our postmaster, Moses Wilcox, in Sept. 1827, I applied for the post office and got the appointment in Oct. We then got the mail once a week from Hudson. The total amount of postage received in the year 1828 was \$36.01; the amount received the last year I had the office, 1839, \$256.67. This year, 1860 under the greatly reduced rate of postage, the amount is about \$400.00. There were only twenty regular periodicals came into

the office in 1828; this year (1860) there is over 700.

In the spring of 1828, I in company with Jabez Gilbert bought out the stage property from Hudson to Cleveland. My object was to draw the travel off from the old Cleveland and Pittsburgh road through Northfield and get it through Twinsburgh. Where the stage went in those days everything else went in travel. My tavern had a business which made a home cash market for many things the farmers had to spare, and gave life and ambition to the town. It was important to me in another respect. I lost 600 dollars running the stage that season, seven months, and being badly in debt for my buildings, etc, with prices of everything low and money scarce, it was a hard time for me to stand the loss, as we were all poor in Twinsburgh up to this time, 1828 and no one had money to lend or help his neighbor with and so poor that Esq. Hudson, after meeting with some disapointments from this quarter, made a sweeping remark that "it would take as many Twinsburgh men to make a reliable man as humming birds to make a tom turkey". True, we were dependant on Hudson for many necessaries of life, as all new places are on older ones, but they got most of the money we had and lost nothing in the end. This year Joseph Chamberlin commenced the dairing business; others soon followed and the sale of butter and cheese soon made us comfortable in pecuniary matters. My account book and evidences indicate that about \$1000 worth of dairy products went out of the township in 1833. The sales this year (1860) probably exceeds seventy five thousand dollars, or more than sixty five dollars for each man woman and child in the township. In 1829 I commenced the mercantile business in a room 6 feet by 8 then used my tavern bar. My first stock of goods consisted of but two articles, tobacco and scotch snuff, and cost three dollars and fifty cents. My sales of goods (flour, salt and produce excepted) the last year I was in business, 1847 amounted to fourteen thousand dollars, all of which was paid for on delivery. In 1830 I sold my farm, 200 acres, 100 cleared and fenced, with good buildings, orchards etc. at the low price of \$1,500 or \$6.50 per acre and paid my debts and have not owed any man a dollar since that has not been paid on demand.

In the spring of 1831 I rented my tavern to Samuel Edgerly; built the house, a part of which I used for a store, where S. A. Andrews now lives and went to New York for the first time for goods. In the spring of 1835 I built the store I now own; from which time to the present there are many living that know what has transpired. And for the more general history of the early settlement of the town I refer the reader to Gen. Bierce history of Summit County. But more particularly to the statistics of Mr. Luman Lane, hereto annexed.

Thus I have spent more than forty three years of my life in this town. I have been intimately acquainted with the first and second and third generations of its inhabitants and now see many of the fourth growing up around me. But the fathers! Where are they? of all that lived in the township during the first two years there are only three, Fredrick Stanley, myself and brother Lewis remaining. Of the nineteen that were voters at the first election in 1819, only one Fredrick Stanley is now here. But

others have taken the places of the departed, and improvements have gone on and as I stand in the present and look back upon the past I am thankful that my lot was cast in Twinsburgh; believing that its location, soil etc contains as many resources of wealth and happiness as any other farming township. Those who have stayed here and attended to their business have done well. That its citizens from the start have been as industrious, intelligent, moral and reliable as any other community and that we have had as little poverty and far less aristocracy to disturb our social enjoyment than many of the around. That it may ever remain so is the prayer of yours, respectfully.

Ethan Alling

(Copied by C. C. Bronson May 1868)

OBITUARY OF MR. HORACE BRONSON

From the Waterbury American May 29th, 1868

Died in this city May 24th, at the residence of his son-in-law Merit Platt, Horace Bronson, in the 85th year of his age. The deceased until recently resided in Middlebury and belonged to one of the ancient families of his name - a man highly respected and honored among his townsmen. (An uncle of mine) CCB

Copied by C. C. Bronson June 5th, 1868

SUICIDE IN TALLMADGE

Mr. William Coslett, aged 56 years committed suicide by drowning himself in a well, at the Upson Bros. Coal Bank in Tallmadge on Saturday morning August 8th. Mr. C. was a miner, a native of Wales, but had resided in this country some 18 years, and leaves a wife and four grown up children to mourn his melancholy death. He was in easy circumstances having just completed the erection of a new dwelling house at the Brewster Coal Mines in Coventry, whither he was about to remove with his family. On Friday, he visited the latter place, and on his return through Akron, settled up in full with the mechanics who had built the house in question, also effecting an insurance thereon with Messrs. Mathews & Sons. He had for several months been under treatment for an affection of the head, and had often alluded to his singular fancies, intimating at times that he ought not to be left alone; but still his friends did not consider him insane, or liable to inflict personal injury upon himself or others - Having been somewhat restless during the forepart of Friday night, he at length seemed to get into a sound sleep, but awoke as the clock struck two and thinking that it had struck wrong, got up, and after fixing it, he returned to bed and apparently went to sleep again. His wife, on awakening towards morning found that he had arisen; but as he had been in the habit of getting up and sitting in the rocking chair in the kitchen the latter part of the night, his absence from the bed gave her no particular uneasiness. When she got up in the morning, however, as he was not about the house, a search was instituted, which resulted in the finding of his

lifeless remains in a well near by, as above indicated. The well was about twelve feet deep, with from two to three feet in depth of water, into which from the appearance of the body it would seem that he plunged head foremost.

The deceased was perfectly steady in his habits, a consistent member and at the time of his death, one of the Deacons of the Welsh Church in Tallmadge and was universally respected by all who knew him.

Copied from the Summit Beacon Aug. 20th, 1868 CCB

FROM THE KENT NEWS OF APRIL 1ST 1868

HORRIBLE ACCIDENT

It is but a short time since we chronicled one of these sad accidents which launch a human being into eternity without a moments warning, and now we have a similar accident to notice. Last Friday evening the Express going west ran over Fredrick Booth of Tallmadge.

Mr. Booth was walking on the track about a mile west of this place and for some reason failed to get out of the way of the train. The engine struck him, evidently carrying him a short distance and then throwing him from the track. No one on the engine or train knew of the accident and the body of Mr. Booth lay on the track untill found in the morning by the engineer of a passing train. The body was not recognized at that time. Coroner Parmelee was notified and immediately proceeded to hold an inquest - while making preparations for this a boy rode up who was called upon to assist in arranging the body, when the boy came in sight of it he burst into tears exclaiming that it was his father for whom he was then searching. It appeared in evidence at the inquest that the deceased was seen walking on the track that evening and would have probably reached the point on the track where he met his death, at the time the express came along. The coroners jury found that the deceased came to his death accidentally being run over by the cars of the train No. 3 on the A. & G. W. Railway, on the evening of March 27th, 1868. The deceased leaves a wife and five children to mourn his sudden death.

Copied by C.C. Bronson Aug. 1868

SAD GUN ACCIDENT IN TALLMADGE

While the Tallmadge Gun Squad were firing a salute in honor of the Republican victory on Wendes night last, the gun was prematurely discharged while being loaded, the right hand of gunner No. 1st A. Garside, being so badly shattered that amputation at the wrist became necessary. Mr. Garsides eyes also sustained serious injury, though it is hoped that he will escape without the loss of his sight. Mr. Garside is a single man, some twenty five years of age, a carpenter by trade, with a widowed mother dependent on his labor for support. He served during the entire four years of the War, in Co. K 104th Regiment O.V.I. and is highly respected by all his old comrades, as well as by all who

have known him in civil life. A subscription paper is being circulated for his benefit as we learn, with good success. Gunner No. four, Wm. Ogle, also had his thumb severely injured by the discharge. This accident happened Nov. 4th. Mr. Garside belonged in Columbiana County, Ohio and was in the employ of Messrs. Alling at the time.

Copied from the Summit Beacon of the date of Nov. 12th, 1868 by C. C. Bronson Nov. 19th, 1868.

THE SONG OF HOME SWEET HOME COMPOSED BY JOHN HOWARD PAYNE IN 1825
Mr. Payne died April 1st, 1852 aged 60

Home Sweet Home as copied from the authors manuscript by Charles H. Brainerd

Mid pleasures and palaces though we may roam
Be it ever so humble, there is no place like home!
A charm from the sky seems to hallow us there,
Which, seek through the world, is ne'er met with elsewhere!
Home, Home! Sweet, Sweet Home!
There is no place like Home!
There's no place like Home!
An exile from Home, Splendoe dazzles in vain!
Oh! give me my lowly thatched cottage again!
The birds singing gayly that came at my call
Give me them! and the peace of mind dearer than all!

Home, home, sweet, sweet Home!
There's no place like Home!
There's no place like Home!

Copied from the New York Independent Nov. 7th, 1868

Died in Tallmadge on New Years morning at the residence of Wm. C. Oviatt, Miss Mercy A. Hale, aged 34.

Another of earths choicest spirits has departed; another busy worker in the masters vineyard has laid aside the garments of toil, and entered into rest. Forgetful of self, she lived and labored for the good of others untill mind and body gave way and the weary heart found a peaceful resting place in the bosom of Jesus. "He giveth his beloved Sleep".

Copied from the Cleveland Herald of Jan. 9th, 1869 C. C. Bronson

This lady was the daughter of Mr. Jonathan Hale of Bath by his 2nd wife.

The following was copied by C. C. Bronson from Williams Necrological Annuals for 1867 & 1868 - Compiled by Rev. Calvin Durfee

CLASS OF 1858

The Rev. Edward A. Pierce died at Tallahassee, Florida February 26th, 1868, aged 32 years and 5 months.

Mr. Pierce was descended from a long line of pious ancestry both paternal and maternal. He was born at Woodbury, Conn. Sept. 15th, 1835. The family removed to Tallmadge, Summit County, O. when he was two years old, and when he was 5 years old, his father was called to his reward at the early age of 38. Before his death, however, he had solemnly dedicated his son to the work of God in the ministry of Jesus Christ.

When Edward was fifteen years of age he met with a narrow escape from death by drowning and at the moment when eternity seemed at hand, and all the scenes of life passed in rapid review before him, he resolved, if spared to devote his life to Gods service. The impressions of that hour did not leave him, and after weeks of sorrowful seeking, he found the unspeakable joy of pardoned sins. He had not previously intended to obtain a liberal education, but the day after his conversion he asked permission to do so, saying that he wanted to be qualified for a minister, and to preach the blessed Savior.

From the time his request was granted he never wavered in his joyful determination to devote his life to this work. He entered Williams College in the fall of 1855 as sophomore. His college course was marked by persevering industry in study, and a conscientious regard to all the relative duties of his position.

After graduation he taught for a year and entered the Theological Seminary at East Windsor Hill, Conn. in 1859. In 1860 he was licenced to preach the Gospel he so much loved, and during the remaining years of his theological course he preached in several towns in Conn, including Bethlem, and his native town of Woodbury. From the former church he received a unanimous call to settle, but his attention having been directed to the West, he visited Chicago soon after his graduation. After preaching a few Sabbaths in Westminster Presbyterian Church in that city, he received a call to become its pastor.

He was ordained and installed and labored with that church for four years. At the end of that time, the state of his health requiring some respite from severe labor, he was induced to accept a call to Calvary Presbyterian Church in the same city, where he remained abounding in faithful labors till the Master called him up higher.

The five years of his pastoral life in Chicago are years long to be remembered by many who came within the circle of his influence. He professed a warmth of heart and singleness of purpose which endeared him in a peculiar manner to all about him. As a preacher, while he did not possess the firey eloquence which would have placed him in the highest class of pulpit orators, yet his unusually choice diction, his gracefulness of manner and unfailing fund of happy illustrations, combined with an earnestness and sincerity of speech which convinced everyone that he believed every word he uttered, rendered his pulpit efforts exceedingly by attractive and convincing. But it was in the Sabbath School, the prayer meeting and various avenues of pastoral labor, that his peculiar qualities developed themselves.

The children of his flock looked upon him as their special friend and he was rightly esteemed one of the most successful Sunday School men in the northwest. In the weekly prayer meetings his fervid exhortations could not fail to move the coldest heart and spur it onward in the path of duty. The warm clasp of the hand and the beaming countenance with which he welcomed both friend and stranger made it an exceeding pleasure to be within the reach of his influence.

Less than two months before his death, his people granted him a six months leave of absence, hoping that rest and change would stay the disease which was beginning to manifest itself in his frame. He left for Florida the first of January, 1868, but the discomforts of traveling rather aggravated his difficulties and his complaint soon proved itself acute consumption and he died Feb. 26th, at the early age of thirty two years.

His wife who was with him carried his remains to Philadelphia for internment where they were met by a delegation from his sorrowing church. His parishioners manifested their love for him and sympathy for his wife and mother in every way in their power.

Those who knew him best felt that though his life was painfully brief as measured by the flight of years, yet it was filled to the utmost with earnest work for his fellow men and for his God, and that it was not short if "That life is long which answers life's great end".

In the History of Ancient Woodbury (The native place of Mr. Pierce) by Wm. Cothren the Genealogies of the Paternal and Maternal Ancestors are inserted and have thought best give it here CCBronson Jan. 16th, 1869

This communication was read by C. C. Bronson before the T.H.S. Jan. 13th, 1869.

As reference is made above to the Ancestry of the late Rev. E. A. Pierce I have thought best to quote briefly from the Genealogies of the Pierce and Miner families from Cothren's History of Ancient Woodbury. The Pierce Genealogy is very brief in comparison to some others. Dea. John Pierce probably son of John of Wethersfield settled in Main Street of what is now the town of Southbury, died Nov. 13th, 1731. Serj. John his son baptized Sept. 1683 died in 1758, had 10 children. Nathan the 7th child of Serj. John born May 19th, 1732, married Mabel Wheeler Dec. 1763, had 8 children. He, it is said, was a man of wealth in his day lived in the present parish of South Brittain, he had a strong antipathy to paper money and not so much confidence in man as to induce him to put his money at interest and would hoard up coin and for this trait of character his fellow men gave him the name of old Hard Money Pierce. He had 8 children, the 3rd child named Simeon, married Thankful Hunt of Roxbury. He had 5 children Philo, Cyrus, Parnella, Nathaniel and Fanny.

The Pierce family are noted somewhat for their longevity. His maternal ancestors Mr. Cothren says the first of the name Miner was Henry, who lived in the reign of one of the Edwards and died in 1359. The name with armorial bearings was given by one of the Edwards for loyal service rendered. His name previous being Bullman and his business was a miner. Hence the King in giving him a coat of arms honored his profession by giving the name of his trade for a surname. Thomas the son of Clement the son of Wm. thus being the Great Grandson of Henry.

Thomas, born April 23rd, 1608 came to New England in 1630. He married Grace, the daughter of Walter Palmer. His 3rd child, Capt. John, a verry noted man in his day. Again quoting from Cothrens History of Woodbury, "First among the settlers, men of note in Woodbury, and foremost in all difficult undertakings, was John Miner, an interpreter to the Indians, a Justice of the Quorum among the Magistrates, A Capt. in the Militia and a Deacon of the Church. He was also a surveyor, a necessary and important character in a new country. All the Indian deeds in this region were executed before him, from his being able to act as interpreter. He was town clerk of Stratford for ten years from 1666 with the exception of a year and held the same office in Woodbury for 30 years from its begining. Hewas also for 20 years almost always a member of the General Court, held an influential position there, and was frequently appointed on committees for the composing of serious difficulties and the solving difficult questions. Early in life he acquired a good knowledge of the Indian dialects and conversed with them with ease and fluency. In the spring of 1673 fifteen families left Stratford to get through the wilderness to their new place, arriving at a place called to this day Good Hill where from its top they could look over the beautiful valley that was to be their future home, it is related of Dea. John Miner that he fell on his knees leading in prayer that that little band of adventurers, invoking the blessing of heaven upon their enterprize, praying that their posterity might be an upright and godly people to the last generation. So far as his own posterity is concerned, his prayer seems to have been answered, for it has never been without a Deacon to proffer the same petition. Capt. John Miner was born in 1634. He died Sept. 17th, 1719. Aged 85.

He had ten children. Dea. Matthew the 8th generation from Henry and the 4th gen from Capt. John Miner was Edwards maternal grandfather, born Feb. 11th, 1753, died July 20th, 1835, aged 83 years. Dea Miner united with the first church in his native town March 7th, 1773 and was appointed Dea. Nov. 25th, 1793. Several years since in one of the periodicals an article appeared entitled Pastoral Reminenciences, it stated he had been laboring as a candidate in the church and society and they had given him a call to settle as their pastor all pecuniary matters were satisfactory but he was not fully settled in his own mind that he was the one to go in and out before them and break unto them the bread of life, while in this state of inquiry, the Dea of the Church called on him inviting him to take a walk together the

Dea leading the way to a well known locality called Bethel Rocks where it is said the first Gospel Sermon was preached and where the first meetings were held and where the first settlers held their prayer meetings. Truly a consecrated place and so considered to this day. "In Jan 1811 Rev. Worthington Wright was ordained Colleague with Rev. Noah Benedict. The Council consisted of Rev. Lyman Beecher of Litchfield, Rev. Bennet Tyler of South Brittain, Rev. Tephaniah Swift of Roxbury, Rev. Mr. Clark, Rev. Azel Backus of Bethlem and Rev. Philo Judson of Ashford and the newly ordained minister, retired to Bethel Rock and there held a prayer meeting, in imitation of the early fathers, who amid the dangers which beset the early settlers retired to this secluded dell for the same purpose. Also the South Association of Litchfield County holding a session in the first Church a few yards since went up there and held a prayer meeting in the same place."

Having arrived at this consecrated spot, the Dea proposed that they should have a season of prayer the pastor elect to lead; the Deacon followed opening his prayer with this passage "Our fathers worshiped in this mountain", laying the situation of the church the need of a pastor with such appropriate passages of scripture and with such fervor and earnestness that he went from that place fully satisfied as to his course, he accepted the call and was installed over the Church Oct. 8th, 1817. The Pastor refered to was Rev. Samuel R. Andrew, the other Dea. Mathew Minor. In looking over the genealogy I find there are 16 Deacons of the name of Minor; from this circumstance I suppose the remark was made that all the Minors was good for was to make Deacon Timber. But there is four ministers of the gospel besides Rev. Edward. Cyrus Pierce the father of Rev. Edward was the 2nd child of Simeon and Thankful (Hunt) Pierce, who was born in Woodbury, Litchfield, County, Conn. July 25th, 1803. His education was obtained in the common District School of his day. His occupation a farmer. When Cyrus was about 14 years of age his father became insane and although he lived some 17 or 18 years he was never able to labor or transact business afterwards.

When Cyrus became 21 he rented the farm and with his mothers aid took care of his father and so managed the farm that with his industrious habits, strict honesty and economy together with good judgment as to the worth of stock and other property, he was in possession of a good estate. He continued on the farm for several years untill the death of his parents. Not being disposed to retain the farm by buying out the interest of his brothers and sisters it was sold and he removed with his family to Mount Vernon, Knox County, Ohio in the spring of 1837. Not liking that section of the country, he resolved to come to the Reserve he came to Tallmadge in Aug. 1837 and bought the farm in Lot 5, Tract 4 owned by Mr. Harvey Fenn. Mr. Fenn not giving possession untill Spring of 1838. He made an arrangement with Mr. Richard B. Treat for a portion of his house where he and his family could spend the winter near his farm. Mr. Treat at that time owned the farm now owned by (1869) Mr. Sylvester Barnes. Mr. Pierce was married to Miss Jane Minor Jan. 24th, 1831. Their children were Ransom,

born Feb. 11th, 1832; Fanny born Jan 15th, 1834; Edward Arthur born Sept. 15th, 1835. These three were born in Woodbury, Truman born Nov. 7th, 1837; Catherine and Joseph (twins) born March 22nd, 1840; the last three born in Tallmadge. Mr. Pierce made a public profession of religion by uniting with the first Cong. Church in Woodbury Jan 6th, 1822. His sister Pamela (Mrs. Andrews) missionary of the A,B,C,F,M. to the Sandwich Islands united at the same time under the pastorate of Rev. S. K. Andrews, Mr. Pierce and wife united with the Cong. Church in Tallmadge Jan 6th, 1839. Mr. Pierce was an active, earnest Christian always in his place in the sanctuary on the Sabbath and in the weekly prayer meeting. In Conn he was sent by the church as one of committees to settle difficulties of long standing and was successful as a peacemaker.

When Edward was born he like Hannah of old gave him to the Lord to preach the Gospel to his fellow men. After Edward was licensed to preach he went to Woodbury and preached; at noon the venerable senior deacon of the church came to him and took his hand and said he, "I carried the water to the meeting house that you was baptized with", said he, "your father told me that he had set the infant apart for the ministry, I saw you baptized and now thank the Lord I have lived to hear you preach the Gospel, your father so delighted to hear, and for which you was consecrated and his prayers being prayers of faith have been answered." The last time Mr. Pierce attended meeting his two twin daughters were baptized. He died June 14th, 1841. The disease which terminated his life was dropsy. He was perfectly resigned to Gods will, with an unwavering trust in the promises of God and when he became fully satisfied that he had but a short time to remain in this world, he arranged his worldly affairs and gave his wife and children into the hands of a covenant keeping God and said if it was Gods will he desired to depart and be with Christ which was far better. Thus in the prime of life passed away this good man.

Rev. Edward Arthur Pierce was married to Miss Emily Sibley of the city of Philadelphia Nov. 16th, 1865.

OBITUARY CYRUS PIERCE

When a decidedly good man dies it is fit not only for the consolation of his bereaved friends, but for the glory of God, by whose grace he has been kept from falling, that his memorial be given to the churches.

You have recorded the death of Mr. Cyrus Pierce, of this place, but we feel that something more than the simple registry of his departure from this world is appropriate in the case of our departed brother. Mr. Pierce was born in Woodbury, Litchfield Co. Conn. July 25th, 1803. He was born again of the spirit of God in the spring of 1827, during the progress of a powerful revival of religion with which that town was blessed at that time, and he made a public profession of faith and hope in Christ in Jan following. "His natural mildness and equanimity" says a friend regulated by the principles of the gospel won the confidence

and esteem of all who knew him. His life was without incident and marked only by uniform consistency of Christian deportment. He removed from Woodbury to Ohio in the spring of 1837, and during his residence in this place he enjoyed among those who knew him the blessed estimation of being one who adorned the doctrine of God and the Savior in all things.

After a long distressing sickness protracted through nine weeks, which he sustained with entire resignation to the divine will, and with comforting assurance of the presence and favor of his Savior, he fell asleep in Jesus on the 14th of June 1847. Two traits of Christian character were especially illustrated in the experience of Mr. Pierce, which in these times of excitement worldliness deserve to be especially commended to the consideration of Christians.

1. The permanency of his Christian hope and
2. The consistency of his Christian conduct.

His natural temperament prepared him to look with calmness and seriousness into the truths of religion and soberly to examine the conditions of salvation and the evidence of his having been brought by the grace of God to comply with these conditions. And when he fled for refuge to the hope set before in the gospel, he obtained a strong consolation, such as allowed him to rest in it permanently, and which proved an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, taking hold of that within the veil. He often quoted that beautiful language in which the prophet describes the reward of those who hearken to the commandments of the Lord. See Isa 48:18. This permanency of hope and continued abiding in the grace which supplied it, enabled him to pursue a course of conduct which was consistent with itself and with his profession of faith in Christ, and his conduct afforded a happy illustration of the practicability of uniting diligent and successful attention to his secular pursuits, with a never failing attention to his higher duties as a Christian. During his residence here he was occupied with the business of a farmer, and everyone noticed the improvement which was silently but constantly going on under his hand; but the Sabbath was wholly a day of sacred rest to him, and the church meeting and praying circle always found him in his place, and he had his heart with him. He proved that a Christian, even in the busy season of the year and during hard times, and with the responsibility of providing for an increasing family will be diligent in business fervent in spirit serving the Lord. Though dead he speaks and in remembrance lives. A widow and six children mourn his death. Copied from the Ohio Observer

OBITUARY OF FLAVIOUS PIERCE

Flavius Pierce was a son of Philo Pierce, and his uncle Cyrus Pierce took him into his family when a small boy. Died in Tallmadge July 19th, 1850, Flavius Pierce, of a lingering consumption, aged 21 years. The fatal disease fastened on him just

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as he was coming of age, full of hope and expectation as to the part he was to act in life. The activity, industry and sobriety of this youth gave abundant promise of the energy with which he would apply himself to business, when he should be his own master. It was very hard for him to realize that all those sanguine hopes were to wither and die. But the peace of God enabled him to endure it; and to be cheerful under it so that a scene which to the eye of sense, must have been very dark and sad, became bright and very pleasant through the light of Christian hope. With great calmness and humility, he constantly expressed his trust in the Savior and his submission to the will of God; so that his sick room was not a gloomy place; and the unremitting care and kindness shown him by his sympathizing friends was constantly recompensed by their conviction that they were ministering to a dear child of God, and comforting and helping him on his way to the glory of Heaven. His funeral sermon was preached by Rev. Carlos Smith to a very crowded assembly, upon the passage in Jer 22nd, 10th; "Weep ye not for the dead, neither bemoan him, but weep sore for him that goeth away; for he shall return no more, nor see his native country." And doubtless every spiritual mind felt that there was far less occasion to weep for him, than for his young companions living strangers to God. May they have the same conviction.

Copied from the Ohio Observer.

MRS. ELIZA C. WIFE OF SERENO FENN

Mrs. Eliza, wife of Mr. Sereno Fenn departed this life Oct. 30th, 1868, aged 59 of consumption. Mrs. Fenn was the 4th daughter of Mr. John and Mrs. Nancy Carruthers and was born in Butler County Penn on the 31st day of March 1809. Her parents moved from Pa into Tallmadge in 1811, and Mrs. F has resided in Tallmadge ever since. As she was the child of pious parents and living in a place where the Sabbath and Sanctuary priveleges were enjoyed, she early imbibed the principles of morality and religion. At the age of 18 she made a profession of religion uniting with the Cong. Church in Tallmadge Nov. 4th, 1827. Thus she came before the world and entered into covenant with God and his people. She and her three sisters older were the subjects of a powerful revival of religion that the church enjoyed that summer from that time she has adorned her profession in a well ordered life, living the life and dying the death of the Christian. She had also the pleasure of sitting at the communion table with her two children. And feeling that they had chosen the good part of that shall not be taken from them.

MRS. MARTHA E. TREAT HILL

Martha E. Treat, the wife of Rev. Edward S. Hill of Grove City Iowa died Dec. 16th, 1868. Mrs. Hill was the youngest daughter of Dea Garry and Mary (Woodruff) Treat and was born in Tallmadge

From a child was quiet and unobtrusive in her ways, was considered a child of verry fine feelings and a high tone of moral principle which as she advanced in life became developed in such a manner

as to render her more amiable and beloved by her relatives and friends.

Her father died suddenly April 13th, 1847. On the 27th of May, 1860 her mother, brother Garry and herself were dismissed from the Church in Tallmadge to the church in Tabor, Potwatomie County, Iowa. Her love for the Sabbath School and the Sanctuary priveleges of her native place had a great influence in preparing her for the important position that she occupied the brief period of her married life. Through the kindness of the family of Mr. Richard B. Treat, I am permitted to make extracts from a letter written by the bereaved husband to Miss Flora I. Treat, giving an account of her death, Mr. Hill writes:

"I need not tell you who knew her so well, that her last days were full of peace and earnest hope. For several weeks she had no hope of living till spring. Life must have been sweet to her for those who live most truly have most reason to delight in living - yet her resignation and submission to the evident will of the Heavenly Father, were surprizing even to those who know something of the power of grace. To be with her was a sad yet heavenly feast; silently, patiently, struggling - sometimes tearfully against the disposition to murmur; her battles were fought and when she spoke her words had always the tone of victory of trust and love. She took espeical delight in talking about Jesus; and when we read to her would say, "Read Jesus own words" She clung to the promises feeling that their fulness would make up for her unworthiness. The morning before she died she said, "I think I shall go home today". Not an hour she breathed her last she said, "There is joy that makes me strong in feeling that I am so near home". Our hope is that she is with Jesus is scarcely hope it is so much assurance.

Edward S. Hill

Mrs. Hill left a son, but her work is done; a short life but perhaps has answered lifes great end as much as some of three score years and ten. She was buiried in Tabor where her mother resides.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF MRS. JANE T. SAXTON

Died at the residence of Mr. Marcus Hinman, her son-in-law, in whose family she had spent the last 25 years of her life, Mrs. Jane Saxton at the advanced age of 98 years, the oldest person in Tallmadge at the time of her death. She died May 27th, 1868.

Mrs. Saxton was the daughter of George and Hannah (Williams) Pritchard who was the 6th in regular decent from Roger Prichard of Springfield Mass. She was born in Watertown, New Haven Co., Conn. Sept 23rd, 1769. Being born but 7 years previous to the time when this nation was declared an independent nation. She had a vivid recollection of the scenes of the revolution towards its close. Her education was verry limited, in the days of her

childhood it was not considered necessary for females to attend school only to learn to read. Writing and arithmetic were considered unnecessary accomplishments among families in the middle and lower walks of life. It was far more necessary in their opinion that they should know how to spin and weave and do house work and thus to prepare themselves for the cares of a house of their own. In these days the people endured hardships and privations that we their decendants know but little about. Their clothing for the family was all made in the house unless they could manage to buy a calico gown of 5 or 6 years and perchance if they could get a islk they felt they were on the road to distinction. Mrs. Saxtons life was one of toil and privation. About 1789 she married Mr. Dan Saxton. Mr. Saxton was the son of Ebenezer and Elizabeth (Roberts) Saxton and was born in that portion of ancient Waterbury, now called Middlebury 1767 His father was in two campaigns in the wars preceding the War of the Revolution, his brother John Saxton was in the Continental Army and was at the battle of Monmouth, was in Gen Lees Division was in hearing when in Lees retreat before the Brititish Gen. Washington rode up to Gen Lee and demanded the reason of his thus retreating contrary to orders, he was not near enough to hear the conversation but could see that Gen Washington was verry much excited. Mr. Saxton said Gen. Washington ordered Gen Lees division "Right about face" and it was instantly obeyed, giving Gen Lee orders to maintain his position. He then rode down in front of the division, his large heavy war horse taking the turf the size of his hoofs out in many places and going to bring up his reserves. Mr. Saxton was one of 20 children, his brothers and sisters mostly emigrated to the state of New York in early days they were among the early settlers of the county of Oneida and on the Unadilla and one sister came to Painesville in 1803 afterwards settled in Windsor, Ashtabula County. The first 40 years of their married life was spent in Mr. Saxtons native town of Middlebury. Here their children were all born. And here they lived untill 1821 when they sold their little place and removed to Tallmadge, Ohio. Their children were first; Ransom born April 18th, 1790, married Irene Stoddard in 1810, died Dec. 8th, 1868 aged 78. They had 11 children, 28 grand children and 3 great grand children at the time of his death. Second; Sebbens born Dec. 7th, 1793. He married Fanny C. Welton Nov. 6th, 1817, died in Norton July 22nd, 1842, aged 48. They had 8 children, 24 grand children and 3 great grandchildren. Third; Dan Saxton Jr. born June 20th, 1797. Married Betsey Griswold Sept. 15th, 1824 by Van R. Humphrey J.P. of Hudson. He died at Appleton, Wis. April 26th, 1857, aged 60.1 child, 2 grandchildren. Fourth; Harvey born July 5th, 1799, died single in Cal. Fifth; Seymour born May 14th, 1800, Married Miss Eliza Cook of Windsor, Ashtabula County, died in Willoughby Nov. 24th, 1879. Their children were 11 in number, 20 grandchildren and 6 great grand children. 6th; Harriet born June 3rd 1802, married Marcus Hinman Oct. 14th, 1824 by Rev. John Keyes. Children four, Grand children 8. 7th Harris born has 7 children and one grandchild. 8th; Horace born Jan. 2nd, 1805 has four children and three grandchildren. 9th; Hannah born 1809, married James Crabb died Aug. 31st, 1842 aged 33 years.

10th; Cyrus born 1811, supposed to be dead has not been heard from for many years. 11th; Jane born 1812, died in Ct. March 3rd, 1816, 4 years. 12th; Celina Jane born 1816 died of croup in Ct. Jan. 9th, 1819 aged 2 years.

Dan Saxton died Dec. 5th, 1842 in Norton O. aged 75 years. He was a man of verry strong constitution and of great endurance and a hand laboring man through life was a farmer but had a great deal of mechanical genius his son Ransom was by trade a stone mason, Sebbens a carpenter and joiner, Dan Jr. Carpenter, Harvey a farmer, Seymour a mason, Harris a farmer in Iowa. Horace a carpenter and joiner living in Minnesota.

Mrs. Saxton was a woman of strong constitution, industrious, frugal of great energy and perseverance. She was verry kind in sickness. She experienced religion in a revival in Conn in the spring of 1827. Mr. Saxton came to Ohio the spring of 1821 and was the subject of the revival of the summer of 1821 in Tallmadge. They both united with the Cong. Church in Tallmadge June 10th, 1822. And has adorned her profession with a consistent Christian life. Owing to the deafness and the infirmities of age, she has not been able for several years to attend meeting. But this relic of a generation that has passed away and has at last come down to the grave like a shock of corn fully ripe. Her oldest grand child is 57 years of age. Mrs. Hinman has kindly furnished the following statistics:

Mr. and Mrs. Saxton had 12 children, 51 grandchildren, 88 great grandchildren and 12 great, great grandchildren. Making a total of one hundred and sixty three (163) decendants.

FROM THE WATERBURY AMERICAN OF FEB. 19th, 1869

Died in Middlebury Feb. 16th Leonard Bronson, Esq. in the 72nd year of his age, and one of the most prominent and honored of its citizens.

OBITUARY - DEATH OF HON. LEONARD BRONSON

The death of Leonard Bronson of Middlebury, the news of which reached this city on Teusday afternoon, fell with surprise upon this community, as he was in this city last week apparently in his usual health; but a sudden prostration by lung fever terminated fatally in a few days thereafter.

The deceased had reached his three score years and ten, having passed a life of usefulness, honored and respected by his townsmen and all with whom he had enjoyed acquaintance. As he was a man who had much to do during his life with public business, he was well known throughout the county and state, having served several terms in the legislature, and once in the state senate, also for several years in the capacity of Justice of the Peace. Though bred a farmer, he was a man of culture, and extensive information. He took a lively interest in passing events and identified himself with its political, religious, educational

and benevolent institutions. His political sympathies in early life were with those of the old Whig party until its dissolution, since when he has acted with the Republicans. In private life, Mr. B. was a model of uprightness, amiable in disposition and the kindest of neighbors. The deceased was from the John Bronson stock, one of the original proprietors of the town, of genuine Puritan ancestry, of which he was justly proud; and educated in that faith which distinguished the "Mayflower" adventurers who first instituted self government and republican ideas in opposition to kingly authority and ecclesiastical supremacy - holding in reverence that great bill of rights, guaranteed by the immortal Declaration of Independence, now brought to a practical and fundamental basis.

The deceased was the last lineal representative of that generation consisting of several sons and daughters now dead, and he leaves a vacancy in that community which will be much felt and not easily supplied. The church in particular, of which he was a prominent member and long deacon, will miss him in his accustomed seat where for so many years he worshiped and united in its prayers and the conference room. The bereaved widow survives her faithful partner and two grown up sons with their families and a daughter-in-law are thus suddenly called upon to mingle their in this their sad bereavement.

Copied by C. C. Bronson March 22nd, 1869

E.B.C.

The subject of the above notice was the youngest of 8 children of Titus and Hannah (Cook) Bronson and was born June 24th, 1797 and was the last of the family but one, Mrs. Sally, widow of Alba Benham, thus another dear Uncle has passed away. CC Bronson

OBITUARY DEACON MARCUS BRONSON

Died in Middlebury Feb. 27th, 1869, Deacon Marcus Bronson, aged 87. He was the son of Deacon Seth & Chloe (Pritchard) Bronson, lived and died where he was born, a very active man in early life.

He was a cousin of my fathers C. C. Bronson

From the Summit County Beacon March 18th, 1869.

SUICIDE IN TALLMADGE

It will be recollected that Welsh Coal Miner, by the name of Wm. Coslett, 56 years of age, who had for some time been troubled with an affection of the head, drowned himself by plunging into a well near the upper coal bank of the Messrs. Upson, in Tallmadge, in August last.

His friend and neighbor, Mr. Evan Harris who had resided in Tallmadge some 17 or 18 years also from Wales and aged about 65 years was greatly affected by the melancholly fate of his comrade, and has often expressed the hope that he might not be led to terminate his own life in the same dreadful manner. Mr. Harris had for some time past been quite sick and his wife also being feeble health, they had been cared for at the house

of their son, Mr. Henry Harris, a short distance from their own house. Getting much better of the disease by which he had been prostrated. Mr. Harris started about half past seven o'clock on Teusday March 9th, last for his own house, for the purpose as he said of getting some papers that he desired to look over, at the same time taking along some food for the family cat, which had been left at home during their absence. He was observed by a neighboring woman, whose home he had just passed, to stop at a large well a short distance off and not verry far from that in which Mr. Coslett was drowned. Divining his intention, the woman immediately started towards him, calling to him as she ran, but before she could reach him, he plunged head foremost into the well. The neighbors were immediately alarmed and were verry soon on the spot, but before he could be rescued he was of course entirely dead.

Mr. Harris was a brother of the late Wm. H. Harris, Esq. was in reasonably comfortable circumstances, with pleasant family and social relations, and verry highly respected by all who knew him.

Copied by C. C. Bronson March 22nd, 1869

OBITUARY - REV. BENJAMIN FENN

Being kindly urged by relatives of Rev. Benjamin Fenn to write an obituary notice of him, I soon found that during a life of almost 77 years, and a ministry of more than 50 years, materials might be obtained for an interesting and instructive volume instead of a brief newspaper column and that my work would be to select some of the more prominent points and leave it for some abler hand to arrange and set forth the details.

He was born in Milford, Conn Oct. 29th, 1792 and was the eighth in regular succession by the name of Benj. Fenn, from him of that name, who was born in England in the year 1612, and for sonscience sake emigrating to America in 1639 and became a resident of Milford, which has been the home of many of his decendants down to the present time, although a large number of them are now among the respectable inhabitants of Tallmadge, and many others scattered in different parts of the country. The subject of this memoir at the age of 21 in 1813 graduated at Yale College; kept a school of one hundred schollars the following winter, studied divinity with the Rev. Mr. Pinneo, of Milford and was licenced to preach in 1816, came to Ohio and on the 16th of June, 1819 he was ordained and installed Pastor of the church in Nelson, Portage Co., O. The place of installation was Mr. Mansfields new barn, the only public building at the Center being a small school house in which the Presbytery of Portage partook of the installation dinner. Remaining a faithful pastor for 16 years, he was dismissed from Nelson and installed pastor over the church in Gustavus, Trumbull County June 16th, 1835. In 1847 he was installed pastor of the church at Hartford in the same county. In 1861 he was reinstated in Nelson, and in 1867 on account of advanced age, being about 75, he asked for a dismission, relinquished pastoral

labors and removed to Hartford to live with his oldest son. When the Western Reserve College was organized in 1826, Mr. Fenn was one of the members of the incorporated board, and remained in that capacity for nearly 30 years, and the writer of this article, who was one of his associates during almost the whole of that period, and who is now (July 1869) the only survivor of the original board, can bear testimony to his conscientious punctuality in attending meetings of the board, seeming to disregard labor, toil and exposure: often especially after his removal from Nelson taking long horseback rides in cold, mud and storm that he might take his seat in the board, to do what he could to promote the prosperity of the College.

The wife of Mr. Fenn was Anna Gunn from a respectable family in Milford, a prudent modest amiable woman faithful in all the duties of life, whom her husband and whom her children bless. They lived together before the separation by death, about 49 years. They had four children viz:

- 1st Sarah Gunn, now living in Medina, the wife of Wm. P. Clark, with 3 children
- 2nd Benjamin the ninth, of that name, married living in Hartford, O. has one son born Oct. 2nd, 1867, also called Benjamin, being the tenth in succession bearing the same name.
- 3rd Stephen Wilberforce: the last that his friends heard of him, he was in Chicago, Ill.
- 4th Richard Baxter, born Aug. 23rd, 1843. He served 3 years in the war of the rebellion and was in the terrible battle of Franklin, Tenn. when Hood was defeated. He is now in New Haven, conn.

As a preacher, brother Fenn made no attempt at display, but was plain, sound, experimental and practical; not declamatory but pungent and instructive making an impression to be felt and remembered, while declamation is unheeded and forgotten. I close this brief and imperfect sketch by some extracts from a letter he wrote to his sister in Tallmadge about 16 days before his death, and which we may regard as among his last words, although he had no such apprehension at the time he wrote them, but was expecting to enjoy a pleasant visit with his friends in Tallmadge and not to be carried there for burial in less than three weeks.

To his sister (Mrs. Clemence, wife of Dr. Amos Wright CCB) he says: Expect to have such an opportunity to visit as I never had, being forbidden to work, I can visit, converse, read and write and should like very much to preach the pure and blessed Gospel of our Lord to my fellow travellers to eternity. But if I live much longer I must be led to associate with such as Anna, the prophetess who at 86 years of age departed not from the temple of God, but served Him day and night with fastings and prayers. Some might be induced to say "What is such an old woman good for; what good can she do?" We joyfully answer She can serve the great cause of God by her fastings and prayers. Now that spirit I like. I wish I had much of it. I think old age in that case would be lovely and cheerful. Sincere prayer is the grateful incense which rises

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through the mediation of Christ, with acceptance to Heaven. One word more. I have been thinking more of late, than ever before, of the wonderful mercy of God and of Davids wonderful description of it. He speaks again and again of Gods mercies His tender mercies and of the multitude of His tender mercies. He is full of compassion. We rejoice we have such a God for our God.

Yours dear Sister, verry affectionately
Benjamin Fenn

The letter from this extract was taken was dated, Hartford, June 9th, 1869, where he died on the 25th of the same month, and his remains were conveyed to Tallmadge, where on the succeeding Sabbath, they were interred near the graves of his father, mother, grandmother, and many other departed relatives. After the solemnities at the cemetary, the numerous congregation repaired to the house of worship and listened to an appropriate discourse by Rev. Mr. Segur, from the words, "Thy Will be Done". Tallmadge July 10th, 1869 JS
Copied from Summit Beacon of July 15th, 1869 by C. C. Bronson

FROM THE PORTAGE COUNTY DEMOCRAT

FIFTY YEARS AGO

After preaching twice at the village of Cleveland and once at the settlement of Newburg, Sabbath, May 15th, 1814

I rode home to Aurora, Monday, the 16th and the next day rode to Tallmadge, and attended an eccleasical council, convened to install the Rev. Simeon Woodruff as pastor of the Church and congregation in that place. The examination of the candidate and other preliminaries were attended to that afternoon, and the next day, May 18th, 1814, the installation services were performed in a new barn belonging to Mr. Ephraim Clark Jr., who afterwards resided in Ravenna, where he died. The barn stands about half a mile south of the center and is now owned and occupied by Gen C. Woodruff, one of the early settlers of Vienna, Trumbull County.

After the installing services were over, refreshments were received, the people again assembled in the barn, and the Bible Society of the Connecticut Western Reserve was formed and officers elected, Elizur Wright of Tallmadge President, and Rev. John Seward of Aurora, Secretary. Who the other officers were I cannot positively say, nor can I tell who was the moderator of the installing council or by whom the several parts of the installation were performed, and indeed, it is a question unsettled among the oldest of the inhabitants of Tallmadge who delivered the installation sermon on that occasion.

In view of this fact, I would venture a suggestion to bretheren who are in the habit of attending these called councils, set them always see to it, that a complete account of all their proceedings is inserted on the records of the church by which they are convened for future reference. An eccleasical council, I believe is not generally a court of record. The scribe takes

minutes of the proceedings and at the close, perhaps he puts them in his pocket, and soon they become waste paper, and of no more use to the future historians than if written upon the sands of the lake shore.

John Seward

May 19th, 1814, Dr. Daniel Upson Trumbull County was married to Miss Polly Wright, oldest daughter of Deacon Elizur Wright of Tallmadge.

Mrs. Upson is still living on the old homestead where they have resided for many years, but Dr. Upson died last June within about sixty rods of the spot where he was married fifty years ago. Tallmadge 14th, 1864

John Seward

Organization of Portage County, Ohio

Copied from the records of the county

At a meeting of the associate judges of Portage County held at Revenna in said county on the 9th day of June A.D. 1808. Present William Wetmore, Aaron Norton and Amzi Atwater Esq. Associate Judges.

Benjamin Whedon was appointed Clerk pro tem of the Court of Common Pleas and took the oath required by law before Wm. Wetmore appointed Register of sd county.

Attest Benj. Whedon, Clerk Protem TCC

REPORT

Of the commissioners appointed to fix the seat of justice in Portage County.

To the Honorable the Court of Common Pleas for the County of Portage in the state of Ohio.

The undersigned commissioners appointed by the legislature of Ohio for the purpose of fixing the Seat of Justice in said county. Report that we have attended to that duty and have selected lots numbers 55, 56, & 57 in the town plat of Revenna laid out by Benjamin Tappan of said county and recorded in the Recorders Office for Trumbull County. As the proper place for the Seat of Justice in the County of Portage afforesaid and we herewith enclose a proposition of Donation by the sd Tappan given under our hands and seals at the town of Warren the 6th day of May 1808.

Robert Simison
Samuel Hunter
Reason Beale

Teste Benjamin Whedon, Clerk

Rezin Beall was a resident of Wooster Wayne Co., Ohio and was a prominent man in his day. He was a member of the 13th Congress, John Stark Edwards died Jan. 29th, 1813, aged 35 years. April

1813 Mr. Beall was elected to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Edwards. Mr. Beall resigned Aug. 18th, 1814 and David Clendenning of Trumbull County was elected to his seat, and was elected to the 14th Congress. Gen Beall died in Wooster Feb. 20th, 1843, aged 73.

OHIO CANAL CELEBRATION

The ceremonies of the laying of the first lock stone of the Ohio Canal were more attractive & imposing than was generally anticipated. The notice had been short, and the committee of arrangements had an opportunity of making those extensive preparations that the importance of the occasion seemed to require, nor could they have anticipated that so short a notice would have attracted such a concourse of people, as did assemble to witness such a novel and interesting event.

On the evening preceding and the morning of the 10th (of Sept.) there was that kind of bustling animation which plainly indicated that the whole neighborhood was to be crowded with visitors and that people looked for the hour of commencement with feelings of interest as well as curiosity. People from different and distant parts continued to assemble until about 11 or 12 o'clock, when the Middlebury Lodge, in connection with several visiting lodges and many visiting brethren, together with a great number of ladies, and a numerous collection of private citizens were formed into a procession and under the appointed Marshalls marched to the line of the Canal. On arriving at the spot, the procession was drawn up on each of a long platform which had been previously prepared and placed in the bed of the canal, upon which the grand officers were invited to take their stations: they accordingly descended and taking their station upon the platform, proceeded to in presence of assembled multitude with the usual ceremonies in laying the "first corner stone" of that Canal, which in the prophetic language of Gov. Clinton, is to be "a bond of union, a source of wealth, a dispenser of glory". Mr. Erastus Torrey, who acted as grand Marshall assended the stone and in a short but emphatic address stated the object in thus assembling, and the immemorial usage of such Masonic ceremonies, after this address an O was sung by a choir consisting of 27 females and about as many males, accompanied with instruments and led by Asaph Whittlesey. The Rev. E. Williams then made an appropriate and impressive prayer; invoking the blessing of heaven on the work, on all present and imploring its prospering favors upon the state its great undertaking. The stone was then raised and all who felt so disposed deposited mementoes underneath - during this part of the ceremony the singers were performing an Ode selected for the occasion and which had the most solemn and grand effect. The stone was now put into its place; when the working tools were by N. W. Watson, grand architect, to the grand master who examined and pronounced the work "Well formed, true and trusty". After the usual ceremony of the Corn, oil and wine and a benediction by the grand master, Dr. E. Crosby stepped upon the stone and delivered an address that had been prepared for the occasion. We stood at a great distance from the orator to hear distinctly the address

which he pronounced, but we have been informed by those who did hear (and in whose taste and judgement we have confidence) that its style was neat, that its incidents were appropriate and well selected. At the conclusion of the address, a metallic plate was placed in a niche of the stone which had been previously made for its reception and upon which were the two following inscriptions.

On one Side

"The first lock stone of
The Ohio Canal
Laid in Masonic form
September 10th, A L 5825
N Folsom, W. M. E. Sumner S.W.
H. Rhodes, J. W. of Middlebury Lodge
No. 134

(On the reverse side of the Plate)

"A. Kelly Esq. Acting Commissioner
N. S. Bates, Chief Engineer
W. A. Price, Resident Engineer
Truman Beecher)
Calvin Hobart) Contractors
N. W. Watson) 4th & 5th Sections

THIRD LOCK
A.D. MDCCCXXV

After the plate that bore these inscriptions had been secured in the stone, a collection was raised and a handsome sum was left upon the tables for the benefit of the workmen who had been employed upon this section of the canal. These ceremonies were concluded, by a solemn benediction pronounced by the Rev. John Keyes; when the procession again formed and marched to the house of Mr. Sumner in the Village of Middlebury, where the Fraternity with many others partook of an elegant entertainment. We will conclude (for the present at least) our vague and unconnected remarks respecting these ceremonies, by giving a brief account of the order of the procession and the names and titles of those who officiated upon the occasion.

Procession formed about 12 o'clock, under the direction of Erastus Torrey, Grand Marshall, S. Hodge, Dept. Grand Marshall

In the following order

1st Music

2nd Citizens (Ephraim Clark, John McMillan Marshalls

3rd Ladies - Francis M. Wilcox, George F. Norton

4th Vocal Music - Asaph Whittlesey, Leader

5th Civil Authorities

6th Canal Commissioners and engineers

Present - Alfred Kelly, Acting Commissioner, Messrs Price, Howe & Dodge Resident Engineers

7th Masons, Col. Theophilous, Potter Marshall

Nathaniel Folsom - W.M.

Silas Bettes S.W.

Henry Rhodes J.W.
I. Town - Grand Sword Bearer
N. S. Leedyard, D. Jones, Grand Tylers
A. Hart, Miner Spicer, Grand Stewards
Josiah W. Brown, Grand Treasurer
Wm. J. Hart, Grand Secretary
E. Harget, Wm. McGalliard, Grand Deacons
E. Williams, Julius Bronson, Grand Chaplains
E. Clark, Dept. Grand Master
Amos Seward, Bearer of Holy Writings

Orders of Architecture & Lights borne by bretheren in due form,
& C & C.

N. Folsome, Ehalim Crosby, H. Rhodes, E. Torrey & J. W. Brown,
Committee of Arrangements.

Note: The choir of singers with the leader was from Tallmadge, assisted by the three oldest daughters of Nathan Gillett Jr., of Middlebury, Eliza Mrs. Chapman, Catharine Mrs. Nash and Charlotte Mrs. Mason. Mrs. L. W. Hitchcock of Tallmadge was one of the principle singers on that day. She says the first was "Ode on Science" the second a verry popular anthem at that day called "Lord of all power and might". It was one of the peices sung at the dedication of the Congregational Church in Tallmadge. Sept. 8th, 1825)

The above was copied from the Western Courier printed in Revenna Portage and furnished for the Summit Beacon April 19th, 1870. This celebration was Sept. 17th, 1825 C. C. Bronson

"HE WAS MY FRIEND" - Otway

Died at Stow, on Thursday the 25th of Aug 1825, Doctor Luther Spalding, aged about 29 years. The deceased had but just commenced the world as a well read and skilful physician, his character had just begun to develope itself. As a companion he was much valued and as a gentleman his character had arrived at full blown maturity. He possessed a disposition frank and familiar, his manner was attractive and engaging, generous as well as affable, his heart reflected its goodness upon all who were favored with his society. Every death adds another to the numerous proofs of our mortality and admonished us of the instability of our hopes and the uncertainty of human prospects. In this case, society has lost a useful member, his profession an ornament - to these ordinary reflections have been added the deepest and most painful regret, for "He was my friend"
Copied from the Western Courier by C, C. Bronson

FROM THE WESTERN COURIER OF JUNE 2nd, 1827

TALLMADGE DEAF AND DUMB SCHOOL

The condition of several unfortunate children in this town, who are deaf and dumb and who are providentially so circumstanced as to render it verry difficult if not impossible for them to gain access to those means of instructions, now in operation, which are suited to their condition - having long excited the

sympathies of many of the inhabitants - and it having been ascertained that C. Smith, late of the asylum at Hartford, Conn. and who had been for some time employed as an assistant in that institution was in this region and would be willing to undertake the instruction of a class; a meeting was called on the 19th ins. (March) to consult on the subject.

The meeting was informed that there were others on the Reserve in similar circumstances with those above referred to that probably a respectable number might be obtained to form a class. Whereupon it was unanimously resolved, that we improve the present opening of providence and make an attempt to establish a school or asylum for the Deaf & Dumb and that the Rev. John Keys, Elizur Wright, Dr. Philo Wright, Messrs. Garry Treat and Alfred Fenn be a committee to carry this resolution into effect.

This committee would now give public notice that they have engaged Mr. Smith and made arrangements to open the school, at the house of Mr. Alpha Wright on the 1st day of May next. That they have fixed the price of tuition at six dollars per quarter.

That board in good families may be had on verry reasonable terms, and they pledge themselves to watch over the morals, studies and interests of all those pupils who may be committed to their care and to seek their comfort, welfare and happiness by every means in their power. The school will be opened for six months; but if public sentiment and benevolence shall justify, it is intended to become a permanent institution. The committee deems it but justice to themselves and to the inhabitants of the town to state that this thing was under consideration, and Mr. Smith was written to long before any knowledge was had of the late benevolent measures adopted by the legislature. They rejoice the subject has occupied their attention and should circumstances justify it they propose also to make application to that body for aid. In the meantime the patronage of the friends of humanity are solicited, in aid of this benevolent object.

By order of the committee
John Keys Chairman of Committee
Tallmadge March 24th, 1827

Printers in the neighboring counties are respectfully requested to give the above one or two insertions in their respective papers and thus aid the cause of benevolence and humanity. Copied from the Western Courier Vol 2nd, No. 51 J. B. Butler publisher Ravenna, O. by C. C. Bronson

"In the reminiscences of Tallmadge by Capt. Amos Seward he says that this school was kept in Mr. Alpha Wrights house in 1827 and in the house of Dr. Amos C. Wright in 1828. And that the legislature appropriated in 1828 \$100 dollars towards its support. Upon the establishment of the state institution the pupils were transferred to Columbus.

The Ohio Deaf and Dumb Asylum went into operation Oct. 16th, 1829. This was the first school for deaf mutes in the State of

Ohio."

It is worthy of a place in the annals of Tallmadge that the first school for mutes was established here, it showed that the people of Tallmadge had large and benevolent hearts at that day, it seemed to have been brought out more fully by the fact of the great success of the asylum for Deaf Mutes at Hartford Conn. Col. Smith had taken a thorough course in that institution and was providentially here and could show the good people the practical benefit of the education of mutes. There was at that time a family of 6 children, 2 sons and 4 daughters and 3 of the daughters were deaf and dumb.

And the parents were unable to educate them, and it called forth the sympathies of the people in their behalf. And they came from various places and attended the school. And from this small beginning has arose the Ohio Deaf and Dumb Asylum.

C. C. Bronson

As the Fenn families have acted a conspicuous part in the Church and township from 1817 to this time (1870) bearing quite a prominent part in its affairs, and being desirous of getting some information respecting their ancestors etc. I addressed a letter to Rev. Benjamin Fenn who verry kindly furnished me with the result of his researches among the ancient records of Milford, Conn. - Letter 1St.

Hartford, ohio Dec. 1st, 1868

C. C. Bronson Esq.
Sec. of His. Soc. Tallmadge

Dear Sir,

In answer to your request for the "genealogy of the Fenn Family" I send you the first installment by this letter. I will send more as I have time. I am pleased with your desire to look into the things of antiquity. I am pleased, also, that I am able in some measure to gratify that desire.

Yours verry truly,
Benjamin Fenn the 8th

There are ten generations of the Fenn family in which the first born son of each was named Benjamin

The Summary is as follows

The first Benjamin Fenn was born about 1612, died 1672, aged 60
The second Benjamin Fenn was baptized 1640, married Dec. 21st, 1660
The third " " was born 1661, died 1732, age 71 (Deacon)
The fourth " " " " 1690, " 1770, age 80 (Elder)
The fifth " " " " 1720 " 1778 age 58 (Col.)
The sixth " " " " 1742 " 1780 age 38 (Lieut)
The seventh " " " " 1767 " 1817 age 51 (Selectman)
The eighth " " " " 1792 " 1869 (Rev.)

The ninth Benjamin Fenn was born 1827, (Graduate)
The tenth " " " " 1868

The first Benjamin Fenn left his dwelling and estate in the parish of Whiddington, Masworth, Buckinghamshire in England (as did other Puritans for conscience sake) and came to New Haven, Connecticut in 1639. In 1640 Sept. 20th, he and his wife Sarah were received into the Church in Milford. He had eight children, five by his first wife Sarah, who died April 29th, 1663, and three by his second wife Susanna Wood, whom he married March 12th, 1665 and who was admitted to the church in Milford May 5th, 1666.

His childrens names, births and baptisms are as follows:

1st, Benjamin,	baptized	Sept. 20th,	1640	
2nd Joseph	"		1642	(probably died young)
3rd, Sarah	"	April	1645	
4th, Mary	"		1647	
5th, Martha	"		1650	was married March 14th, 1668 being 18 years 9 mon.
6th, Samuel	- born	March 4th,	1666	
7th, James	- born	May 14th,	1667 or 1671	
8th, Susanna	- Born	May 4th,	1669	

We find he was Deacon in 1650 and Magistrate from 1656 to 1668, 12 years. He was dismissed to Boston Feb. 6th, 1669 but returned to Milford, acted as Magistrate in 1671 and died in 1672. His will was admitted to probate in New Haven Conn. Nov. 13th, 1672. In his will he says, "I give to my grandson Benjamin Fenn, son to my eldest son Benjamin Fenn," He also mentions his "second son Samuel" and his "youngest son James", his "three eldest daughters Sarah, Mary and Martha" and his "youngest daughter Susanna". His estate in England was valued at 600 pounds sterling, equal to 3,000 dollars two hundred years ago. The rents due in England in 1672 were 240 pounds, equal to 12.00 dollars.

He was probably 27 or more when he came to America and dying in 1672 must have been 60 years of age perhaps more. Coming as he did to America 230 years ago, it is believed he left his dwelling and estate in the center of England for conscience sake, being one of the puritans who came to America where they could worship God according to the dictates of conscience, enlightened by the Scriptures.

To show how he disposed of his property in England, the following extract from his will, will be read with interest by some of his descendants, as also showing the troubled state of the times, and that there is now a large estate in England belonging to the Fenns.

"And further my will is to give and bequeath unto my son Samuel Fenn my dwelling house, housing with all my lands and meadows lying or being within the Parishes of Whiddington, Masworth, Iving wing, all of them in Buckinghamshire, which said housing and lands was given to me by the will of the late deceased Agnis S. of the same parish and shire aforesaid; which said housing and lands I do give unto my said son Samuel, to him and his heirs forever. And in case he comes to the full and peaceable possession of it at the age of one and twenty years, then my will is that he pay or

cause to be paid to his brother James Fenn the full sum of Forty pounds when he comes to the age of one and twenty years and to his sister Susanna Fenn twenty pounds at her one and twentieth year of her age in case he be possessed as afforesaid and in case of his full possession as afforesaid, my will is further that Samuel Fenn should pay twenty pounds to his eldest brother Benjamin Fenn, within five years after his entrance or possession".

"My will is to give and bequeath all the rest of my goods and chattels whatsoever, that are not above mentioned unto my dear and loving wife Susanna ffenn whether in New England or old". He appointed his wife sole executrix.

His son Samuel to whom the above bequest was made was between 6 and 7 years old when the will was proved. (six years and 8 months) The language in the will is especially noticeable "when he shall come into full and peacable possession" and this is mentioned three times. Shewing that there was some reason to doubt whether he would come into peacable possession of the property in England. The probability is that he did not. If the doubt was caused by the troubles of the times in regard to religion, the reason probably existed when he became of age, since the troubles were not mended in the 16 years following the date of the will, nor for years afterwards. There is not the least evidence that Samuel ever went to England to claim the property or that he obtained it by any agent. Gunn & Co. No. 6, Prince of Wales Road London, England advertise in the New York Tribune that one hundred and fifty pounds Sterling (750 millions of dollars) in money and estates remain unclaimed in England, Scotland and Ireland in many cases as far back as 1600. It is verry likely that this estate is included in the above mentioned sum. Gunn and Co. have unclaimed money and estate registry containing 90,000 names.

SECOND LETTER

The second Benjamin Fenn was born in 1640 and died in 1692 or 1693 at the age of 53. In 1660 he and Mehetable Gunn, a daughter of Jasper Gunn were married Dec. 21st, by Robert Treat, a Magistrate. His wife was admitted to the church 30th, 1667 (month omitted). He had seven children.

1st, Benjamin - born 1661
2nd, Samuel, baptized April 2nd, 1666, died Feb. 27th, 1667
3rd, Samuel " Sept. 15th 1667, probably died young
4th, Susanna, " May 9th, 1669
5th, Samuel, born July 11th, 1671, died in 1693, aged 22
6th, Mehetable, baptized Aug. 18th, 1672
7th, Hannah, " May 30th, 1675

In the town records he is called Benjamin Fenn, Jr. up to 1663 when his father was dismissed to Boston. In 1660, Jan. 25 and Feb. 7th, he had land granted to him by order of court, as his father had before him, 1646 and 1649. The land granted to his father was called Stubby Plain.

The third Benjamin Fenn was born in 1661 and died Aug. 29th, 1732 aged 71 years. He was Deacon and made his will July 1727. It was carried to court by Captain Benjamin Fenn his son. He had two children:

1st Benjamin, born in 1690
2nd, Mehetable

His wifes name was Sarah. she died May 26th, 1727, age 64. His 2nd wife was Hannah. She died June 16th, 1743. In his will he mentions his son Benjamin Fenn and his grandson Benjamin Fenn and his grand daughter Hannah, she was the wife of Seth Johnson.

He gave his estate in England one third to his daughter Mehetable Platt and two thirds to his grandson Benjamin Fenn (the Col.) His will on this point is as follows:

"I give to my daughter Mehetable Platt and to her heirs forever one third of all my real estate that is lying in the town of Allsberry (Allsbury) in the County of Bucks within old England - Also to Mehetable Platt one third part of all rents and profits that is now due from the estate in old England".

All his estate not otherwise disposed of (viz) the two thirds of real estate and two thirds of rents and profits he gives to his grand son Benjamin Fenn, but if that grand son died without heirs, it was to go to his own son Benjamin Fenn. That grandson was Benjamin Fenn the Col. He had heirs and made his will May 5th, 1775, one year before the declaration of independence.

This grand son, the Col. was my great grandfather. I have seen his widow many times. It thus appears that the Fenns have two estates in England in the same county for I am told that Bucks County and Buckinghamshire are the same. It also appears that my uncle Richard Fenns children (he having married a Platt) may be heirs to one third of the estate in Allsbury, Bucks County, England. I saw and read these wills, last May on record in New Haven. If I had known of their existence a few years ago, I would have crossed the ocean to look at that property and see where my ancestors lived, and also how many Benjamin Fenns lived in the dark ages. Indeed if I had the means, I would go next May or June.

The fourth Benjamin Fenn was born in 1690 and died in 1770, aged 80. He was for many years a ruling elder in the Presbyterian Church in Milford. This church was connected with a presbytery in New Jersey. The first church in Milford was Congregational, or more correctly speaking Independent, and they carried their notions of independency (independent of the clergy) so far that their first Pastor was ordained by the laying on of hands by three members of the church. Their experience of priestly power in England, probably led them to this extreme. Elder Benjamin Fenn was also Captain. His wifes name was Sarah. She died May 9th, 1773, aged 86 years.

He had two children:

- 1st, Hannah
- 2nd, Benjamin, born in 1720

His will was made May 31st, 1764. Carried to court 1770. In this will he says, "I give and bequeath to my son Benjamin Fenn all my lands etc. during his natural life, and then to his eldest son Benjamin Fenn and his heirs forever". He also gives to his (son or grandson omitted in copying) "All the residue of my real estate, including all my other lands and rights by lands wheresoever as well as such part as may be set to my wife Sarah for her thirds, and all other parts thereof."

The wording of this will is remarkable "all his other lands and rights by lands, wheresoever". No doubt this refers to property in England. I will be seen that he entails his property to his grandson, giving his own son the right to use it while he lives. He also mentions in his will Sarah Prince Fenn, daughter of his son, to whom he gives his (silver) tankard, when she shall arrive at the age of 18. He also mentions his "great grand daughter Sarah Fowler, daughter of my grand daughter, Sarah Fowler wife of Jonathan Fowler".

The fifth Benjamin Fenn was born in 1720, and died Feb. 20th, 1778 in the 58th year of his age. His wife was Mary Peck. They were married Nov. 4th, 1741. He was Captain in 1770 and 1774. Then Colonel. His will was made May 5th, 1775 and proved March 17th, 1778. He had seven children.

- 1st, Benjamin, born July 30th, 1742
- 2nd, Nathan, born " " 1744 and died Nov. 9th, 1750
- 3rd, Mary
- 4th, Sarah Prince moved to Plymouth, Ct.
- 5th, Samuel. He lived in North Milford and on the death of his mother
- 6th, Nathan, he was pastor of the church in Berlin, Ct.
- 7th Dan, he lived and died in Milford.

Col. Fenn was my great grandfather, to whom was willed two thirds of the estate in Allsbury, Bucks County, England and two thirds of the rents and profits. His father also willed him all his lands and rights by land wheresoever. I well remember his widow. She lived to be quite aged, dying not far from 1800. I was born in 1792 and I remember my father taking me and my brother Fowler to see her while on her death bed, to receive her blessing. She laid her hands on our heads as we stood by her bedside, and like Jacob, blessed her two great grandsons.

I distinctly remember her annual visits to my fathers and some of her peculiarities - her porringer of breads and milk warmed on the coals, just before going to bed - her having me sleep with her because, as she said, I lay so still and kept her back warm. She was a good woman, and also comely, and when young was, I suppose, vain of her complexion and good looks, and wishing to preserve them, she adopted the eroneous plan of

washing her face, not in cold water, nor in water at all, but in flour. The consequence was that her face was as full of little wrinkles as you can imagine, little short wrinkles, 5000 of the. So we see good folks sometimes have their foibles. Her notion is still entertained. The Ohio Statesman last October had this statement:

"There is a lady in Boston who has not washed her face for 15 years. She thinks water injurious to the skin and used fine indian meal in its place". She may have as much reason to regret her course as my great grandmother did.

Yours, Benjamin Fenn the 8th Gen.

LETTER NO. 3

The sixth Benjamin Fenn was my Grand Father. He was born July 30th, 1741 and died Oct. 27th, 1780 in the 39th year of his age. He had seven children.

1st, Benjamin born May 14th, 1766, died July 24th, 1817, age 52
2nd, Peck, born March 10th, 1768, died March 12th, 1824, age 56
3rd, Treat, born Dec. 10th, 1770, died Feb. 21st, 1806 aged 36
4th, William, born April 5th, 1777, died Oct. 15th, 1855 aged 78
5th, Sarah, born Feb. 28th, 1773, died Oct. 26th, 1796 aged 24
6th, Clemence, born April 10th, 1775, died Oct. 6th, 1776 aged 18 mos.
7th, Richard, born July 4th, 1779, died Feb. 20th, 1868, aged 88

Their father died the youngest of the Benjamin Fenns. His disease was the consumption and we suppose he is the only one, in the line who died of that disease. In 1776 he was a private in Capt. Pecks company. He was Lieut when he died. He was active in the War of the Revolution. He and his neighbor, Robert Treat used to go together to fight the British. On one occasion they were so intensely engaged in firing on the enemy that they did not observe at first a squad of cavalry riding at a distance to cut off their retreat. As soon as they were aware of their new danger, they ran for their lives. In crossing a field Mr. Treat saw a knapsack lying on the ground. He snatched it up and threw it over his shoulders thinking as he afterwards said, that "it might catch a bullet". They escaped.

When the British invaded New Haven, my grandfather was on hand and in the skirmish which took place some distance west of the city. In that skirmish a young and handsome English officer with long black hair was mortally wounded and carried into a house near by where he died. I have seen the house many times. Mr. F has reference to Adjutant Campbell. "His grave is still to be seen on the summit of the high ground west of the city near where he died. A white handkerchief marked with his name was long preserved as a relic of this officer and it is believed to be still in existence". I would like here say that on this eventful morn Richard the youngest was rushed into life amid the alarm of this invasion of the British. As soon as the mother was comfortably in bed the father went forth with his trusty muskett and was one of those that rallied and did good service in trying to repel the invaders. There was only about 150 men hastily collected but they did good

service. It is not known how many Britons were in the skirmish their line of March was about 4 miles from Mr. Fenns residence". C. C. Bronson)

When the British invaded and burned Fairfield in 1779, the county seat of Fairfield Co., Conn, he with his neighbors Robert Treat were with the American forces, which became so numerous as to compel the British to retreat to their shipping. Before they left they set the village on fire.

Lieutenant Fenn and his neighbor Treat in passing along saw a large two story house on fire. A board fence connected with a one story house. My grandfather said to his neighbor, let us get an axe and knock away this fence. We can save that house for somebody. Accordingly they found means to clear away the fence and the smaller house was saved. The next day a widow woman came into the Continental camp enquiring who it was that saved her house. She wanted to thank him for it was her all. They told her to go on until she found a man who could not speak loud he was the one. She went until she found him and poured forth her thousand thanks with tears. Most men would have thought that inability to speak loud by reason of consumption would have been an honorable, because a sufficient excuse for staying at home. He was also quite a hunter. He loved the sport. He lived nearly five miles from the salt water. Once when he and his neighbor Treat were in a boat after wild ducks, they lay down to make as little show as possible, and if I remember it right with handkerchiefs on their heads instead of hats. I suppose they were where the river empties into Long Island Sound, the current drifting them slowly along. They got within shooting of the ducks but their position was bad for good shot and yet they could not change for the ducks on seeing their motions would dive. So they fired as they lay, missed the ducks and came home with contusions on their faces, occasioned by the recoil of their guns. (The river alluded to by Mr. Fenn, I suppose to be the Housatonic CCB) In the course of his sickness it was told him one Sabbath day that there was a deer going through his lots. With a hunters impulse he took his gun and hastened to kill the deer. He had a good opportunity to shoot, took a good sight at the deer, but recollecting it was Sabbath day, he desisted and returned to his house. It is rare for a deer to owe his escape from a hunter by his conscientious regard for the Sabbath.

My grand mother has told me how he rode with her over the farm, telling her what he thought best for her and the two oldest boys to do, and how to manage when he was gone. His two oldest sons were only 14 and 12. In the hot days of summer before he died, he was so troubled to breathe that men stood before him with a large old fashioned fan (with which they winnowed their grain) and by moving it rapidly up and down they made a current of air pass over his face to relieve his breathing. He died in October and was buried in row with his ancestors, in the Milford burying ground, four miles from his dwelling, a space being left for his wife. But she died at the house of her son Richard and was buried in Tallmadge. This mothers maiden name was Sarah Treat, a great

grand daughter of Robert Treat whose name is conspicuous in the early history of Conn. She was born July 24th, 1745, and died in Tallmadge Aug. 12th, 1838 at the advanced age of 93 years". CCB

Mr. Fenn says: His wife was a noble woman, with strong sense and independent in her views; though left with a family of six children, the oldest but 14, she with their help carried on the farm, and had the pleasure of seeing them all settled in life with growing and peaceful families, one of them William having spent three years in Yale College. With her sterling good sense and resolute mind she found no difficulty in being obeyed by her children. Her son William has told me how she cured him of dancing. She neither scolded at him or threatened. He came from college, I think in the short vacation in the spring, but instead of going directly home, he went to Milford town, on Wednesday, four miles distant from home, and spent Thursday and Friday with gay young people. He came home on Saturday, expecting to go back the next day, with the family to meeting and make further arrangements for dancing festivities. Sabbath morning after breakfast, he got his clothes to prepare for meeting, when his mother said to him, "William put up your clothes, you don't go to meeting today". That was all she said. His obedience was, as a matter of course, implicit and immediate. He made no inquiry but put up his clothes and staid at home alone all day, the rest of the family going to town to meeting. The family having returned in the afternoon, she took William into the front room, alone. "And there", said he, "she talked to me and cried with me", "And there she cured me of dancing."

In the course of her talk with him she told him he had agreed to be with the young people on the Sabbath and make arrangements for dancing in the week. It was time he had so agreed but how she knew it, said he could not tell. Her second marriage was brought about as I understand by the influence of Mrs. Tullar, wife of Rev. David Tullar, the able Pastor of the Second Church. Her second husband was Major Ezra Fellows of Sheffield Mass. The connection was I believe a verry pleasant one. It was also useful to her, introducing her into new and valued company and enlarging her views of men and other things. She was also, after his decease, benefited by a portion of his property. In 1818 she moved into Ohio with her sons Peck and Richard and their families. It was Richards family that she finished her course at the advanced age of 93.

Yours verry truly
Benjamin Fenn the 8th

After writing the above I obtained from a family Bible in the possession of Mrs. Clemence C. (Fenn) Wright of Tallmadge the following items of History - C. C. Bronson

Benjamin Fenn was married to Sarah Treat Oct. 31st, 1764.
Maj. Ezra Fellows married Sarah, widow of B. Fenn Oct. 20th, 1797.
Ezra Fellows died in Sheffield, Mass. July 7th, 1806 aged 71

LETTER NO. 4

The seventh Benjamin Fenn, my father was born in Milford Conn. May 14th, 1766, and died in Tallmadge July 25th, 1817 aged 51 years. Mr. Fenn arrived in Tallmadge with his family on the 14th of July, taken sick the 18th, died the 24th with fever.

He married miss Comfort Fowler who was born in Milford April 10th, 1770. A lineal decendant of William Fowler, one of the original planters of Milford in 1639, and one of the seven pillars of the first church in Milford. Benj. Fenn and Comfort Fowler were married Dec. 4th, 1791. Mr. F Writes, My father was comfortably situated in North Milford, one mile west of the meeting house, near the river Wopowage which runs through the town, and empties into Long Island Sound, 4 and a half miles from his residence. But for the sake of procuring more land for his sons, he sold and moved to Ohio in 1817. And died in Tallmadge of fever within a month after his arrival.

He and my mother were hopefully converted in the great revival near the close of the last century under the labors of the Rev. David Tullar and made a profession of religion in 1798. Mr. Tullar came to our house when I was about five years old to converse with my parents on the subject of religion. I have no remembrance of what he said, but I distinctly remember his visit and my thoughts as he went away. I thought he was a cruel man to come and make them both cry. When I was near six years old in 1798 I was baptized and perfectly remember standing on a chair before the Deacons seat, in front of the pulpit, the meeting house full of people. The only public office my father held was that of selectman equivalent to township trustee in Ohio. In that office he was faithful and energetic. Mrs. Comfort Fenn died in Tallmadge, Aug. 6th, 1850, aged 80. Her mother also died at the advanced age of 80 years.

CHILDREN OF BENJAMIN AD COMFORT FENN

- 1st, Benjamin Born Oct. 29th, 1792. Died June 25th, 1869, aged 80
- 2nd, Fowler Fellows, born March 15th, 1794; Died Oct. 21st, 1837 aged 3
- 3rd, Alfred, Born Jan 20th, 1796, died July 27th, 1833 aged 37
- 4th, Sally, born Sept. 17th, 1797, died March 27th, 1885 aged 88
- 5th, Nathan H., born Sept. 22nd, 1799, died Dec. 21st, 1820 aged 21
- 6th, Lucinda, born March 30th, 1801, died Nov. 12th, 1819 aged 18
- 7th, Jonathan F., born Aug. 17th, 1802, died
- 8th, Elmina, born Dec. 15th, 1805, died Oct. 1st, 1813, aged 8
- 9th, Hannah F. born May 4th, 1808
- 10th, Clemence C., born March 25th, 1810
- 11th, Edward M. Born June 13th, 1812 died Sept. 11th, 1813, aged 1
- 12th, Elmina E. Born July 4th, 1815, died Oct. 31st, 1828 aged 13

LETTER NO. 5

This letter addressed to C. C. Bronson Sec. Tallmadge His. Soc.
Dated Hartford Trumbull County May 18th, 1869

Mr. Fenn says: I now proceed to give you some account of my Uncles Peck, William, Treat and Richard, son of the sixth Benjamin Fenn.

and their sister Sarah. Peck was the second son of Lieut. Benj. and Sarah (Treat) Fenn, and was born in Milford Feb. 28th, 1768. His father died the October before he was 13 years of age. On arriving at his majority he settled on a farm half a mile west of the residence of his brother Benjamin in what was set off as a parish called North Milford. He married Miss Urania Durand a sister of Deacon Durand of Milford. She was French decent, born Nov. 23rd, 1769. They were married Jan. 28th, 1794. Peck Fenn died in Tallmadge March 12th, 1824, aged 56 years. Urania D. Fenn died in Tallmadge Sept. 15th, 1862, aged 93 years. They had nine children:

- 1st, Miranda Born Nov. 3rd, 1794. Died March 11th, 1796
- 2nd, William Peck, born May 1st, 1796, died April 15th, 1824, aged 28
- 3rd, Miranda, born Jan. 1st, 1798
- 4th, Harvey, born Dec. 7th, 1799, died July 14th, 1873, aged 74
- 5th, Joseph, born March 2nd, 1802, died July 10, 1846, aged 44
- 6th, Clarinda, born April 22nd, 1804, died Oct. 19th, 1827 aged 23
- 7th, Eliza, born April 12th, 1806
- 8th, Sereno, born July 8th, 1809, died Jan 8th, 1885, aged 76
- 9th, Alpheus Andrew, born Feb. 5th, 1817

Peck Fenn at the organization of the Cong. Church in North Milford now Orange in 1805 was appointed Deacon which office he held until he removed to Ohio in 1817. When he was 21 he was thought to have incipient consumption and went to the West Indies to escape the rigors of a northern winter; and although tubercles formed in his lungs and broke, yet he recovered and enjoyed very comfortable his voyage to the West Indies being of good service. He was a successful and industrious farmer. He had learned to take care of his health and lived to be comparatively an old man. He was also a spiritually minded man, and lived an honor to his profession. On his journey to Ohio with his family in 1817, and in connection with his mother and his brother Richard and family, the writer was with them and can bear witness to the fact that my Aunt Urania, his wife, practiced abstinence from spiritous liquors, while the rest of us thought we must drink to preserve our health. But she enjoyed her usual health, outlived six of the company and continued to enjoy good health to an advanced age.

My uncle Treat Fenn was my grandfathers third son. He was born March 10th, 1770 and married Sally Hollister of Berlin Conn. She was born Feb. 12th 1768. they were married May 3rd, 1791. Treat Fenn died Feb. 24, 1806, aged 36. They had five children:

- 1st, Curtiss Treat
- 2nd, Pamela
- 3rd, Sally
- 4th, Julia
- 5th, Nathan

His wife was a noble woman and a Christian, as will appear from the account which her son says of her. He writes as follows:

"My fathers business called him from home so much of the time that I recollect but little of him. I recollect much more of my mother. Although I was young yet her teachings made impression on my mind, never to be forgotten. I do believe that the instructions which her children received from her were the means of all her children embracing the Savior in early life. She truly was a Godly woman. She died a most triumphant death. I shall never forget the scenes which transpired one or two days before her death. The night before she died our Father gathered us children from our beds to see our mother die and we supposed she breathed her last as we stood by her bedside. Her pulse stopped and our Father closed her eyes. After sitting by her bedside for 30 minutes more, there was discovered a slight movement of the muscles of the face. My Father stepped to her side. She opened her eyes and commenced singing a favorite hymn of hers and sang two or three verses of this hymn,

Sweet is the work my God, my King

To praise thy name give thanks and sing
in as clear and distinct voice as she did when she was in health. After that she commenced giving an account of her experience while she was in this trance. She had been with her Savior and told of what she experienced while there. She seemed to lament finding herself again in this world. Her trials all through her sickness had been a great anxiety for her children; but from this time she had no doubt. She was perfectly reconciled to leave us in the hands of God. About the last words she spoke were: "I know God will take care of you my children".

The account which Curtiss gives of his Father is as follows:

"My father was by trade a cabinet maker, and carried on business in Berlin, Ct. I suppose he learned his trade there but conclude that after he married he moved back to milford for a time, as I have always understood that I was born in Milford, and that my father moved to Berlin when I was six months old."

I recollect well his going to the West Indies. It was about the year 1800, at the time of the War between the English and the French. He gathered together all his available property and appropriated it for such property as he thought would pay well for such adventure. He sailed for an English port, was taken by the French and carried into Guadaloup. His property was confiscated and he was detained on that Island, a prisoner for two years. When he left home he provided for his family for six months, the time he expected to be absent. About a year after his return my mother died, leaving four helpless children into his care. He at once placed us in different families to be cared for, and he left for North Carolina. There he made it his business, selling dry goods. In about two years he established himself in Wilmington North Carolina, made that his place of business and residence. After he got established there he lived about one year. I suppose he accumulated some property, but we never received anything from that quarter" Thus far the sons Acco.

Mr. B. resumes and says, "My uncle was a man of considerable

enterprise. I remember seeing him at my fathers house when I was about 8 or 10 years old. He seemed to me a tall slim man good looking, with black hair, cheerful and sanguine, ready for enterprise. It was as I suppose, about the time of his West India expedition. I remember perfectly well, where he stood, in our kitchen with some of his brothers.

On his way home from Guadaloup, while on the ocean, in a strong wind, he lost his hat overboard and tied a red handkerchief on his head. A brittish vellel sailing near them took him to be a Frenchman and demanded his transfer to their vessel. Their demand was not complied with, and he reached home in safety. In my next number, I will give some account of his adventures in the West Indies and also in New York. I can also give quite a full account of his children/ Of the five, three are living, Curtiss, Parmele and Julia. The account of his children will show that God has taken care of them and provided for them as their dying mother believed he would. I intent to write next week.

Respectfully yours,
Benjamin Fenn

LETTER NO. 6

Hartford, O. May 18th, 1869

Mr. C. C. Bronson, Dear Sir

I proceed with the account of my Uncle Treat Fenn. He was named Treat I suppose because his mothers maiden name was Treat (Sarah Treat). While in the West Indies he boarded where several French men boarded. At one of their meals they had cooked eggs, and the way they were cooked was this: a bowl of hot water was placed by your plate and your eggs were put in it. While you are eating the eggs are cooked. On breaking his aggs one so raw that my uncle laid it aside. After the meal was over the gentlemen amused themselves with throwing egg shells at each other across the table. In the excitement and laughter of the occasion my uncle took up his raw egg and threw it into the bosom of one of the Frenchmen and terribly besmeared his ample ruffles which so profusely adorned the breasts of gentlemen in those days. At once the merriment ceased. The Frenchman rose and commenced walking across the room. He walked across once, twice and was going the third time when uncle arose and went to him and apologized saying it was an accident, he meant nothing improper and commenced wiping the ruffles with his handkerchief. The Frenchman said, "You one good fellow, you one good fellow" and peace was restored.

If the Frenchman had crossed the floor the third time, without an apology, a duel must of course follow. Uncle was a "good fellow" because by his gentle manly apology he had prevented a duel. making it unnecessary for the Frenchmans honor.

When tinware began to come into use, prior , as I suppose to his to the West Indies, he with his one horse waggon engaged in the sale of it in the new parts of the country west of the Hudson

River and had some curious adventures. One day towards night, as he was passing a company of men, he inquired which of the roads before him he should take. They directed him to one which seemed to pass over high ground. He took that one and went on untill sunset - no houses - the road becoming fainter and fainter. He kept on going over stones and hard places, with great difficulty - no road at all - and finally descended to a level spot of an acre or two in extent. It was now dark and groping about he found he was on a little plain with precipitous sides all around, except the one he came on, so steep that to go back was equally out of the question. What should he do. It was plain that the men had directed him to that place for the purpose of robbing him. It was a place where robbery and murder could be committed with apparent impunity. He placed his arm on his horses mane, laid his head on his arm and stood thinking what to do. He was startled by the voice of a man saying, "Good Lord, how came you here?" He immediately replied "Good Lord! Tell me how I can get away". The man proved to be a sort of hermit, living in hut alone, some little distance from that spot. He told him he thought he could help him, and led the way for him and his horse to a spot where he could get down the declivity. The hermit gave him some frugal food, provided for his horse and made him comfortable for the night. The next morning this man went with him and helped him over those difficult places and when passed them and the man was going to leave him, my uncle opened his waggon and told him to take anything he wanted. The man took a tin cup and refused any thing more, saying that was enough. It seems that those men who wrongly directed him had no thought of robbing, but for the sake of fun directed him as they did. I could relate other incidents but none of greater interest than this.

I will now give an account of five children, Curtiss Treat, Pamela, Sally, Julia and Nathan. Curtiss was born Jan. 21st, 1792 He engaged in the mercantile business and settled in Pittsfield, Berkshire Co., Mass. In the great revival there, under the labors of Mr. Nettleton he became a Christian and was subsequently chosen deacon. He was held in such estimation that a street in Pittsfield was named Fenn Street. He gives to me this account of himself - "The instruction my mother gave me on the subject of swearing, gambling, etc. made an impression never to be forgotten. I suppose there never was any one that had been more exposed to those temptations up to the age of 23 than I was. The first man I lived with, a Mr. Steele, was a Universalist and of course had no very great regards for my morals; I stayed with him about three years. The next man was Walter Smith. He was not a professor of religion. I did not receive much religious instruction from him. The last man that I lived with for six years was Lucius Smith. He was the most profane that I ever knew. Almost every other word was accompanied with an oath. He was also a gambler. Two or three evenings in a week, some seasons of the year, he would spend at the store with a set of men that were in the habit of meeting there untill twelve o'clock at night. I had to sit up and wait upon them, and I never had the least disposition to give way to any of their bad habits. Yet with all these faults, he was a very kind hearted man. I have said that

I never was tempted to give way to any of their bad habits, but I do recollect that once I got the impression that I could not be a man unless I learned to swear. I made an effort for one or two days, but I gave it up as a bad job. I lived in Berlin till 17 years of age. From there I went to Litchfield Conn., where I spent about a year as clerk in a store; from there went to New York the spring of 1815 - remained there 18 months, then removed to Pittsfield, Mass. and commenced business in the fall of 1816 and have been in the mercantile business from that date to the present time, over 50 years".

Curtiss was married Dec. 16th, 1817 to Parthema L. Dickinson of Pittsfield. They have had six children, two died in infancy, and two have died since, a son and a daughter. They have two daughters now living. Julia married to Josiah Carter of Pittsfield, has had four children, all daughters. She and her husband and two children are members of the church. The other daughter unmarried, name not mentioned. Pamela married Geo Whitney a lawyer in Stockbridge, July 1816. He died Dec. 18th, 1825, and she has since lived a widow. They had four children, two are living and they with mother are professors of religion. These childrens name will be mentioned in my next paper.

Respectfully,
Benjamin Fenn

LETTER NO. 7TH

Mr. C. C. Bronson

Hartford May 20th, 1869

I proceed to finish my account of Uncle Treat Fenns children, and grand children and great grand children. Curtiss as I have mentioned had six children. Two died in infancy, two since and two living daughters. He has four grand children, all daughters of his daughter Julia, who married Mr. Carter. Pamela (Uncle Treats second child) was verry handsome. She married George Whitney and had four children, William Hopkins, George Fenn, Cornelia and one that died in infancy. William Hopkins Whitney married Matilda Irwin and had three children, viz. Anna Pamela, she died in childhood, George Irwin and Cornelia, she died in childhood.

William Hopkins Whitney died in Pittsburgh in 1863 in the 46 year of his age. George Fenn Whitney married Mary E. Linch. They have had eight children; Anna Amanda, Mary Ives, Sarah Hosford, William Fenn, William, Pamela Fenn, Geo Herbert, and Charles William. Anna and the two Williams died in childhood. The other five are living of whom Mary and Sarah together with their Father are professors of religion. Cornelia Whitney also a professor of religion married Joseph C. Canning. They have five children, George, Reginald, Josephine, Isabel and Ada. George died in infancy. The others are living of whom Reginald and Josephine are professors of religion. Their grand mother Pamela is also a professor. She was born Feb. 28th, 1794.

Sally, my Uncle Treat Fenns third child was born April 23rd, 1796. She was married twice and had no children. Her first husband Seth Stanley was a professor of religion. Her second husband, Cornelius M. Vorehees has been Deacon of the Church thirty years, both men of property.

Julia, my Uncles fourth child was born July 19th, 1798. She was married to Selah Galpin Aug. 3rd, 1822. They have had three children; John S., Charles H., and Sarah F. John S. Galpin was born Jan. 23rd, 1834, died Dec. 5th, 1867. He married Mary E. Merriam, Feb. 1863. They had one child, Julia Emma, born Feb. 4th, 1866 and died Feb. 29th, 1868. Charles H. Galpin, born Oct. 28th, 1835 was married to Sarah S. Hough Nov. 1859. His wife was born May, 1835. They have had four children; Sarah, Charles Bennie, Maria, Hattie Belle, and Eli Henry. Sarah and Charles died young. Sarah F. Galpin born April 11th, 1838. Julias husband, Selah Galpin has been a member of the church about 40 years, and a deacon about thirty years. Julia herself has been a member about fifty five years. Her son John was nine when he became a Christian and was some older when he united with the church. He was about 34 when he died, and had read the Bible through in course 34 times. Her other two children Charles and Sarah united with the church when they were about 20.

Nathan Fenn, Uncle Treats fifth child, died Feb. 5th, 1803, about a week after his mothers death, aged nearly two years. Summary: My Uncle Treat has had 5 children, 13 grand children and 25 great grand children.

FAMILY RECORD

Treat Fenn, born March 10th, 1770, died Feb. 21st, 1806. His wife Sally Hollister, born Feb. 12th, 1768, died Jan. 29th, 1803.

THEIR CHILDREN

Curtiss Treat, born Jan. 21st, 1792, married Dec. 16th, 1817
Parthenia L. Dickinson,
Pamela, born Feb. 28th, 1794, married July 1816 to Geo. Whitney
*Sally, born April 23, 1796, married Seth Stanley, died 1865 aged 69
Julia, born July 19th, 1798 to Selah Galpin Aug. 5th, 1822
Nathan, born April 5, 1801, died Feb. 5th, 1803
*Sally also married 2nd husband Cornelius M. Vorehees

Thus we see God has answered the faith of that dying Mother. Her children have been provided for, though left orphans. The youngest, God took to himself. The others have been happily married with a sufficiency of worldly means, all the children, and many of the grand children and some of the great grand children hopefully pious; three deacons of 30 and 40 years standing in the church.

LETTER 8TH

In the series of letters which Mr. Fenn wrote me on this subject, he in his 7th letter gives the biography of Richard, the

youngest son of Benjamin Fenn and Sarah (Treat) Fenn. C.C.B.

Mr. C. C. Bronson

Hartford, O. May 21st, 1869

Dear Sir,

My Uncle William was my grand fathers 4th son. He was born, as he once mentioned to me, in the year which had three sevens, 1777. He married Mary Fenn, then called Polly. She was, as I believe, a descendant of James Fenn the youngest son of the first Benjamin Fenn.

They had nine children: Aaron William, Mary whitman, Eliakim Tibbals, Aaron William, Eliza Lucretia, William Aaron, Harriett, Sarah and Harriet; four of whom are now living, Elizkin Tibbals, Eliza Lucretia, Aaron William and Mary Whitman.

He was Colonel in the Militia and Deacon of the first church in Milford. He died Oct. 15th, 1858 in Orange (once a part of Milford) aged 78. His wife survived him a short time. He was a man of more than average talent.

His public education, though unfinished was of great service to him. He was in Yale College when I was a little shaver, and I suppose it was one of his pranks that one evening at my Fathers house, they stripped stark naked and placed me on my feet on a table. How young I was I do not know. I was able to stand alone and use my limbs with some activity. I remember that he and my parents were sitting around the table and laughing merrily. I also remember stretching out my arm and that I did not stand still. I was merry too. I suppose they were admiring my fine proportions as well as laughing at my activity. I distinctly remember standing on the table intirely naked. That doubtless was one of my uncles ways of studying "the human form divine". I congecture I was about three years old. In giving an account of his mother, I mentioned how when a member of college, she effectually cured him of dancing. Having spent about three years in college, he was induced by his future father and mother-in-law to leave college, marry their daughter, their only child and live with them. This step he took in opposition to the advice of his strong minded mother. She advised him to complete his college course. But the promises of Pollys parents, her beauty and affection decided him, for that time, to go contrary to his mothers advice. Though happy with his wife and in his growing family, he found, in after life, that his mother was right and that he was foolishly wrong in leaving college as he did. When I was a youth he was verry sick and it was thought that he would die. I went to see him and after conversation and as I was going to leave he said, "Benjamin, don't forget me". This he said in view of what appeared to be approaching death.

In the latter part of the summer of 1815, or 16 he had a verry severe illness, called camp distemper, worse than dysentary. His daughters, the first Harriet was sick with the same disease and died about the middle of Sept. I remember being present

at her funeral. Dr. Carrington was their family physician. But there was a Dr. Austin in Milford, a sagacious, long headed old man. My uncle sent for him. He came and examined into the case said, "Col. Fenn where have you been? You have been somewhere" My uncle answered that he had not been anywhere to be exposed to disease. "Yes you have", said the doctor. "Think back where you have been". Uncle thought back through August, July, June, May, April and he remembered that in April he opened or heap in his garden where he had buried some cabbages. The cabbages had rotted and the scent was verry strong and verry bad, and his daughter Harriet he remembered stood by him as he was leaning over the hole, her face close to his and she looking in "Ah" said the doctor, "You need go no further, that was the place." This case is interesting because it shows two things, one, the dangerous character of effuvia arising from rotten vegetables, especially cabbages; the other, that the miasmatic poison may be in the system from April to August without indicating its presence. Prayers were offered in both congregations in town for his recovery and he did recover, and do much good to immortal souls. His education was of good service to him, and to the cause of religion. He was a man of exemplary piety, few laymen in his day were more active than he in laboring for the conversion of sinners. He also did good in healing serious difficulties between individuals. In his last sickness, and not long before his death, he said, "Do tell me what ails me! I never felt so well in my life".

Of his nine children five are dead, Aaron William, Sarah, William Aaron, and the two Harriets. His eldest son was a verry promising lad and died while a lad. Mary Whitman married one Tomlinson, an Episcopal Clergyman, one of the high sort who are exclusively right, and every body else is wrong. His wife as I understand, has at length come fully into his views. Eliakim married into the Platt family, and is a substantial and important pillar in the Methodist Church in Milford.

Aaron William, named after his brother who died, has been a successful physician and resides in Roxbury, Conn. highly respected as a man of piety and worth. I think he is a deacon of the church in that place. He is as a matter of course a decided Republican. Eliza Lucretia married my brother-in-law, Nathan Gunn of Milford, and resides there. She is a noble woman, active in piety and a nurse in sickness of the first order, generous and self denying.

William Aaron moved to Georgia or Alabama, became a southern man in feeling and action. Stood high among the secessionists lost all his property in the war, returned to the north poor, was furnished with necessaries by his republican brother in Roxbury, and died about two years since.

My Uncle had a mind of large scope. I have been intimately acquainted with no man who was so ready and able to converse on a wide circle of subjects. Mathematics, astronomy, mechanics,

inventions, the affairs of the church, of the nation, agriculture, the wonders of nature, of art, the Bible theology and Christian duty. His range of thought was extensive, in many cases original, and always interesting.

He was once engaged in the beautiful and fascinating theory of perpetual motion, which has dazzled so many minds. He had a machine in construction and was quite confident of success. It was about the year 1814. He made his Pastor a confident and explained his plans to him. But Mr. Pinneo said to him, "Colonel fenn, by and by some old man will stick up his head in your machine and won't get away at your bidding". Uncle, however, thought differently and proceeded with his machine. He got it completed, and nicely made, and then lo and behold, it stood perfectly balanced. He then saw an important point which he had overlooked, and which was an immovable obstacle in his way. I saw the machine and he explained to me the point he had overlooked.

My grand father had two daughters between William and Richard, born between 1770 and 1777, Clemence and Sarah. Clemence died young. Sarah married Elisha Edwards of Berlin Conn, and died some time after the birth of her daughter Sally. This Sally, her only child, married Hopkins Austin, son of the sagacious old doctor whom I have mentioned. She is not living.

Respectfully yours,
Benjamin Fenn the 8th Gen.

Richard Fenn was the 5th son of Benjamin and Sarah Fenn. He was born July 4th, 1779 and died in Tallmadge O. Feb. 20th, 1868, aged 88. My uncle was but 1 year three months and twenty three says old when his father died. He lived with his mother untill he was old enough to go to a trade. He went to Derby, about five miles from home and servef an apprenticeship to the hatters trade. While there in Derby, he was induced to become a free and accepted Mason. He was initiated into the first degree, (that of entered apprentice) but never took another; nor as I understood him, did he enter the lodge the second time. His reasons as he informed me were these: when in taking the first degree he was led round in the lodge by his conductor, blindfolded, with a hatter round his neck, "neither clothed or unclothed, shod or unshod" his conductor having his arm drawn within his own, whispered to him to step high. The conductor in such a case is the candidates special friend, or supposed to be, and he is to be trusted and his directions followed. When his special friend whispered to him to step high, he, supposing that ropes were tied across the passage, or that some obstructions were placed in his way for him to stumble over, raised his feet alternately so as to form a right angle at his knee and thus he passed over a level floor with no obstructions on it to the great merriment of the members who were sitting by the sides of the lodge, and looking on the ridiculous figure which my uncle in all seriousness was presenting. On ascertaining how he had been imposed upon he thought he had got enough of Ancient Masonry. He settled in Milford and carried on the hatting business for several years, sending hats into the southern states, and sometimes

not, experiencing sometimes much difficulty in obtaining his dues, as others have done who trusted the slave holding chivalry of the south. In 1818 he in connection with his brother Peck, moved to Ohio with their families and arrived in Tallmadge on the fifth day of Oct. He chose a farm located a mile and a half east of the center. His brother Benjamin chose one a half mile west and his brother Peck one a mile north of the center.

My uncle Richard was a modest man and a careful prudent man, wise hearted, tenacious of his convictions, progressive and yet conservative, taking a deep interest in religion, the church and the Sabbath School, which last he conducted with good sense as Superintendent.

He was slow of speech and never put himself forward. When he had entered his 80th year, he said to me one day, Dr. Watts says

"Our age to seventy years is set
How short the term, how frail the state
And if to eighty we arrive
We rather sigh and groan than live

"Now said he" I think that is not so, I feel that I live. And he did live, with one exception he was as I suppose, enjoying good health and was active in supplying eggs for the New York market, after he had given up his farm to his son in law. He thus obtained money yearly to make some one a life member of the Bible Society or to educate some of his grand children or both.

Richard Fenn married Miss Mabel Platt, daughter of Capt. Platt of Milford. Mabel Platt was born in Milford March 1st, 1781.
Births of the children of Richard and Mabel P. Fenn.

Twins (Dennis Born Feb. 14th, 1803, Died Nov. 16th, 1827, aged 24
(Wyllys " " " " Died Nov. 19th, 1880, aged 78
Treat, born Dec. 10th, 1804
Mabel, born Oct. 6th, 1808, Died Oct. 21st 1856, aged 48
Delia, born June 23rd, 1812
Sally Edwards, Born June 3rd, 1815
Martha Platt, born May 22nd, 1817
Julia Ann, born Jan. 2nd, 1820

Mabel, wife of Richard Fenn died Jan. 18th, 1855, aged 74

This closes the seventh generation from the first Benjamin Fenn one of the original planters of Milford, Conn.

The eighth Benjamin Fenn, the writer of these letters says: I was born in Milford Conn. Oct. 29th, 1792, and was baptized in 1798. He graduated at Yale College in 1813. And taught a common school in Plymouth the following winter. Containing one hundred children. But one was brought in her mothers arms to make the full number of one hundred.

He studied divinity with Rev. Kezaleel Pinneo of Milford, was licenced to preach the Gospel in 1816, and was ordained and

installed Pastor of the church in Nelson, Portage County, Ohio on the 16th of June 1819. The place of installation was Eber Mansfields new barn, the only public building at the Center being a common school house, in which the Presbytery of Portage ate the installation dinner. Frame buildings were at that time in that township verry scarce.

After residing there sixteen years he accepted a call from the church in Gustavus, Trumbull Co Ohio (of which the Rev. Joseph Badger was one of the early missionaries from the Connecticut Missionary Society was then Pastor).

He was dismissed from Nelson, and installed in Gustavus June 16th, 1835. In 1847 he received a call from the church in Hartford in the same county, and was installed there June 16th, 1847. In 1861 he was recalled and reinstalled in Nelson June 19th, 1861. In 1867 he asked for a dismissal on account of his age 75. In the spring of 1868, he with his wife moved to Hartford to live with their son. His wife was Anna Gunn, a grand daughter of "Old Esq. Gunn", of Milford as he was called, a prominent citizen of Milford Conn, and a descendant of Jasper Gunn who settled in Milford with the first Benjamin Fenn.

They have had four children viz.

1st, Sarah Gunn, born Aug. 26th, 1822

2nd, Benjamin, born Oct. 30th, 1827

3rd, Stephen Wilberforce, born in Gustavus, Nov. 8th, 1835

4th, Richard Baxter, born August 23rd, 1843

At page 75 of this book the reader will find the obituary of Rev. Benjamin Fenn the winter of these letters.

The ninth Benjamin Fenn, son of Rev. Benj. and Anna G. Fenn was born Oct. 30th, 1827. He graduated at Western Reserve College in 1854. Was principal in the Academy at Granville Ohio one academic year, and then removed to Hartford. The state of his eyes preventing him from studying and having a taste for mechanical pursuits, he engaged in that line of business.

His first wife Jennie, the daughter of Bidwell Tinney of Paris, Ohio. They were married May 17th, 1860. She died of consumption Oct. 18th, 1865. His second wife was Sarah A. Pardy of Windham, Ohio. It was a run away match. She was of age, being 22, but her father opposed his daughters marriage, he wishing her to continue to keep house for him as she had done since her mothers death, which took place when she was sixteen. Public sentiment in that place was strongly in her favor.

They had one child Benjamin

THE TENTH BENJAMIN FENN

Was born Oct. 2nd, 1868. He will probably, if he lives to mans estate, make a figure in the world; but whether as Governor of an independent state, or as President of the United States I cannot now determine. Benjamin Fenn and Sarah A Pardy were married at the Parsonage in Nelson by the bridegrooms father, early in the morning of the first day of June 1867, Sarah G. Fenn was a graduate of Mount Holyoke in 1848. Was married in Hartford Ohio to William P. Clark, and now lives in Medina, Ohio. Has three children, Stephen Wilberforce, when last heard from he was in Chicago, Ill., Richard Baxter, he served in the war against the rebellion three years under Gen. Burnside, Schofield and Cox. He was in the terrible battle in Franklin, Tenn. where the rebel General Hood was defeated.

Baxter is now in New Haven.

This closes the correspondence of the Rev. Benjamin Fenn. He died June 25th, 1869, aged 77.

I purpose to continue the sketch of the Fenn families as I can gather information from various sources regreting Mr. Fenn could not have lived to finish his account of the 8th and 9th generations. The second child and son of Benj. and Comfort (Fowler) Fenn was Fowler Fellows, born March 15th, 1794. Came with his parents to Ohio in 1817, being 23 years old. His father died leaving a large family, he being the oldest at home. This affliction though great did not prevent carrying out the plans that had been made for the comfort of the family. The mother was a woman of great energy and being in possession of considerable property they soon had a frame barn and house. As the family were thus placed in good circumstances, his younger brothers could carry on the farm at home, he selected a farm his father had bought of Col Tallmadge before his death. This was Lot No. 4 in Great Lot No. 8, 138 acres. In 1818 he cleared 3 or 4 acres and built a small log cabin and went to North Milford, Conn. for a wife. He was married to Miss Esther Law Dec. 24th, 1818. Mr. Fenn on returning to Ohio went on to his farm and with his own and wifes industry, prudence and good economy and with help from his fathers estate he was able to clear his farm of timber and erect frame buildings. Mr. Fenn was a verry quiet man. A good common school education, of good judgement and decision of character. He was a man kind in sickness, ready to help at all times those that needed help. He made a public profession of religion with his wife March 10th, 1822, both being subjects of a revival in 1821. He ever after adorned his profession living the life of a Christian. His first wife died Feb. 16th, 1829. She was an excellent Christian woman. Mr. Fenn married for his second wife Miss Abigail A. Law, a sister of his first wife who still survives (1870) They were married by Rev. John Keyes March 31st, 1830. He died Oct. 21st, 1837, aged 43 years.

Alfred Fenn, the third son and child of Benj. and Comfort F. Fenn was born January 20th, 1796. He also emigrated with his parents

to Ohio. He lacked a few weeks of being 21 when he arrived in Tallmadge. He was a verry cheerful man, fond of humor, playful in company with the young. Still would never indulge in any thing low or degrading but would be of that nature that would be pleasing, making his society verry pleasant. He was Justice of the Peace and held other offices in the township. He lived on the old homestead. He married Miss Henrietta Law, a sister of his brother Fowlers wives. He was married Jan. 27th, 1825 by Rev. John Keyes. He made a public profession of religion by uniting with the Cong. Church in Tallmadge March 2nd, 1828. He died July 27th, 1833, ag 37. His wife united with the church in Tallmadge by letter July 10th, 1827. She died in the triumph of faith Aug. 5th, 1837, aged 33 years.

Sally the fourth child was born Sept. 17, 1797. She was a successful school teacher for many years. She united with the Cong. Church in Tallmadge May 7th, 1837. She resides in Akron and is unmarried.

Nathan H. the fifth child of Benjamin and Comfort F. Fenn was born Sept. 22nd, 1799. He was a young man verry much respected. He went to Nelson to enter upon studies with his brother Rev. Benjamin Fenn preparatory for a college course, was taken sick and died in Nelson Dec. 21st, 1820, aged 21 years.

The sixth child Lucinda, born March 30th, 1801. She was a verry amiable and lovely young lady, but she was after a short illness consigned to the tomb at the early age of 18 years. She died Nov. 12th, 1819.

The seventh child and fifth son Johnathan Fowler, was born August 17th, 1802. After he was 21 he had a farm alotted him belonging to the estate of his father in Tract No. 4 Tallmadge on which he resided a while clearing etc. He then went into the mercantile business not succeeding well in that he disposed of his farm and attempt retrieve his fortune he went the overland route to Calafornia in 1850 where he died. He was married to Rhoda H. Randall Nov. 9th, 1846. She died Jan. 9th, 1847, aged 28. Mr. Fenn made a public profession of religion joining the First Cong. Church in Akron.

The eighth child named Elmina was born Dec. 15th, 1805. She died Oct. 1st 1813, aged 8 years.

The ninth child was Hannah. She was born May 4th, 1808. She was adopted by her Aunt Bryan and did not come to Ohio with her parents. She took the name of Bryan, her signature being Hannah F. Bryan. She married Harvey A. Howard, a merchant doing business in Middlebury and Akron. They were married Feb. 1st, 1827. He died in 1828. She married for her second husband William M. Dodge. They were married Jan. 4th, 1833. He was a lawyer and at the time of his death which occured on the , he was probate judge of Summit Co. She resides in Akron, died Dec. 11, 1892, aged 84.

OBITUARY

Died in Tallmadge, Aug. 5, Mrs. Henrietta S. Fenn, aged 33. For a considerable length of time, she had manifestly been ripening for heaven. Four years ago she stood a widow and mourned over the remains of the companion of her youth. From that period till her death, her health was feeble and she probably anticipated an early grave. Such an anticipation, however, had not the effect to render her gloomy, nor did it lead her to neglect any of the duties of her station. She sought to train her children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. Knowing that they were soon to be left orphans in the world, her solicitude for their spiritual welfare was strong and unremitting to the last, and earnestly did entreat her friends to be faithful to them. Still she could yield them up to God, and did not find here a cord binding her to the earth too strong to be broken. Her last hours were sweet and peaceful, as we might have anticipated from the general tenor of her Christian Course. She enjoyed the presence of God and the consciousness of his favor. Her hope was clear and consistent.

Her Savior stood by her, imparting not the rapture of hope which some Christians have experienced in their dying hours; but the calmness, the patience, the stedfastness, the sweetness of hope.

The reader will find the remainder over the leaf.

The exercises of her mind during her last illness, as gathered from her conversation were such as were calculated to convey to all who beheld and heard her, an impressive recommendation of the religion of Jesus Christ.

Not a cloud seemed to intervene between her and the sun righteousness. It shed its bright beams on her to the last.

"Oh for the death of those
Who slumber in the Lord!
Oh be like theirs my last repose,
Like theirs my last reward"

Copied from the Ohio Observer 1879

The tenth Clemmence C. Born March 23rd, 1810. Married Dr. Amos Wright March 31st, 1831, resides in Tallmadge.

The eleventh child in this family was Edward M., born June 13th, 1812. Died Sept. 11th, 1813, age 1 year, 4 months.

The twelfth child of this family was a daughter who was named Elmina E. She was born July 4th, 1815. Consequently she was but two years of age when her parents moved into Ohio. She died Oct. 31st, 1828, age 13 years.

DEACON PECK FENN

Dea Fenn was a verry thrifty farmer and a verry highly respected citizen of North Milford, his native place, but having a family of children, five being sons and expecting that they would all want farms, he in company with other well to do farmers in New England deemed it best to dispose of his property and go west where land was cheap and buy farms for his sons and they settle around the new parental home. Ohio was the selected state. His brother Benjamin and family and Mr. Aaron Hine and family left their native place for Ohio destination Tallmadge in the then County of Portage.

In July 1811 they arrived. In this company came Dea Fenn and his brother Richard and Mr. Abraham Hine, a brother of Aaron Hine. These three came to see the country and had in view if they liked the country to sell out in Conn, come to Ohio with their families. They being pleased with the situation of Tallmadge they at once decided to make Tallmadge their future residence. Dea Fenn at once negotiated with Mr. Edmond Strong for his farm being Lot No. 6 in Great Lot No. 6 north of the center, many acres of improvement, orchard and frame barn. Deacon Fenn returned to Conn, sold his farm and in 1818 moved with his family to his new home in Ohio.

The three brothers bought several hundred acres of wild land of Col. Benjamin Tallmadge of Litchfield. Dea Fenns family lived in the log cabin on his farm and in the spring of 1819 commenced building the house now occupied (1870) by John C. Treat. Dea Fenn had been a verry active and efficient man in his native place and he was no less here, he was willing to do his duty and helped to build up society, was a heavy subscriber to erect the Cong. Meeting House, was ever ready to help the poor and distressed from his farm or his purse.

He died March 12th, 1824. Aged 56 years. Deacon Fenn made a profession of religion early life and joined the 2nd Church in Milford. At the time of the organization of the Church in North Milford in 1805 he transfered his connection and was one of the original members of the Cong. Church in North Milford and was one of the first Deacons. On comeing to Ohio he transfered his church relations to Tallmadge, he and his uniting with the Cong. Church in T, Feb. 28th, 1819.

Mrs. Fenn was a woman of decision of character, ruling well her

own household industry strict economy and frugality were pre-dominating characteristics of her life. Although she lived to an advanced age, her physical and mental faculties were remarkably good untill the last six months of her life when a paralytic shock rendered her partialy helpless.

For several years she had resided with her youngest daughter Mrs. F. H. Wright, visiting her children when she was disposed and also her old acquaintance and friends, passing the evening of life verry pleasantly in the society of her children and friends. Having naturally a strong constitution and the faculty of not overtaxing herself and being temperate in all things of a happy and peacable disposition and enough of this worlds goods to place her beyond want and with that unwavering trust in the promises of God. She passed from earth at the house of her son Andrew Fenn Sept. 15th, 1862, aged 93 years.

CHILDREN

- 1st, Miranda, born Nov. 3rd; 1794, died March 11th 1796
- 2nd, William Peck, born May 1st, 1796, William P. was a farmer had a common school education, a verry ambitious and energetic man industrious and untiring in his efforts to provide for his family and also being possessed of that propensity that is so prominent a feature of the inhabitants of New England to not only have a competence but to lay up something against a wet day, or in other words to get rich. With this end in view he felt that the West was the place for him. When his father thought of disposing of his farm and remove to Ohio, Wm. heartily coincided in the measure. He married Miss Susan Smith June 4th, 1818. And soon after his father left with his family with ox and horse teams his native place and began the toilsome journey across the country by way of Albany and Buffalo N.Y. to Ohio arriving in Tallmadge. William driving the ox team. He remained with his father untill the spring of 1820 when he removed onto a farm his father had given him. He had four children, Wm. Peck, born May 1819, Miranda born , married Joseph Spellman, died Sept. 17th, 1845, Benjamin born , died 1863, Susan born died in the fall of 1862. Mr. Fenn labored verry hard being on a new farm to be cleared of the timber and to be brought under cultivation and being ambitious to do as much as anyone and not waiting to be acclimated the intermittent diseases incident to a new country fastened upon and his naturally strong constitution gave way and he died April 15th, 1824, aged 28 years. His widow married John M. Steele, they had four children.
- 3rd, Miranda, born Jan. 1st, 1798. She married Mr. Anson Ashley March 10th, 1820. Has resided in Tallmadge ever since, her father moved into the town in 1818. She had the misfortune to receive a severe fall many years since making her a cripple for life. She has had a large family of children, some of which are dead. Mr. Ashley died of apoplexy July 5th, 1870, aged 75.

- 4th, Harvey, born Dec. 7th, 1799. He was a farmer, educated in common school, came into Ohio when he was 19. He married Miss Cynthia Beach, daughter of Mr. Reuben Beach, April 18th, 1822. He also began for himself a new farm which his father gave him. He improved this farm, built a frame house and barn upon it and then sold to Mr. Cyrus Pierce. And removed to Sullivan, Ashland Co., O. He was the father of three sons, Harvey Peck, Richard Kimball and Durand A. Harvey died in the army in Kentucky, R. Kimball in Calafornia. Mrs. Fenn died in Sullivan by her request buiried in Tallmadge. She died April 10th, 1861, age 56. Mr. Fenn now (1870) lives in Tennessea.
- 5th, Joseph, born March 2nd, 1802. His occupation was farming and after his fathers death, he had the farm his father lived on. He was married Sept. 6th, 1827 to Miss Nancy, daughter of John and Nancy A. Carruthers. They had three daughters, Clarinda, Mrs. James W. Upson of Tallmadge, Eliza Jane, died April 19th, 1844 and Harriet Peck, wife of wilbur F. Saunders of Montana. Mr. Fenn was a good and successful business man, a quiet peacable citizen. Making a profession of religion by uniting with the Cong Church in Tallmadge Sept. 25th, 1827, adorning his profession with a well ordered life. His death by cancer took place July 10th, 1846, aged 44 years.
- 6th, Clarinda, born April 22nd, 1804. She made a profession of religion and joined the Cong. Church March 10th, 1822. She was married to Mr. Frances H. Wright of Tallmadge, Sept. 18th, 1823. She had one child, Eliza, now the wife of Abel P. Berry of Vt. She died Oct. 19th, 1827, aged 23 years.
- 7th, Eliza, born April 12th, 1806. She married as his 2nd wife, F. H. Wright. May 21st, 1829. She has a family, Clarinda married Lewis Sperry, has one child is a widow resides with her parents. Harriet S. married James E. Baldwin, resides in Tallmadge. Francis H. Wright Jr. resides with his father on the farm, has a family. And Martha, wife of J. Park Allexander of Akron. Mrs. Wright united with the Cong. Church in T. Sept. 3rd, 1848.
- 8th, Sereno, born July 8th, 1809. He was a child of only 9 years when his parents came to Ohio. His father dying before he was 13, he in the distribution of his fathers estate received a portion of the home farm and with a part of another sub division he began to work for himself on becomeing of age, a verry prudent and industrious man, he began clearing his farm and living with his mother, he erected a small frame house on the NW diagonal in Tallmadge, the only house on that road for many years between the Center and Six Corners. He married Eliza Cruthers Sept.27th, 1832. They had two children, Anna E., married Lewis Ford of Cleveland, and Sereno, who resides in Cleveland. Mrs. Fenn died Oct. 30th, 1868, aged 59 years. Mr. Fenn after the death of his wife disposed of his farm, is living at present with his daughter in Cleveland (1870)

9th, Alpheus Andrew, born Feb. 5th, 1817. He being less than two years of age when he came to Ohio and but little more than seven years old at his fathers death. He lived with his mother, working on the farm and attending school untill he was 21. A farm was given him in the east part of the town belonging to his fathers estate. Here he began for himself clearing a few acres and put up a log house. He married Miss Anna E. Carruthers April 11th, 1838. Soon after he sold his farm in Tallmadge and went to Northfield where he resided untill 1849. He came back to Tallmadge and bought the farm owned by Henry B. Stephens and has continued to reside in Tallmadge ever since. He joined the Cong. Church in Tallmadge May 4th, 1834. He was ordained Deacon July 1st, 1855, resigned March 12, 1868. We have here an instance of three brothers marrying three sisters which is not often seen. Mr. Fenn and his wife has four children, two sons and two daughters. I would here wish to insert that Mr. Sereno Fenn joined the Cong. Church April 6th, 1834.

MR. RICHARD FENN

Mr. Fenn was by trade a hatter and carried on his trade in Milford, Conn. He was a shrewd, close calculating man, prudent, and honest, but the best sometimes fail; and he putting to much confidence in southern honesty and chivalry by sending hats to them and not getting his pay and a family growing around him induced him to change his business and also his location. Accordingly he selected Tallmadge as his future home. He with his family came into Ohio in 1818.

CHILDREN

- 1st, (Twin) Dennis, born Feb. 14th, 1803, died Nov. 16th, 1827 age 24
2nd, (twin) Wyllys, " " " " " " Nov. 19th, 1880 age 78
Wyllys is a large and successful farmer living in Tallmadge. He served an apprenticeship with Col Samuel Porter at the joiners trade. For several years he carried on the carpenter and joiner business. But he turned his attention to farming and bought the farm owned by the heirs of Fowler F. Fenn and other land adjoining making in the whole some 300 acres. He married Miss Emeline H. Root and has raised a large family of children. He united with the Cong. Church with his brother Dennis and others March 10th, 1822. He was married Dec. 10th, 1826.
- 3rd, Treat, born Dec. 10th, 1804. He also lives in Tallmadge, His father gave him a farm, the south side of the road from his own residence where he resides at the present time (1870) He also united with the Church at the same time with his brothers. He has had three wives, his first wife was Miss Harriet Bierce of Nelson, Portage County, Ohio. They were married June 4th, 1833. She had six children. She died of consumption June 30th, 1850. His 2nd wife was also from Nelson, Mrs. Rachel (Fuller) Baldwin, married Sept. 27th, 1852. She had one daughter by Mr. Fenn. She died Sept. 27th, 1857. His 3rd wife was Augusta Florilla, daughter of Dea.

David and Laura (Knowlton) Wright of Morgan, Ashtabula, Ohio. They were married Nov. 21st, 1861.

- 4th, Mabel, born Oct. 6th, 1808. She married Sydney H. Wright and resided in Tallmadge several years. United with the Cong. Church July 6th, 1845. She died in Ill. Oct. 21st, 1856 aged 48. They were married by Rev. Caleb Pitkin Oct. 7th, 1832.
- 5th, Delia, born June 23rd, 1819. She after she was about 24 years went to Oberlin to prepare herself for teaching, and became acquainted with Edward W. Andrews who she married. A devoted Christian woman resides in Oberlin (died there March 5th, 1882, aged 70.
- 6th, Sally Edwards, born June 3rd, 1815. She united with the Cong. Church May 4th, 1834. Her sister Delia joined June 28th, 1835. She married Wm. B. Ashmun. After her own mother became infirm she returned to her fathers to perform the filial duty of taking care of her aged and infirm parents, this duty with the aid of her husband and children, she most tenderly performed doing all that was necessary to make the evening of life pleasant, making a quiet home for them in their last days. After the death of her father, considering it best for her family, they sold the farm that her father had owned for fifty years and went in the spring of 1870 to Nebraska.
- 7th, Martha Platt, this was their youngest child when they came to Ohio in 1818. She was born in Milford May 22nd, 1817. She also joined the Cong. Church the same day with her sister Ashmun, May 4th, 1834. She was united in marriage with Lucius L. Strong June 13th, 1837 by Rev. J. C. Parmelee. And removed to Mayfield Cuyhoga Co., O. Came back to Tallmadge, then to Richfield and then to the town of Austinburg Ashtabula County where they now reside.
- 8th, Julia Ann, born in Tallmadge Jan. 2nd, 1820. She obtained a good education, united with the Cong. Church in her native town, July 6th, 1845. She married Rev. Elias S. Peck and lives in Wisconsin.

This closes the account of the Fenn families and well they have acted their part in the affairs of Tallmadge for the last fifty years and as their ancestry has been, may it actuate future generations to the same acts as far as maybe. Tallmadge, Aug. 15th, 1870.

C, C. Bronson

THE FAMILY RECORD OF MR. TREAT FENN

BIRTHS

Treat Fenn, born in Milford New Haven Co., Ct. Dec. 10th, 1804

Harriet Almeda Bierce, born in Cornwall, Litchfield Co., Ct.
Dec. 21st, 1808

Mrs. Rachel (Fuller) Baldwin, born in Kent, Litchfield Co., Ct.
Dec. 22nd, 1812

Augusta Florilla Wright, born in Morgan, Ashtabula Co., O. June
21st, 1814

CHILDREN

1st, Curtiss Treat, Born May 23rd, 1834
2nd, Philo Bierce, born June 25th, 1838
3rd Frederick Bierce, born May 25th, 1839
4th, Emily Augusta, born Oct. 19th, 1841
5th, Hellen Alevia, born July 17th, 1843
6th, Harriet Francis, born Oct. 12th, 1845
7th, Nelson Wallbridge, born Oct. 23rd, 1847

BY SECOND WIFE

8th, Sarah Estella, born Oct. 26th, 1853

MARRIAGES

Treat Fenn and Harriet A. Bierce married in Nelson June 4th, 1833
Treat Fenn and Mrs. Rachel (Fuller) Baldwin " Aug. 30th, 1852
Treat Fenn and Miss A. F. Wright, married in Morgan Nov. 21st, 1867

Curtis Treat Fenn and Miss Mary Hall, married Nov. 5th, 1867
Hellen A. Fenn and Lucius F. Reed, married Sept. 12th, 1871
Harriet F. Fenn and William Jenks, married April 15th, 1875

DEATHS

1st, Philo Bierce died August 12th, 1838, aged 7 months
2nd, Mrs. Harriet A. died June 30th, 1850, aged 42 years
3rd, Mrs. Rachel F. died Sept. 27th, 1857, aged 45 years

THE HOLLAND PURCHASE

The origin of this famous land speculation - a curious and interesting bit of history.

A subscriber asks us how the western part of New York State came into the possession of parties in Holland, through whom all original titles to land there have come; in other words, what is the history of what is known as "the Holland Purchase"? This involves quite a curious and historical chapter of which we give the outline.

July 4th, 1608 Samuel Champlain, the French navigator with two white attendants and a company of Canadian Indians entered the lake which bears his name, being the first white man that ever set foot upon the soil of New York.

Sept. 8th, 1608, Henry Hudson the English navigator in the employ of the Dutch East India Company discovered the Bay of New York, and three days after entered the river which has since borne his name. The land discovered by Hudson was claimed by Holland and named New Netherlands. The colony spread to the east and west the next 45 years until it came in conflict with the English settlement on the Connecticut and Swedish colonies on the Delaware. Contests arose and the latter was subjugated by the Dutch and annexed to New Netherlands. The border contests in the east continued as long as the Dutch held possession of the country, the English claiming New Netherland as part of Virginia, founded upon the prior discoveries of Cabot.

March 12th, 1664 Charles II of England granted a charter of all the lands lying between the Hudson and Delaware Rivers to his brother, the Duke of York. This included New Netherlands and a portion of the territory which had been granted to Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire, and before the year 1664 had closed by a sudden and bold movement; the country was wrested from the Dutch by military force and passed from their control. In 1664 the Duke of York sold the present territory of the state of New Jersey. It was not until 1731 that the disputed boundary with Connecticut growing out of this grant was settled. The claims of Massachusetts, arising under the same grant was not adjusted till 1736, after the close of the Revolutionary War. Then a compromise was effected which gave New York the sovereignty of the whole territory but yielded to Massachusetts ownership of the soil in that portion of the state which lies west of the meridian line passing through the 82 mile stone of the Pennsylvania boundary. This line, known as "preemption line" commences at the south east corner of Steuben County, extends along the west shore of Seneca Lake, and terminates in Sodus Bay on Lake Ontario.

In 1787, Massachusetts sold to Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham the whole tract lying west of the preemption line containing 6,000,000 acres for \$1,000,000. About two thirds of this

tract reverted to Massachusetts and was subsequently sold to Robert Morris. Morris sold about seven eighths of his purchase to a company of capitalists of Amsterdam, Holland and this tract was afterwards known as the "Holland Purchase". The Holland Land Company pursued an exceedingly liberal policy with regard to their lands. They thoroughly surveyed the whole region, built roads, mills, and by every means encouraged settlement. Their lands were sold on easy terms of payment, and it is probable that now there is but very little of this vast tract that is not held by actual owners who have secured their title from this famous company, who must have made themselves and their succession immensely rich by the operation.

For more than half of his life, Gov. Seward was the principle agent and attorney in superintending the disposal of their lands, the foreclosing of their mortgages in cases of default in payments and the other details connected with this vast property interest. And today, the little land office that holds the records of this Holland Company's doings and conducts the remnant of its business may be seen in the village of Westfield, Chautaugua County, N.Y. 45 miles west of Buffalo, being in charge as it has been since Gov. Seward relinquished it of Ex Lieut Gov. Geo. W. Patterson of New York.

To make this of historical reminiscence complete we will add that the conflicting claims which New York had with New Hampshire, also growing out of this same Duke of York grant, led to frequent violent collisions and almost Civil War, and were only settled in 1790, when the territory in dispute was erected into the State of Vermont and the State of New York was paid \$30,000.

The transcriber would add that in 1819 (when his parents moved from Conn. to Ohio) that the land office of the Holland Land Company was in the Village of Batavia, and that the tract of land known as the Holland Purchase comprised all the land in the State of New York west of the Genesee River.

Copied from the Hillsdale Standard, a paper printed in Hillsdale, Michigan. Aug. 16th, 1870 by C. C. Bronson