

HISTORY
OF
DEARBORN AND OHIO COUNTIES,
INDIANA.

293
2092

FROM THEIR EARLIEST SETTLEMENT.

CONTAINING

A HISTORY OF THE COUNTIES; THEIR CITIES, TOWNSHIPS, TOWNS, VILLAGES,
SCHOOLS, AND CHURCHES; REMINISCENCES, EXTRACTS, ETC.; LOCAL
STATISTICS; PORTRAITS OF EARLY SETTLERS AND PROMINENT
MEN; BIOGRAPHIES; PRELIMINARY CHAPTERS ON THE
HISTORY OF THE NORTH-WEST TERRITORY, THE
STATE OF INDIANA, AND THE INDIANS.

ILLUSTRATED.

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CHAPTER XX.

RANDOLPH TOWNSHIP.

BOUNDARIES AND ORGANIZATION—LAND ENTRIES—PIONEERS AND PIONEER SETTLEMENT—NORTH'S LANDING—MILLERSBURGH—MILLS, DISTILLERIES, ETC.—SCHOOLS, CHURCHES AND GRAVEYARDS.

RANDOLPH TOWNSHIP occupies a position in the eastern part of Ohio County, and comprises nearly one-half of the territory of the entire county. It is bounded on the north by Laughery Creek, which separates the counties of Dearborn and Ohio, on the east by the Ohio River, on the south by Switzerland County, and on the west by Cass and Union Townships. On the formation of Ohio County, in 1844, the county commissioners at their first session, held June 3, of that year, ordered that all of the territory of the county be embraced in one township, to be called Randolph Township. The following metes and bounds were given it: "Beginning on the Ohio River on the section line between fractional Sections 25 and 36, Town 4, Range 1 west; thence west with said line to the northwest corner of Section 32; thence south to the northwest line between Range 1 and Range 2; thence south to the line dividing Switzerland and Dearborn Counties; thence east with said line to the Ohio River; thence up said river to the place of beginning." Prior to the organization of Ohio County, this was known as Randolph Township, Dearborn County, and originally, in addition to its present territory, it included the eastern tier of sections in the township of Union, which were attached to Union, Dearborn County, in 1833. In 1845, when the boundary line between Dearborn and Ohio Counties was changed, a change was made in the metes and bounds of Randolph Township, leaving it as it is at present.

LAND ENTRIES.

The lands of the township as disposed of by the Government with the year of sale and the purchasers' names, are set forth in the following list: (Where the entire section was not disposed of at one time, the succession of dates and names indicate the years when and names to whom portions of the section were sold.)

Town 3 north, Range 1 west.

Fractional Sections 1 and 2, and Section 3, sold April 9, 1801, to Lewis Davis and Benjamin Chambers.

North half of Section 4, February 11, 1812, to David B. Close, and the rest in 1814, to David Close and John James.

Section 5, in 1813, 1814 and 1815, to William Howlett, John Payne, Martin Stewart and John Dixon.

Section 6, in 1815, to Peter White, Hugh Beatty, John Mounts, John Barricklow and Robert Espey.

Section 7, in 1814, to Hugh Espey, and in 1815, to John Barricklow and Hugh Espy.

Section 8, in 1814, to John Dairet and Robert Drake; in 1816, to Hugh Espey; in 1817, to Hugh Moore.

Section 9, and fractional Sections 10 and 11, January 25, 1802, to Henry Cadberry.

Fractional Section 15, in 1814, to P. S. Symmes, assigned to John James.

Section 17, in 1804 and 1813, to Robert Ricketts, and, in 1814, to Hugh Espey, Sr., and Stephen Stewart.

Section 18, in 1815, to John Dixon, and in 1816, to Samuel S. Scott, and Rufus Gordon, William Ross and Dillard Drake.

Section 19, in 1815, to Richard J. Hale, Jacob Goodner; in 1816, to Nathan Ricketts and Willis Bates.

Section 20, in 1815, to David Remer; in 1816, to Silas Howe and William Ross; in 1817, to Silas Howe; and, in 1827, to Calvin Mable.

Fractional Sections 21 and 22, in 1813, to Lot North.

Town 4 north, Range 1 west.

Fractional Section 10, sold April 22, 1801, to Daniel Conner, and re-sold December 2, 1806, to O. Ormsby. (See Centre Township.)

Fractional Sections 14, 15 and 16, sold July 20, 1801, to Joseph Wilkinson, and resold to Jesse Hunt, December 3, 1806.

Section 17, in 1813 and 1814, to Benjamin Miles; in 1814, to Henry Miller, and, in 1818, to R. Taylor and Thomas Burns.

Section 18, in 1813, to Michael and William Flake, and Squire Pe-teet; in 1814, to Richard Bailey; in 1815, to Jacob Smith and John Conner.

Section 19, in 1813, to John and Farrington Barricklow and James Burke; in 1816, to John Hunt and F. Barricklow.

Section 20, in 1814, to Thomas Stewart; in 1816, to James Warnock and Abijah Goodrich; in 1831, to William Higby.

Section 21, in 1814, to Cols. William L. and J. D. Miller; in 1815, to John Barricklow, and, in 1816, to Hugh Moore.

Section 22, April 7, 1807, to Payton Short.

Fractional Section 23, April 7, 1807, to Payton Short.

Sections 25 and 26, May 27, 1801, to Israel Loring.

Section 27, in 1816, to Jonathan Parks, Alex Abercrombie, William Bills, A. Dubois and Robert Duck.

Section 28, in 1814, to John H. McCollough; in 1815, to Robert Espey, James Stewart and Charles English.

Section 29, in 1816, to Ephraim Guard, Samuel Steel and James Hind; in 1830, to Isaac Dexter; in 1831, to Henry Collins; in 1833, to Elijah Lindsay.

Section 30, sold in 1813, to John and Farrington Barrieklow; in 1814, to Isaac Dexter, and in 1815, to Isaac Dexter.

Section 31, in 1814, to Peter Lonesteller, Asa Hamilton, James Buchanan and James Gibson.

Section 32, in 1814, to Frederick Waldo, Noah Babbs and James Stewart; in 1815, to Jonathan Huntington and John English.

Section 33, in 1813, to Claybourn Allen; in 1815, to Isaac Wilcot; in 1817, to Robert Elliott; in 1831, to Samuel M. Jelley.

Section 34, in 1809, to David B. Close; in 1804, to Eloranthun Kemper; in 1815, to David Close and Samuel M. Jelley.

Section 35 and fractional Section 36, April 27, 1801, to James Findlay.

Township 3, Range 2 west.

Section 1, sold in 1814, to James A. Walton; in 1817, to Robert Elliott; in 1827, to Andrew Douglass; in 1833, to David Herron, and, in 1834, to John W. Herron and Andrew Douglass.

Section 12, in 1818, to John Embree and E. Hepburn; in 1816 to James Wood; in 1830, to Hugh Bodle; in 1831, to James Boyle and Lydia Wright, and, in 1834, to James Wishard and William Gray.

Section 13, in 1814, to George Newton and Prince Athearn; in 1816, to Benjamin Dubois; in 1818, to J. Embree and E. Hepburn; in 1832, to James T. Pollock.

Section 24, in 1813, to Robert Ricketts; in 1814, to Jacob Light, John Dewitt; in 1815, to Jacob Light.

PIONEERS AND PIONEER SETTLEMENT.

A number of the original purchasers of the lands of Randolph became actual settlers, improved the lands, played their part in transforming the wilderness into the beautiful and fertile fields amid the privations and hardships of pioneer life, replaced the cabin with a substantial brick, the cumbersome log-stable with the commodious barn; gave up the sickle, the scythe and the cradle for the reaper and the mower, the "flail" for the steam-thresher, saw the wigwam of the savage give way

CHAPTER XXII.

UNION TOWNSHIP.

BOUNDARIES AND ORGANIZATION—ORIGINAL LAND PURCHASERS—EARLY SETTLEMENT—INDIAN TRADITION—MILLS, DISTILLERIES, ETC.—FIRST SCHOOLS—CHURCHES AND GRAVEYARDS—MOUNDS—MILTON—HARTFORD—MISCELLANEOUS.

UNION TOWNSHIP is bounded on the north by Laughery Creek, on the east by Randolph Township, on the south by Cass and Randolph Townships, and on the west by Pike Township. In March, 1845, after the additional territory from Dearborn had been attached to Ohio County, the commissioners of the latter county described Union Township, as "all the territory bounded by Cass Township on the south; Randolph on the east; Dearborn County on the north, and Pike Township on the west." This description would give Union Township, in addition to its present territory, Section 31, of Pike. In February, 1873, the boundary lines between Union and Pike, and between Pike and Cass, were so established as to leave Pike Township with its present territory. Before the organization of Ohio County, Union was the name of a township of Dearborn County, which originally embraced, besides the present territory of Union Township, Ohio County less Sections 24, 25 and 36, which were given it in 1833, the eastern tier of sections of Pike, and all of Cass Township.

ORIGINAL LAND PURCHASERS.

Below is set forth the original disposition of the lands of the township, with the dates when sold and names of the persons to whom sold.

Township 4, Range 2 west.

Sections 13, 21, 22 and 23, are situated partly in Dearborn County.

Section 13, was purchased in 1803, 1811 and 1814, by John Brownson in the former year, and by Peter Allen in the years last mentioned.

Portions of Section 21, were purchased in 1810, by Daniel Crume; in 1811, by Benjamin Wilson; and in 1812, by Patrick Fall and Benjamin Wilson.

Portions of Section 22, were purchased in 1808, by John James; in 1811, by William Blue; in 1812 by Henry Cloud and William Spencer, Sr.

Portions of Section 23, were purchased in 1803 by John Brownson; in 1804, by Benjamin Wilson; in 1811, by John Walker.

Portions of Section 29 (part in Dearborn County), were purchased in 1809, by Daniel Creemer; in 1811, by Robert Conaway; in 1812, by William Weathers; in 1815, by Ebenezer Hubert.

Portions of Section 24, 1811, by John and James Walker; in 1814, by Isaac Carlton and Henry Anderson; in 1816, by James Allen.

Portions of Section 25, in 1813, by John Davis; in 1815, by Joseph Oglivie per Walker.

Portions of Section 26, in 1814, by John and James Walker; in 1815, by John and James Walker; in 1817, Thomas K. Coles; in 1813, by Samuel Hanna.

Portions of Section 27, in 1812, by David Blue; in 1814, by John Walker; in 1815, by William Blue; in 1817, by David Blue.

Portions of Section 28, in 1808, by John James; in 1815, by John Walker; in 1819, by Joseph H. Coburn; in 1813, by David Hufford.

Portions of Section 32, in 1813, by Robert Conaway; in 1815, by Joseph Frakes; in 1832, by John Weathers and John Conaway; in 1835, by John W. Ray; in 1836, by Thomas Purcell and Renselaer Willey.

Portions of Section 33, in 1816, by James Conaway; in 1818, by John Glass, William Babbs, William Gibson and Otis Ellis; in 1827, by William Kittle; in 1836, by David Hufford.

Portions of Section 34, in 1814, by Ebenezer Hubert; in 1815, by James Garduer; in 1816, by Joseph Woods; in 1817, by Jacob Miller.

Portions of Section 35, in 1814, by John Espey and James Crane; in 1816, by John Walker; in 1817, by Hugh Espey.

Portions of Section 36, in 1814, by William Alexander, William Scranton, John Barrieklow and Benjamin Miles.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

The first settlements in the township were made along Laughery Creek. Those in which there is any degree of certainty in naming were made at and in the vicinity of the village of Milton. On or about Christmas, 1810, when Ebenezer Harbert landed just above the now village of Guionville, and reared his rude cabin on the north bank of Laughery Creek, there were living a few settlers along the creek both above and below, but none on the hills. Of those dwelling south of the stream in what is now this township can be traced John Weathers, where Milton now stands; below lived James Conaway, Daniel Crume and Benjamin Wilson. Just at what period these settlements were made cannot now be determined, but by reference to the above land sales it will be seen that Wilson purchased lands in the vicinity of Hartford as early as 1804, Daniel Crume further up the creek in 1808-09. John Weathers, referred to above, was a native of Virginia, but came from Kentucky to the

years of age entered into the employ of the Atlantic & Mississippi Steamship Company, with whom he continued till they closed up in bankruptcy. In 1868 he came to his father's, where he has since resided, assisting on the farm and teaching school. He has taught school every winter since 1869, and anticipates continuing in the profession. He was married, June 7, 1877, to Caroline Schweitzer, born in Cincinnati, October 6, 1850, a daughter of Henry and Christena Schweitzer, natives of Germany. They came to Ohio in 1848, and to Dearborn County, Ind., in 1859, where he died August 9, 1882, of cancer of the stomach. They had four children: Caroline, Henry, William and Emma. Mr. Assche and wife have four children: Henry, William, Louizette and Emma.

NOAH L. BABBS, of Rising Sun, and one of the oldest residents of the place, was born in Hampshire County, Va., November 13, 1794. His parents were John and Rebecca (Lane) Babbs, natives of Virginia and Maryland respectively, and of English and Irish descent. In 1803 his parents removed from Virginia to Cincinnati. Here the family resided until 1819, when they removed to the vicinity of Rising Sun and purchased forty acres of land, where the parents passed the remainder of their lives, the father dying at the remarkable age of one hundred and three years. Our subject grew to manhood on the farm of his parents, remaining until nineteen years of age. During the war of 1812 he was in New Orleans, and saw Jackson after he had won that battle which has almost immortalized him. Returning North, Mr. Babbs went to Ohio, and during the building of the Miami Canal, he worked on it as one of the bosses. Next he purchased a tract of land several miles back of the Ohio River, north of Cincinnati, and followed gardening for thirty odd years. In 1871 he again purchased property in Rising Sun, where he has since resided, living a retired life, though by proxy dealing some in real estate. Mr. Babbs first married Nancy Smith, who died one year later. He then married Kittie Ann Phares, who died in 1832, there having been born to the union, five children, viz.: Charles P., William, Emeline, John and Susan. His third wife was Amey (Tucker) Rawlson; one child was born to them—Virginia. His fourth marriage occurred in 1868, to Mrs. Catharine Hyner. Mr. Babbs is a member of the Christian Church.

ANDREW J. BARRICKLOW, of Randolph Township, was born in Ohio County in 1825. His parents, John and Mary A. (Emmerson) Barricklow, were natives of Pennsylvania and Massachusetts, respectively. His father was a son of Daniel and Judith Barricklow who was born, reared and married in Pennsylvania, and immigrated to this county about 1808 or 1809, coming *via* the Ohio River in a little float-boat. He purchased land here, some of which is still in possession of the family. He