

The First Marriage.—April 29, 1840, Hon. William Williams, now a citizen of Warsaw, was united in marriage with Miss Eliza Jane Douglas. This was the first marriage solemnized in the township.

The First Schoolhouse was built on Section 29, in 1838. Henry Bradley was the first teacher. In later years, the public-school system was inaugurated, and, under the State School Law, a building was erected in each school district of the township. Since the introduction of this system, school has been regularly maintained each year, the term varying from four to six months.

There are thirteen schools in the township, having a total enrollment of 657 pupils.

THE CHURCHES.

The United Brethren Church.—In 1844, Rev. Jesse B. Slight organized a class with four members, viz., Noah Tinkey and wife, and Lawrence Eakesty and wife.

For eleven years they met at the schoolhouse, or the homes of their members, their congregation having increased in the meantime.

In 1855, they erected a log house of worship on Section 10, in which they held meetings until 1870. In that year, they erected their present house of worship, opposite the building formerly occupied.

The present edifice is 36x46 feet, and cost \$1,500. It was dedicated, free from debt, by Bishop Weaver. The Church has continued to prosper since its organization, and now has a membership of eighty.

Rev. William Simons is the present Pastor; Gaspar Folk, Steward; August Yenner, Class-Leader.

The Sunday School has seventy-five scholars enrolled, and is in a prosperous condition. August Yenner is the present Superintendent.

"Center" United Brethren Church was organized in 1875, and, in the same year, its members erected their present house of worship on Section 13. The building is 36x46 feet, and cost \$1,500.

Rev. Henry Sharp was the first Pastor; George Brant, Class-Leader; C. K. Sensenbaur, Steward.

The church is now under the pastoral care of Rev. William Simons. C. K. Sensenbaur still serves in the capacity of Steward; William Stone is the present Class-Leader.

Atwood United Brethren Church.—In 1878, a class of ten members was organized at Atwood, by Rev. Mr. Light. Soon after organizing, they purchased the village schoolhouse, where they still conduct religious services.

They are well organized, and now have a membership of sixty-two. G. W. Douglas is Steward, and George Gaul, Class-Leader. The Church is under the pastoral care of Rev. William Simons.

The Sunday School was organized April 6, 1879, with sixty-five scholars. Levi Peddyceord is the Superintendent.

"Peace" Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in the spring of 1849, at the house of John W. Dunnuck, with twenty-five members. Rev. Cornelius Dowd was the first Pastor. In April, 1851, a small log house of worship was erected on Section 31, and was dedicated, in the following fall, by Elder John B. De Mot.

In this building the congregation continued to worship until 1860, at which time they disbanded. The house was finally removed.

The Palestine Methodist Episcopal Church.—On the 9th day of October, 1854, the members of this denomination met at the house of Rev. James A. Halford, in the village of Palestine, and organized a church. The congregation then numbered thirteen members. Rev. James A. Halford was chosen Pastor, and John Fresh, Class-Leader.

They continued to meet at the house of their minister until the following spring, at which time they renovated an old blacksmith-shop in the village, and converted it into a house of worship.

In the fall of 1856, they began the erection of a church, which they included and had partially completed in the summer of 1857, at which time they began to hold meetings within its walls. It was not fully completed, however, until 1859. In December of that year, it was dedicated by Rev. Jacob Colclazer, P. E. A. E. Meyer, William Sarber and John Fresh constituted the building committee. The Trustees of the Church at that time were A. E. Meyer, William Sarber, Elijah Baker, John Fresh and William Daugherty. The dimensions of the building are 30x40 feet.

The estimated cost was \$600, at the time of its erection.

A. E. Meyer has served as Trustee from the inception of the organization to the present time. He has served as Recording Steward since 1855, and as Steward since 1857.

J. T. Alt and wife, A. E. Meyer, J. W. Dunnuck and wife, John Romine and wife, Elizabeth Yarnel and Nancy Mosberry are the only survivors among the thirteen constituent members of the Church.

The Church now has fifty-five in full membership, and twenty-eight probationers, and is served by Rev. M. Swadener, Pastor. J. W. McKrill and A. E. Meyer are the Class-Leaders; J. W. Dunnuck, L. P.; T. D. Meyer, Exhorter; A. E. Meyer, T. M. Wiley, J. W. Dunnuck, F. M. Pearson and J. T. Alt, Trustees.

The Sunday School was organized in 1865, in the blacksmith-shop at Palestine. John Duinary was the first Superintendent. Throughout the intervening period, Sunday school has been regularly conducted during the summer, and suspended during the winter, with the exception of the past three years, since which it has been continued throughout the year. The school is in a prosperous condition, having now 140 scholars enrolled, and an annual average attendance of 100. A. E. Meyer, the present Superintendent, has served in that capacity three years. The foregoing data furnished by A. E. Meyer.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

Crystal Lake Grange, No. 741, Patrons of Husbandry, was organized at Atwood, December 16, 1873, and worked under dispensation until January 1, 1874, when it was duly chartered. The Grange organized with twenty-five chartered members, and elected the following officers: L. D. Epler, W. M.; Thomas Welch, Overseer; J. W. Griffith, Secretary. Meetings are held in the hall at Atwood, on the first and third Saturday evenings of each month.

The present number of members is thirty-two, and the Grange is in a prosperous condition.

The following named persons are the present officers: L. D. Epler, W. M.; Joseph Goble, Overseer; Joseph Miner, Treasurer; Frank Epler, Secretary. (The above data furnished by Frank Epler, Secretary.)

White Oak Grange, No. 1073, Patrons of Husbandry, was organized January 15, 1874, by V. Caillet, State Deputy, with twenty-nine charter members. The following persons were the first officers: L. D. Guy, Master; Levi Holloway, Overseer; Elisha Schooley, Lecturer; F. M. Anderson, Steward; Ellis Hayhurst, L. S.; Z. Griffith, Chaplain; B. Hayhurst, Treasurer; J. V. Vangilder, Secretary; John Hoppes, G. K.; Lauraeta Hayhurst, Caret; Catherine Thompson, Pomona; Amanda Hoppes, Flora; Elizabeth Vangilder, J. A. S. The organization was effected in Schoolhouse No. 8, where meetings were held until the fall of 1876, at which time the order

erected a hall on the bank of Tippecanoe River, two and a half miles south of Elma Green, where the meetings are now held.

The present number of members is twenty-eight.

PALESTINE.

The village of Palestine was laid out by Isham Summy April 20, 1837, and like many towns of that date, revealed for a few years, in dreams of future greatness and prosperity. Such dreams were warranted, perhaps, by the prosperity which seemed to come to it in the early days of its existence; for Palestine enjoyed an extensive trade with surrounding settlements; by no means limited to county or township lines; but this was before the days of railroads, and the bright dreams of its people were rudely dispelled when they saw their trade diverted in other channels, and was suddenly transformed to a country village, and that her anticipated grandeur must be forever only the memory of a hope.

Its population is distinguished by energy, industry and enterprise, and it is still a flourishing village. Its principal business men are as follows: E. W. Uphnger, general merchandise; A. Horn, drugs and groceries; George M. Witrick, boots and shoes; Henderson & Ward, grist-mill; J. W. Heffley and R. M. Pearson, physicians; F. M. Pearson, Postmaster.

ATWOOD.

Atwood was laid out September, 29, 1857, by Harvey Hunt and Mrs. Agnes Teegenen, who were the proprietors of the land upon which it is situated. It is a station on the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad, and is a lively, enterprising village. The amount of wheat received at Atwood for the year ending May 1, 1879, was 13,812 bushels.

It was first called "Mount Ruskus," which name it retained until December 11, 1865, when, by a petition of its citizens, it was called Atwood. Its business men are as follows: Mace M. Forrest & Co., general merchandise; J. A. Rowenshine, druggist and Postmaster; Wray & Lucas, Chandler; D. S. Welch, telegraph operator and agent P.; Ft. W. & C. R. R.; George Knighart, proprietor "Atwood House."

The Post Office was established at Atwood in 1864, and Ira Hovey appointed Postmaster. He was succeeded by L. H. Shultz, Isaac Gerard, L. D. Green, John Hayes and James Smith, respectively.

J. A. Rowenshine was appointed November 7, 1878, and still holds the position.

Oak Ridge Post Office was established in 1877, and John Johnson appointed Postmaster. He still serves in that capacity.

ETNA TOWNSHIP.

Etna Township is composed of the east half of Town 24 north, Range 5 east of the Second Principal Meridian, and has an area of 13,440 acres. It is bounded on the north by Scott Township, east by Prairie and Harrison Townships, west by Marshall County. Its southern boundary is formed by the Tippecanoe River. In the vicinity of this stream, the land is characterized by hills; but in other portions of the township it is quite level, with some marshy localities in the eastern and central parts. The general character of the soil is good, and the farms very productive. Camp Creek rises in the northwest part of the township, and joins the Tippecanoe River at a point about two miles south of Etna Green.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

In 1843, Robert Reed, Solomon Klingerman and Charles Rockhill came to this township and erected cabins near the present site of Etna Green, where they were joined soon after by George Burg, William Bowman and Abraham Bowman.

The First House was erected by Robert Reed, on Section 34, soon after his arrival in the township, and each new settler was thereafter assisted in the building of his cabin by his neighbors already established. A great amount of labor was involved in the preparation of these lands for cultivation, as the township was covered by a heavy growth of timber; but our settlers knew what awaited them, and did not shrink from the task, and their determined efforts soon removed the forests and replaced them by productive farms.

The settlement of Etna Township was not begun until many of its neighboring townships had long been settled and organized; but it possesses many natural advantages, and compares favorably with other portions of the county.

An Incident.—In the summer of 1845, a wind-storm prevailed during the night, and, in its fury, blew a tree across the cabin of Solomon Klingerman, completely wrecking the cabin, and pinning Mr. Klingerman immovably in his bed. His wife escaped uninjured, and ran to the cabin of Robert Reed for assistance. Mr. Reed returned with her and chopped away the tree, releasing the prisoner, who was found to be injured but slightly.

The First Death was that of Mrs. Thomas Hayhurst, who was the first person buried in the Etna Green Cemetery.

The First School was built in the village of Etna Green in 1854, and was taught by Miss Sthalard. There are now five schools in the township, having a total enrollment of 285 pupils.

THE CHURCHES.

The Christian Church was organized at Etna Green, February 10, 1866. Rev. A. J. Clark was the first Pastor; William Bowman, Elisha Schooley, Stephen Thomas and James H. Porter, Trustees. Their house of worship is situated in the village of Etna Green, where services are regularly conducted.

The United Brethren also have an organization and church edifice in the village.

SECRET SOCIETIES.

Tabite Lodge, No. 268, I. O. F., was organized at Etna Green, October 25, 1866, by D. D. G. M. Walter Scott, of Warsaw, assisted by members of Kossisko Lodge, No. 62. The charter members were as follows: Alva J. Clark, Aaron Keesberry, M. T. Davis, J. W. Davis, John Huber, G. W. Baker and Jonas E. Thomas. M. J. Coons was received by initiation on the night of organization. The first officers were as follows: John Huber, N. G.; John W. Davis, V. G.; George W. Baker, Secretary; Aaron Keesberry, Treasurer.

November 21, 1866, they were granted a charter by the Grand Lodge of the State of Indiana. The members formed a joint-stock company, and erected a building for a lodge-room 27x56 feet.

Since their organization many new names have been added to their list of members, but of this number some have removed to other localities, in consequence of which the membership has been reduced to thirty-five. John Huber and M. J. Coons are the only charter members who still retain their membership in the lodge. The present officers are: John Johnson, N. G.; John W. Hershner, V. G.; B. F. Hamlin, Secretary; James Watson, Permanent Secretary; John Huber, Treasurer; M. J. Coons, D. D. G. M. [The foregoing was furnished by M. J. Coons, Esq.]

THE VILLAGE OF ETNA GREEN.

Etna Green, a station on the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railroad, was laid out in 1853 by David Carr and Levi Keeler. The first school was held on the 4th of July, of that year.

The First Store was kept by Levi Keeler, who built the first store-room in the village.

The First Mill was built by David Carr, in 1852, on the present site of the village.

The Post Office was established Postmaster.

The Keeler Election was held at Etna Green in 1853, and Levi Keeler organized Election officers: Joel Laffel, Justice of the Peace, and Samuel B. Gay, Constable.

The First Township Election was held at Etna Green in 1853, and resulted in the choice of the following officers: Joel Laffel, Justice of the Peace, and Samuel B. Gay, Constable. Its merchants were, and Samuel B. Gay, Constable.

Etna Green is a prosperous village and is improving. Its merchants and tradesmen at present are as follows: M. J. Coons, physician and dealer in drugs, etc.; D. W. Hamlin & Co., general merchandise; J. K. Hershner, dry goods, groceries and notions; J. C. Jordan, drugs; Miss Adda Martin, milliner; Thomas Shenneloff, boots and shoes; Thomas A. Smalls, hardware; Thomas Shenneloff, boots and shoes; "Friendship House," milliner; Thomas Shenneloff, boots and shoes; Henry Cole, restauranter; B. F. Wray, groceries, etc.; Abram Bowman, proprietor "Friendship House;" William Bowman, proprietor The following are the resident physicians: J. Hamlin, dealer in lumber. The following are the resident physicians: J. N. Holloway, A. B. Sturguy and M. J. Coons; S. R. Coons and John Huber, Justices of the Peace; W. J. Lightcap, harness manufacturer; Henry Hettinger, boot and shoe manufacturer. Fred A. Atwood and Bowman & McCrum, blacksmiths and wagon manufacturers.

PRAIRIE TOWNSHIP.

Prairie Township is designated as Town 33 north, Range 5 east of the Third Principal Meridian. It is bounded on the north by Jefferson, the Third Principal Meridian, on the east by Etna, and has an area of 36,640 acres, or 23,040 acres, in which is comprised about one-half of Big Turkey Creek Prairie. This is very fertile land, and was settled early than the timbered regions of the township.

The soil is very productive throughout, and the farms fine. Prairie Township was organized March 8, 1838.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.

John Powell was the first white settler in this township; came with his family from Elkhart County, Ind., March 31, 1833, locating his cabin on Section 21, where he continued to reside until his decease. (See biography).

James H. Bishop was the second white settler in the township. He located with his family, on Section 1, April 3, 1833. He proceeded at once to erect a cabin, and, shortly after, planted a small amount of corn. He still survives, and is yet a resident of the township. In the summer of 1833, Jacob Smith erected his cabin on Section 13, and subsequently entered 160 acres on Section 14, where he and his wife still reside. Later in the same year, James Garvin came to the township, and settled on Section 25, where he still resides.

Samuel D. Hall came to the township in 1835, and was prominent among the early settlers. He was the second Justice of the Peace in the township, and in 1852, was elected to the Senate of the State of Indiana, from the district of which this county forms a part.

Prior to the arrival of the families heretofore enumerated, the Government caused a ten-acre tract of land to be fenced and prepared for cultivation in the hope of inducing the Indians to adopt a profitable occupation, and engage in farming; but after the sod had been broken, and all prepared to their hand, they refused to take the trouble of planting the corn, whereupon Gen. Tlyton, agent for the tribe, caused it to be planted and cultivated for them at Government expense. It is not known that they refused it after it had been harvested and tendered to them.

The First Blacksmith-Shop.—The mechanical art of blacksmithing was first introduced in the township in 1836, when William Bowman erected his forge at Stony Point. He was an industrious man, and, in addition to working at his trade, cleared a farm, and took an active part in the improvement of the township.

The First Physician.—Dr. Harper came to the township in 1835, and for several years thereafter was engaged in ministering to the health of its citizens.

Dr. Edward Parks located at Galveston, in 1846, and practiced his profession about four years.

The First Mill in the township was the saw-mill erected on Section 27, by Hughes & Baker, in 1855.

The First Schoolhouse was a rude log structure, erected on Section 10, in 1836. Mr. Moore was the first teacher. It was supported by the residents of the township, by contribution, or "subscription."

Among its pupils were some who have since become prominent residents in the township, and whose entire school-life is comprised in the short period spent within its walls.

Among the survivors from its list of pupils are Hiram Hall, Mrs. Malinda Parks and Clinton Powell.

Since the introduction of free schools, there have been ten schoolhouses erected in the township, and a marked improvement is manifest in the system of education, with a corresponding effect upon the general intelligence of the community.

The total number of pupils in the township is 439.

The Graded School at Atwood.—In that portion of the village of Atwood which lies in this township, a school-building was erected in 1873, at a cost of \$1,575, in which a graded school was inaugurated in the same year. Henry Graham was chosen Principal, and Teacher of the Higher Department, and Miss Lizette Reed, Teacher of the Primary.

THE CHURCHES.

The Atwood Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1866, under the preaching of Rev. E. P. Church, with twenty members, and in the second year after organization erected a frame house of worship in Atwood, 36x56 feet, at a cost of \$2,000. The church was built under the pastoral administration of Rev. Charles W. Shackelford, and has continued to prosper since its foundation. The present number of members is sixty-two. Rev. M. Swadener is the present Pastor.

The Sunday School was organized in 1868, with forty scholars. L. Lucas are now serving the school in that capacity. It is in a prosperous condition, having seventy-five scholars enrolled at present.

In 1840, a society was organized in the western part of the township, under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal denomination, and was attached to the Leesburg circuit. This was undoubtedly the first religious organization in the township.

In 1842, they built a hewed log house of worship, which was destroyed by fire a few months later. Soon after its destruction, the congregation erected on Section 17 a frame house, 25x36 feet, in which they conducted