

WARRENSVILLE

Warrensville Township History from History of Cuyahoga County, Ohio; Part Third: The Townships, compiled by Crisfield Johnson, 1879.

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WARRENSVILLE

Transcribed by Laura Hine

Boundaries, Soil etc. — Attempt at Settlement — Prevented by an Accident -Daniel Warren — Naming the Township — First Death and Birth — James Prentiss — Asa Stiles — Jacob Hussell — Peleg Brown — Benjamin Sharp - Josiah Abbott — Enoch Gleason — Jedediah Hubbell — Ansel Young — J. E. Adams — Householders in 1829 — Civil Organization First Officers — List of Officers — Items from Township Book — Town Hall — Roads and Railroads — Randall - Warrensville Center — Manufactures — Public Schools — The United Society of Believers — Its Origin - Names of Early Members — Present Situation - Protestant Methodist Church — Disciple Church - The Free Church — The Methodist Episcopal Church.

This township is situated southeast from Cleveland, and was designated in the survey of the Western Reserve as township seven in range eleven. It is bounded on the north by the townships of East Cleveland and Euclid; on the east by Orange; on the south by Bedford, and on the west by Newburg and East Cleveland. The surface is level, and the entire area may be cultivated. It was originally covered with a fine growth of timber, but the greater part has been removed and the township has been cut up into small farms, but few exceeding eighty acres in extent. The soil varies from a stiff clay to a light loam, and is generally productive. In some localities its fertility is increased by artificial drainage, but usually the country is sufficiently undulating to carry off the surface water. The streams are but small brooks, and the water power is very limited.

PIONEER SETTLERS.

The first attempt to settle the township was made in June, 1807, by Horace Burroughs, Rudolph Cattern, Jacob Cattern and another whose name is not remembered. They came with the intention of locating near the center. While on their way thither, they treed a bear which they determined to kill. Having chopped the tree nearly off, they left Jacob Cattern to deliver the finishing blows while they went in the direction in which it would fall so that they could kill the bear when the tree should reach the ground. The tree fell and the bear was killed. They then called Jacob, but received no response, and on running to the butt of the tree they found him lying there, dead. He had been killed by a limb struck off from a neighboring tree. This sad accident caused the comrades of the deceased to return home and abandon the enterprise.

The first actual settlement was made by Daniel Warren. He came from New Hampshire to Painesville in the fall of 1808. He was very poor, his household effects consisting of only the most common articles. A barrel set on end with the end-board of the wagon laid on top served as a table. Nearly all the cooking and baking was done in a five-quart iron kettle. In the fall of 1809 he removed to Newburg, and soon after began building a cabin in Warrensville, two and a half miles away. It was finished without the use of a nail. To this he moved his family on the 4th day of January, 1810, in the following manner, as related by Mr. Warren himself:

"I procured a horse on which Mrs. Warren, with her babe, about three weeks old, rode; my two-year-old boy I carried on my back, and my neighbor Prentiss carried our few 'traps' in an ox-team; and in this way we arrived safe, two and a half miles from any other house. Mrs. Warren remarked: 'We left New Hampshire to go into the wilderness, and I guess we have made it out now.' The first run of sledding after this, our friends from Newburg and Cleveland (everybody was a friend in those days) came out to the number of fifty to give us a housewarming, and although they crowded the cabin, a jollier set never graced a palace. Inasmuch as Mrs. Warren was the first woman in the township, the company gave her the privilege of naming it, and she proposed Warrensville, which was adopted by acclamation. It was past midnight when the party started to return home, after having spent a most enjoyable evening."

Mrs. Warren was a true pioneer woman. She would often remain alone several days with her young family while her husband was away following his trade as a brickmaker, and once, when returning from Newburg, was followed by a pack of howling wolves, from which she had a narrow escape. Bears, too, sometimes came quite near the cabin, but Mrs. Warren was never much alarmed even by such unpleasant neighbors. She resided in the township until her death, October, 1869. Daniel Warren died in 1862.

The infant child spoken of died in 1811, this being the first death in the township. In their family, also, occurred the first birth in Warrensville, that of a son born December 26, 1812, who was named William H. Warren, and who yet resides on lot fifty-three near the place of his birth. The other sons of Daniel Warren were named Hiram V., Moses N., James M. and Othello. The daughters were Paulina and Julia O. In 1815, Moses Warren, the father of Daniel, came to live in the township, settling on lot fifty-four. His sons, besides Daniel, were William and Moses. The latter is yet a resident of East Cleveland.

James Prentiss, a Revolutionary soldier, and the father-in-law of Daniel Warren, settled on lot thirty-two sometime after 1810, residing there until his death in 1817. A daughter (Betsey) died in 1813, this being the first death of an adult in the township. He had sons named Robert, James, Samuel M. and Cyrus. The latter removed to Ravenna, where he became the first president of the Cleveland and Pittsburg Railroad.

Asa Stiles came to the Warren neighborhood from New York about 1812. He had three sons named Amos, Hiram and Wilbur. About the same time Jacob Russell, also a New Yorker, settled on lot twenty-three, where he died in 1824, aged seventy-five years. He had a large family, the sons being Ralph, Rodney, Elijah, Elisha and Return. Almost all of the family became Shakers, among whom some of them yet reside. A little later Peleg Brown settled on lot sixty-three, where he lived until his removal to Indiana in 1837. About the same time Fred. G. Williams became a resident of lot forty-one, where he lived until he joined the Mormons and moved with them to the West.

Benjamin Thorp came about 1813 and settled on lot sixty-two. In 1838, he moved to Michigan. His brother-in-law, William Sichel, settled on the same lot about the same time, where he followed his trade as a shoemaker until his death, about 1836.

On lot fifty-four Josiah Abbott lived before 1816 until his removal to Missouri several years later; Abraham S. Honey and Chester Risley cast their fortunes in the same locality about 1815, and becoming interested in the Shaker movement, joined the North Union Community. About the same time, Caleb Baldwin settled on lot forty-eight, where he lived until he was led off by the Mormons. Somewhat later came Enoch Gleason, from Berkshire, Massachusetts, and located on lot sixty-seven. He had seven sons named Milo, Ariel, Ephraim, Almon, Enoch, Perry and Loren. The Baldwins and the Gleasons were the only families that lived east of the center before 1820.

Jedediah Hubbell came in 1815, or earlier, and made slight improvements on lot seventy-one. He moved away after a few years, but in 1822 returned, and was a citizen of the township many years. He had a large family, all but one being now dead. Ansel Young was an early settler on lot forty-two; Gabriel Culver on lot eighty-three; Reuben and Beckwith Cook, on lot seventy-four; Aruna R. Baldwin on lot thirteen; Moses Higby on lot one hundred and five; and Nehemiah Hand on lot twenty-five. Most of these did not remain long in the township, but removed to points farther west.

In 1819, John and Luther R. Prentiss came from New Hampshire with a one-horse team, the journey occupying twenty-eight days. John settled on lot thirty-eight, but in 1834 removed from the township. Luther R., when he began life for himself on lot sixty-three, had nothing (aside from one outfit of wearing apparel,) but an extra pair of shoes and a razor. He persevered, however, until he became the owner of seventy acres of land. He is yet a resident of the township, living near the center. Of a family of six children, three remain in Warrensville.

Before 1819 came James Johnson, Salmon Buell, David Benjamin, Moor Bell and Abel Shepard. Bazaleel and Warren Thorp came after 1820 and settled in the eastern part of the township, where members of the family yet reside. About 1826, Col. John E. Adams settled on lot fifty-one, on the Stark Edwards place, where he built the first and only stone house in the township.

In 1829, the householders of Warrensville were J. E. Adams, Wm. Addison, Peleg Brown, Gabriel Culver, Sylvester Carber, David Benjamin, Jedediah Hubbell, Appleton Collister, James Johnson, Orrin J. Hubbell, Thomas Kneale, Asa Stiles, Abel Shepard, Daniel S. Tyler, Benj. Thorp, Daniel Warren, Moses Wslvren, Moses Warren, Jr., Wm. Kelley, Isaac Cooper, Return Russell, Salmon Buell, Benjamin Sawyer, Elisha Russell, Andrew Barber, John Woodruff, Ralph Russell, Moor Bell, Enoch Gleason, Ebenezer Russell, Beckwith Cook, Ephraim Gleason, N. C. Hains, Nehemiah Hand, James Lee, Daniel Pillsbury, Job Hand, Thomas Radcliffe, Lyman Wight, Oliver Ransom, Caleb Baldwin, E. L. Burnett, Joseph Clyne, Nathan Goodspeed, Ansel Jenny, Wm. Fairchild, Dayton Thorp, Isaac Lassler, Jefferson Wallace, Bazaleel Thorp, Andrew Wilson, Wm. Watterson, Warner Thorp, Thomas Collister, John Kelly, Wm. Cain, Thomas Cain, George Kent, Wm. Kerruish and probably a few others. After this period the immigration was so great that no further account can be given of individual settlers.

CIVIL ORGANIZATION.

Agreeably to an order of the court of common pleas of Cuyahoga County, the legal voters of the township of Warrensville assembled at the house of Josiah Abbott, November 7, 1816, to elect officers to serve until the annual election, in April, 1817. Daniel Warren was elected chairman, and James Prentiss, Peleg Brown and Wm. Sickel were chosen judges of election. The following officers were then elected: James Prentiss, Peleg Brown, Wm. Sickel, trustees; P. G. Williams, clerk; Josiah Abbott, treasurer;

Robert Prentiss, constable; Moses Warren, Robert Prentiss, poor masters; Benjamin Thorp, Abraham S. Honey, fence viewers.

Daniel Warren was elected justice of the peace and received his commission January 6, 1817. Besides the above named the voters at this election were James Johnson and Humphrey Nichols—thirteen in all. Since 1816 the principal officers have been the following:

1817. Trustees, James Prentiss, Peleg Brown, Wm. Sickel; clerk, F. G. Williams; treasurer, Caleb Baldwin.

1818. Trustees, Gabriel Culver, Daniel R. Smith, Robert Prentiss; clerk, F. G. Williams; treasurer, Caleb Baldwin.

1819. Trustees, Ralph Russell, Daniel R. Smith, Caleb Baldwin; clerk, Ansel Young; treasurer, Daniel R. Smith.

1820. Trustees, Caleb Litch, Asa Stiles, Caleb Alvord; clerk, Ansel Young; treasurer, Edmund Mollet.

1821. Trustees, Josiah Abbott, David Benjamin, Enoch Gleason; clerk, Ansel Young; treasurer, Chester Risley.

1822. Trustees, Robert Prentiss, Gabriel Culver, Solomon Buel; clerk, F. G. Williams; treasurer, Beckwith Cook.

1823. Trustees, Robert Prentiss, Enoch Gleason, David Benjamin; clerk, Martin Clark; treasurer, John Prentiss.

1824. Trustees, Jedediah Hubbell, John Prentiss, Milo Gleason; clerk, Almon Kingsbury; treasurer, Salmon Buel.

1825. Trustees, Orrin J. Hubbell, Caleb Baldwin, Milo Gleason; clerk, P. L. Brown; treasurer, Sylvester Carber.

1826. Trustees, Orrin J. Hubbell, Caleb Baldwin, Moses Warren; clerk, P. L. Brown; treasurer, Enoch Gleason.

1827. Trustees, Enoch Gleason, Daniel Warren, Asa Stiles; clerk, Orrin J. Hubbell; treasurer, Peleg Brown.

1828. Trustees, Enoch Gleason, Daniel Warren, Beckwith Cook; clerk, Onin J. Hubbell; treasurer, Asa Stiles.

1829. Trustees, Enoch Gleason, Nathaniel Goodspeed, David Benjamin; clerk, Orrin J. Hubbell; treasurer, Daniel Pillsbury.

1830. Trustees, Enoch Gleason, Gabriel Culver, Andrew Wilson; clerk, Orrin J. Hubbell; treasurer, Moses Warren.

1831. Trustees, Enoch Gleason, Jedediah Hubbell, Horace Hamilton; clerk, Orrin J. Hubbell; treasurer, Moses Warren.

1832. Trustees, Milo Gleason, John Woodruff, Horace Hamilton; clerk, Orrin J. Hubbell; treasurer, Moses Warren.

1833. Trustees, Orrin J. Hubbell, Moses Warren, Jr., Samuel M. Prentiss; clerk, Luther R. Prentiss; treasurer, Milo Gleason.

1834. Trustees, Gabriel Culver, Bazaleel Thorp, Solyman Hubbell; clerk, Luther R. Prentiss; treasurer, Orrin J. Hubbell.

1835. Trustees, Milo Gleason, Bezaleel Thorp, Nathaniel Lyon; clerk Wm. H. Cole; treasurer, Asa Upson.

1836. Trustees, Luther R. Prentiss, Elijah W. Bronson. Frederick Sillsby; clerk, Parker Boynton; treasurer, Asa Upson.

1837. Trustees, Amos Birchard, Milo Gleason, Moses Warren; clerk, Orrin J. Hubbell; treasurer, Wm. H. Cole.

1838. Warren Thorp, Milo Gleason, Andrew Wilson; clerk, Orrin J. Hubbell; treasurer, Wm. H. Cole,

1839. Trustees, Warren Thorp, Asa Upson, Amos Birchard; clerk, Milo Gleason, treasurer, Wm. H. Cole.

1840. Moses Warren, Jr., Andrew Wilson, John Q. Proper- clerk Luther R. Prentiss; Elijah W. Bronson.

1841. Trustees, Moses Warren, Jr., Everett Holley, John G. Proper; clerk, Luther R. Prentiss; treasurer, David Birchard.

1842. Trustees, Erastus Smith, Oliver Ranson, Pliny S. Conkey; clerk, Milo Gleason; treasurer, Amos Birchard.

1843. Trustees, Linus Clark, Albert Kingsbury, Pliny S. Conkey; clerk, Milo Gleason; treasurer, Truman Eggleston.

1844. Trustees, Otis Lyon, Russell Frizzell, Henry Wetherby; clerk, Albert Kingsbury; treasurer, Truman Eggleston.

1845. Trustees, Thomas Cain, John Hewett, Russell Frizzell; clerk, Luther R. Prentiss; treasurer, Wm. H. Cole.

1846. Trustees, Thomas Cain, John Hewitt, James Clapp; clerk, Luther R. Prentiss; treasurer, Wm. H. Cole.

1847. Trustees, Linus Clark, John Hewitt, James Clapp; clerk, Luther R. Prentiss; treasurer, Wm. H. Warren.

1848. Trustees, Nathan Lyon, Henry Gleason, James Clapp; clerk, Wm. H. Warren; treasurer, Oliver Ranson.

1849. Trustees, Nathan Lyon, Henry Gleason, Wm. Bowler; clerk, Wm. H. Cole; treasurer, Oliver Ranson.

1850. Trustees, Henry Wetherby, Russell Frizzell, James Clapp; clerk, Wm. H. Cole; treasurer, Oliver Ranson.

1851. Trustees, Linus Clark, Russell Frizzell, Moses Warren, Jr.; clerk, Wm. H. Warren; treasurer, Asa Upson.

1852. Trustees, Linus Clark, Russell Frizzell, John T. Radcliff; clerk, Wm. H. Warren; treasurer, Asa Upson.

1853. Trustees, Asahel Lewis, Russell Frizzell, John T. Radcliff; clerk, Wm. H. Warren; treasurer, Hart Taylor.

1854. Trustees, Moses Warren, Wm. H. Cole, John T. Radcliff; clerk, Luther R. Prentiss; treasurer, Hart Taylor.

1855. Trustees, Russell Frizzell, Andrew Wilson, Henry Gleason; clerk, Luther R. Prentiss; treasurer, Hart Taylor.

1856. Trustees, Russell Frizzell, Andrew Wilson, Henry Gleason; clerk, Linus Clark; treasurer, Hart Taylor.

1857. Trustees, Gad E. Johnson, Henry Wetherby, Everett Holley; clerk, W. S. Cannon; treasurer, Milo Gleason.

1858. Trustees, Gad E. Johnson, Moses Warren, Everett Holley; clerk, Solyman Hubbell; treasurer, Hart Taylor.

1859. Trustees, James K. Quayle, Andrew Wilson, Asahel Lewis; clerk, Solyman Hubbell; treasurer, Hart Taylor.

1860. Trustees, James K. Quayle, Moses Warren, H. N. Clark; clerk, Milo Gleason; treasurer, Han Taylor.

1861. Trustees, James Clapp, Moses Warren, H. Wetherby; clerk, E. Holley; treasurer, J. T. Radcliff.

1862. Trustees, B. F. Eddy, Robert Smith, H. Wetherby; clerk, Wm. H. Warren; John M. Burke.

1863. Trustees, Otis Farrar, Robert Smith, James K. Quayle; clerk, Wm. H. Warren; treasurer, J. T. Radcliff.

1864. Trustees, Otis Farrar, John Radcliff, Jr., James K. Quayle; clerk, Wm. Taylor; treasurer, J. T. Radcliff.

1865. Trustees, John Radcliff, Jr., Otis Farrar, A. S. Kingsbury; clerk, J. M. Burke; treasurer, O. B. Judd;

1866. Trustees, John Radcliff, Jr., Robert Drake, H. N. Clark; clerk, Hammond Clapp; treasurer, O. B. Judd.

1867. Trustees, John Radcliff, Jr., Wm. H. Warren, D. L. Wightman; clerk, Edwin Taylor; treasurer, O. B. Judd;

1868. Trustees, J. P. Thorp, Wm. H. Warren, John Radcliff, Jr.; clerk, W. W. Blair; treasurer, G. E. Johnson.

1869. Trustees, J. P. Thorp, Wm. H. Warren, John Radcliff, Jr.; treasurer, W. W. Blair; treasurer, G. E. Johnson.

1870. Trustees, L. R. Prentiss, John Caley, G. W. Harland; clerk, W. W. Blair; treasurer, Milo Gleason.

1871. Trustees, Elermie Earle, T. Nelson, G. W. Harland; clerk, W. W. Blair; treasurer, Milo Gleason.

1872. Trustees, Elermie Earle, T. Nelson, G. W. Harland; clerk, W. W. Blair; treasurer, Milo Gleason.
1873. Trustees, A. S. Cannon, J. Leppert, Jr., R. Walkden; clerk, W. W. Blair; treasurer, D. P. Badger.
1874. Treasurer, A. S. Cannon, E. Earle, R. Walkden; clerk, W. W. Blair; treasurer, D. P. Badger.
1875. Trustees, Thomas Harland, E. Earle, A. J. Conkey; clerk, W. W. Blair; treasurer, John Shirringer.
1876. Trustees, A. S. Cannon, Robert Walkden, A. J. Conkey; clerk, W. W. Smith; treasurer, John Shirringer.
1877. Trustees, John C. Teare, John Radcliff, Jr., W. W. Smith; clerk, H. V. Hammond; treasurer, D. Nowack.
1878. Trustees, John O. Teare, John Caley, W. W. Smith; clerk, H. V. Hammond; treasurer, David Wade.
1879. Trustees, Sebastian Fieg, John Caley, James Smith; clerk, H. V. Hammond; Treasurer, David Wade.

The justices of the peace in 1879 were William S. Corlett and Wm. H. Sanders. At the spring election in 1879 the voters numbered two hundred and sixty-six.

In 1828 the township gave John Adams thirty-two votes for President of the United States, and Andrew Jackson fifteen votes for the same office.

The township owns a fine brick hall at the center, and several cemeteries, conveniently located in the most populous neighborhoods. In 1874, a large and substantial vault for burial purposes was constructed at the expense of the township, a little north of Warrensville Center.

ROADS AND RAILROADS.

In 1817 the township was divided into four road districts, with the following supervisors: Moses Warren, Robert Prentiss, Benjamin Thorp and Syrenus Burnett. About this time the first road (the one running through the center east and west) was partially opened, and other roads underbrushed. Sometime about 1850, the former was graded and planked, but the company allowed it to go down after the first planks had decayed. It was used as a public road until 1876, when the Cleveland and Warrensville plank road company put down five miles of planks, from the city limits to a point three-fourths of a mile east of the center. The road running from the center south was also formerly planked, as well as the road from Randall, northwest to Newburg; but they have long since been used as common highways. Most of the public roads have been well graded, and are generally in a fair condition. In 1879, the supervisors were Henry Lyon, Edward Cacher, Charles Brathlott, George Leigh, John Deitch, Herbert Conkey, Peter Fehr, William Cowley, James Radcliff, Frederick Schnedker, Robert Trendall, Edward Moore, Frank A'gier, Frederick Fehr and Robert Walkden.

The Cleveland and Mahoning and the Atlantic and Great Western railroads pass through the southwestern part of the township. They use one road bed but have tracks of different, gauges.

RANDALL STATION.

A part of the road forms a heavy grade and the Randall station, in consequence, is half a mile east of that hamlet, and just over the Bedford township line. There are but a few buildings at the station and only about twenty houses at the hamlet of Randall. The point was first known as Plank Road Station, but in 1868 a post office was established here which was named after Alexander W. Randall, at that time postmaster-general, and the locality took the same appellation. Nelson Beckwith was the first postmaster, but in 1870 he was succeeded by Mr. Charles Grossmeyer, who yet holds the office. It has a daily mail.

About 1848, George Lathrop put up a tavern at this place which became widely known at the Plank Road House. He was succeeded by Otis Farrar and others, the hotel since 1873 having been kept by Charles Grossmeyer. A second public house was here put up by Charles Nickerson, which was called the "Blue Tavern," and is still carried on. A few goods have also been sold at these places.

WARRENSVILLE CENTER.

This was formerly a place of more importance than at present. It contains a Methodist church, the town hall, a fine school building, and eight or ten houses. About 1844 Dwyer Sherman put up the present tavern, which has been kept by Nickerson, Teed, Kingsbury, McKee, Birchard and many others. Another hotel directly opposite was destroyed by fire. One and a half miles west on the plank road a fine country hotel was opened in October, 1877, by A. A. Gillette and is yet conducted by him.

Parker Boynton had the first store in the place, selling his stand to E. W. Branson. Birchard & Brewer, John M. Burke, Wm. H. Warren and others have also been in trade there. At present D. Nowack has a small store and is postmaster of an office which has a tri-weekly mail from Chagrin Falls. Milo Gleason was the first postmaster, keeping the office at his residence. His successors are Amos Birchard, John McKee, Chester Button, John M. Burke, W. H. Warren, Edwin Taylor, and the present incumbent.

THE MANUFACTURING INTERESTS of the township have been few and limited to the common kinds. Many years ago, a steam sawmill was put up a little west of the center by Wm. R. Truesdell, which was subsequently moved to its present site where it is operated by T. J. Radcliff. It is also supplied with a run of stones for grinding feed and has machinery for making cider. On Mill Brook, two sawmills were formerly operated by men respectively named Palmer and Flick. To Palmer's mill steam power was subsequently supplied but both establishments have long since been discontinued.

The first sawmill in the township was on Shaker Brook and was put up by Ezra Smith, about 1830, or later. A gristmill was put in operation at a subsequent period, and in 1829 the Shakers built a new gristmill, having two overshot wheels and two runs of stone. In a few years they also had a linseed oil mill. A better sawmill was built by them in 1836, and sometime after 1850 they erected a good brick building for a woolen factory, which was operated until about ten years ago. The society also had an establishment for the manufacture of wooden ware, a tannery and other small works; but with the exception of their mills and broom factories no manufacturing is at present carried on by it. The principal industry of the Shakers as well as of the people of the township are the ordinary agricultural pursuits; but lately a number of small vineyards have been planted, and some attention is paid to small fruit culture.

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The first schoolhouse in the township was put up on the site of Gillette's hotel about 1815. It was built of rough, round logs, with a stick chimney backed with stones and capable of burning logs from four to eight feet long. William Addison was the first teacher; and other early teachers were Ansel Young and Aziel Aldrich. The pupils were from the Russell, Honey, Warren and Prentiss families.

In 1830, there were four districts in the township; at present there are eight, each receiving an equal portion of the funds raised for school purposes. In 1878, this amounted to \$3,779.64, the greater part of

which was paid for tuition. In 1875, two hundred and thirty-four male and two hundred and twenty-one female persons of school age were reported in the township, of which nine were colored. Warrensville has an excellent class of schoolhouses, of shapely proportions and built of brick. The one at the center is two stories high and was completed in 1878, at a cost of \$2,400. The board of education in 1879 was composed of the following: District No. 1, Jacob Steuer; No. 3, J. G. Gleason, (president); No. 4, Thomas Nelson; No. 5, Robert Carran; No. 6, Seth Knowles; No. 7, Robert Drake; No. 8, James N. Smith; No. 9, Lafayette Conkey; V. D. Hammond, clerk.

THE UNITED SOCIETY OF BELIEVERS.

This society, commonly called the Shaker community of North Union, is located in the northwestern part of Warrensville, eight miles from Cleveland and began operations there in the early part of 1822. The previous fall, Ralph Russell, one of a number of that family, living on lots twenty-two and twenty-three, visited the Shaker community, at Union Village, in Warren County, to investigate their doctrines and, if acceptable, to become a member. He received their testimony and came home to remove his family thither the following spring. Meantime, his exposition of the Shaker doctrines had made such an impression on his friends and neighbors that when the knowledge of it came to the elders of the Union Village society, they determined to visit the locality "to open the testimony," and if a sufficient number believed, to establish an auxiliary community there.

On this mission came James Hodge and Richard Pelham on the 25th of March, 1822. After tarrying a few weeks, they made a report, urging the society to carry out its purpose; and soon after, Richard McNemar, James Hodge, Richard Pelham, Anna Boyd and Betsy Dunlavey were delegated to organize the believers (Ralph Russell, Chester Risley, Elijah Russell, Riley Honey, Elisha Russell and some others) into a common family to be known with reference to the parent society as "The North Union." About this time, public worship after the manner of the Shakers was first held in a log cabin on the hill near where Ralph Russell lived; and the meetings were continued with satisfactory results until the fall of the year. When the elders returned home several of the brethren from North Union accompanied them to more fully study the practical part of Shakerism, as exemplified in the usages of an older community. Their report gave every assurance of their belief that they had found the True Millennial Church. In the spring of 1823 lot twenty-two was formally consecrated after having been purchased by the trustees of the Union Village community. Other purchases were made and donations received until at present the landed property consists of nearly one thousand four hundred acres of choice land, contiguous to the original lot, which is in a good state of cultivation and has on it a number of fine farm buildings.

In 1826, the framed house for the Center family was built which was the first frame at North Union, log cabins having served up to that period. The stone work was done by James S. Prescott, who came from Cleveland for this purpose, and who was so well pleased with the Shakers that he connected himself with the society, and has remained ever since a prominent member. About this time the children, numbering twenty-five, were gathered at what is now the East house, and were placed under the care and instruction of Oliver Wheeler and Prudence Sawyer. Great pains have since been taken to educate the youth of the community, which is constituted a separate school district and as such receives its portion of the State funds.

The elders of the Union Village community continued to visit North Union stately to preach and teach, and the principles of Shakerism having been practically tested, the "Covenant" was signed on the 28th of September, 1828, by Elijah Russell, James S. Prescott, Samuel Russell, Chester Risley, Return Russell, Elisha Russell, John P. Root, Wm. Andrews, Edward Russell, Wm. Johnson, Daniel N. Baird, Ambrose

Bragg, Benjamin Hughey, Barney Cossett, Riley Honey, Ebenezer Russell, Mary B. Russell, Prudence Sawyer, Emma H. Russell, Lydia Russell 1st, Lydia Russell 2nd, Jerusha Russell 1st, Jerusha Russell 2nd, Clarissa Risley, Clarinda Baird, Melinda Russell, Hannah Addison, Caroline Bears, Candace P. Russell, Mercy Sawyer, Esther Russell, Abigail Russell, Phebe Russell, Phebe Andrews, Almeda Cossett, Adaline Russell and Diantha Carpenter. Sixteen more brethren and twenty-seven sisters signed later in the fall of 1828, making in all eighty members.

The church was fully organized by the election of James S. Prescott, Chester Risley, Prudence Sawyer and Eanice Russell as elders and elderesses; Return Russell, Elisha Russell, John P. Root, Lydia Russell 1st, and Huldah Russell as deacons and deaconesses. As other families were formed, each had its own officers. At present, the community is composed of three families, viz: The East family, having twenty-five members, of which John P. Root and Charles Taylor are the elders, and Rachael Russell and Harriet Snyder the elderesses. The Center Family, having thirty members, of which Samuel Miner and George W. Ingalls, are the elders; Lusetta Walker and Clyminia Miner the elderesses. The Mill Family, having twelve members of which Curtis Cramer and Watson Andrews are the elders; Lydia Cramer and Temperance Devan the elderesses.

The duties of the above officers are mainly spiritual. The temporalities are controlled by a board of trustees, composed of James S. Prescott, George W. Ingalls and Samuel S. Miner; the office deaconesses are Candace Russell, Abigail Russell and Margaret Sawyer. Each family has a very comfortable residence, connected with which are shops and other buildings in which the members find occupation, although agriculture is the principal industry. Many of the members being aged and infirm, the society is obliged to employ a force of outside help to carry on its large farm.

The community has always been dependent on Union Village for its ministers, who visit this place statedly to show the more perfect way and "unfold the testimony," according to the standpoint of the United Believers. At present these are Wm. Reynolds, Amos Parkhurst, Louisa Farnham and Adaline Wells. The meeting house at the residence of the Center family is the second in which the community has worshiped, and was erected in 1849. It is a plain frame, fifty by one hundred feet, and has twenty-foot posts. The public meetings were discontinued in 1877, but each family maintains a meeting every Sabbath afternoon in its assembly room, in addition to its usual devotions, to which unbelievers are admitted under proper restrictions. The forms of worship have been some somewhat modified, the principal change being the substitution of marching for dancing; but the essential features of the community remain as they were established, half a century ago; and although the vitality of the society has been somewhat impaired by death and other causes, it will probably be able to maintain an existence for many years to come to elucidate the principles of its members, which, although they can never be generally accepted, are yet entitled to just consideration before they are utterly condemned.

THE PROTESTANT METHODIST CHURCH.

Sometime after 1833, a society of Reformed Methodists was organized in the township which, in a short time, became the nucleus of the above society. About 1835 a meetinghouse was erected at the center which was used while the church had an existence; but after 1860, when but two male members—W. H. Warren and R. P. Bennett—were left, it was sold and moved to Orange. This change from a large and flourishing membership was caused chiefly by removals and death. Among the clergy who preached in the church are remembered the names of Revs. Dolby, Heath, Bamford, Reeves, Tracy, Moody, Kingsley and Bowman.

THE DISCIPLE CHURCH.

A few years after the erection of the above church at the center, a meetinghouse for the use of a society of Disciples, which had been organized in the township, was built nearby, and was occupied for worship about twenty years when its use was abandoned and the house soon after removed. Among the prominent members of the Disciple church were the Hubbell families. In 1843 the church had forty-two conversions, and the following year the meeting of the clergy of the denomination was held with the society. Thirteen ministers were present. For several years thereafter the church flourished, but was dismembered by removals to such an extent that it was not possible to longer maintain its organization.

THE FREE CHURCH OF WARRENSVILLE.

This is in the southwestern part of the township and is controlled by an association, formed in January, 1861, which was composed of William Watterson, John Kelley, William Kerruish, Robert Carran, William Callon, D. L. Wightman, William P. Cain, James Boyd, and Thomas Collister. An old frame schoolhouse was purchased and has been so thoroughly repaired that it now affords a comfortable place of worship. The controlling trustees are William P. Cain, James Boyd and Thomas Taubman. The house is free for any religious sect which may choose to hold its meetings there, but has been occupied principally by the Bible Christians. This sect also owns a neat chapel in the northeastern part of the township, in which meetings are stately held in connection with the foregoing, and other appointments in Orange, where resides the pastor, the Rev. Moore. The membership in Warrensville is small, but the church work is in a sound condition. The society was organized December 11, 1862, with William Lang, Alexander Barber, Isaac Burt and John Short, trustees.

THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN WARRENSVILLE.

The present organization of the Methodist Episcopal church in Warrensville was effected November 13, 1837, by the formation of a class at the center of the township. Previous to that time, a class had been formed; but it was soon afterwards dissolved, most of the members joining the Protestant Methodist church. The members composing the class formed at the time above stated were Silas Johnson, class leader; Asenath Johnson, Asa Upson, Chloe Upson, James Lee, Amos Gardner, Moses Warren, Sr., Anna Hoisted, David Cushman, Almira Cushman, Hiram B. Craine (local preacher), Jane Craine, Warren Thorp, Hannah Thorp, Fanny Bronson, Dayton Thorp, Sally Kilby, Timothy Hoisted, Gideon Pierce, Mary A. Johnson, Gertie Johnson, Daniel Hubbard, E. L. Hubbard, Lydia Thomas, John Hewitt, Thomas Quayle, A. Quayle, Ann Hampton, John Kneale, John Teare, and O. Boyd.

The society held its meetings in the center schoolhouse until 1845 when a church was erected in that locality by Asa Upson, Robert Smith and John Hewitt as a building committee. This church was continuously occupied by the Methodists until burned down in 1866, when Warrensville Center was without a church building—three having stood there but a short time before. Adapting themselves to the change of circumstances, the Methodists returned to the schoolhouse and continued to hold services therein. In the winter of 1867-8, a meeting of the prominent and influential people of the township was held at the residence of Robert Smith, whereat steps were taken to secure the erection of a new house of worship. Sometime after a building committee was appointed consisting of Rev. Robert Smith, Erastus Smith, Joseph Thorp, William H. Warren and Edwin Taylor, with authority to build a church at Warrensville Center. Rev. R. Smith was appointed a sub-committee to superintend the building. The result was that in the summer of 1868 the present commodious and convenient church was erected. The

dedicatory services were conducted by Rev. Cyrus Prendle, D.D. The church has been recently very much improved in appearance and comfort by the ladies, headed by Mrs. D. Cameron, Mrs. C. Harrison and Mrs. Eliza J. Teare.

There is at present preaching each Sabbath morning, the circuit preacher alternating with the Rev. Robert Smith, a local deacon of the M. E. Church. In the year 1837, regular preaching by the circuit preachers was commenced at the Radcliffe schoolhouse, in North Warrensville, and continuously kept up to the present. Occasionally, previous to this date, preaching by local preachers was kept up, sometimes in the schoolhouse and sometimes at private houses. But it was not till after 1837 that the first class was organized.

The original members composing this class were James Smith, Mary Smith, Robert Smith, James Lee, Laura Lee, Caleb Litch, Mercy Litch and Elizabeth Corbett. The class was soon increased by the addition of several others. Among the first to join was John Radcliffe, Jr., the present recording steward of the circuit. Robert Smith has been leader of this class for about forty years.

The first Sunday school in the township was organized in the Radcliffe school-house by the Methodists, and for forty years has been regularly maintained, Robert Smith being for most of the time superintendent. At present the Sunday school at the center and the one at Radcliffe schoolhouse are superintended by Wm. S. Corlett. There is a M. E. Sunday school in the schoolhouse in Northeast Warrensville, Rev. Seneca Thomas, superintendent; and recently a Sunday school was organized in the schoolhouse in District No. 1, in the western part of township, Wm. M. Warren being superintendent.

The following Methodist Episcopal ministers have preached at the Center M. E. Church and the Radcliffe schoolhouse, in connection with other preaching places, forming a circuit sometimes composed of several townships. At present the circuit is composed of the above two appointments in Warrensville, two more in Orange, and one at the Euclid stone schoolhouse:

1837, Phillip Green, Peter Burroughs
1838, Lorenzo D. Prosser, J. W. Davis
1839, John H. Hallock, William P. Wilson, Geo. C. Baker
1840, J. H. Hallock, Milo H. Bettis
1841, W. French, John O. Wood
1842, W. French, Wm. S. Warallo
1843, W. S. Warallo, H. Elliot
1844, John E. Aikins, Milo Butler
1845, J. E. Aikins, O. P. Henry
1846, Albina Hall, D. M. Stearns
1847, A. Hall, John H. Tagg
1848, Samuel Gregg, W. F. Day
1849, Ira Eddy, W. P. Day
1850-51, A. Walker, E. C. Lattimer
1852, A. Fouts, Samuel Raynels
1853, A. Fouts, Robert Gray
1854, Thomas Radcliffe, Joseph Wooley
1855, William Patterson, John McCarthy
1856, L.W. Ely, Albert Norton
1857, H. P. Henderson, L. E. Beardsley

1858-9, Hiram Kellogg
1860, Cyril Wilson
1861, M. Williams
1862, G. R. Bowman
1863-4, J. K. Mendenhall
1865-6-7, B. C. Warner
1868-9, Thomas Radcliffe
1870, A. Fouts
1871, Robert Gray
1872-3, Hiram Kellogg
1874, C. W. Darrow
1875, S. Collier
1876-7, George Johns
1878-9, P. L. Chalker

Warrensville Township History from A History of Cuyahoga County and the City of Cleveland by William R. Coates, 1924.

https://archive.org/details/historyofcuyahog01coat_0/page/260/mode/2up

This is township 7, range 11, of the original survey of townships of the Western Reserve. It is southeast from Cleveland, north of Bedford, west of Orange, and is bounded on the north by East Cleveland and Euclid, and on the west by Newburgh and East Cleveland. It is level with a soil varying from stiff clay to a light loam. The streams are small and hence the water power that was so much sought by the early settlers is limited. It was heavily timbered like the rest. The first attempt at settlement was made in 1807, by Horace Burroughs, Rudolph Pattern and Jacob Cattern. They came intending to locate near the center. On their way through the woods they came upon a black bear, who took to a tree. Just how they were armed is not recorded, but they decided to cut the tree and get their game when it fell. The three chopped in turn until the tree was about ready to fall, when the others left Jacob Pattern to make the finishing strokes, and went forward to greet bruin as he came to the ground. They killed the bear, but death was with them in an unexpected manner. Going back to the stump they found Jacob dead, killed by a large limb broken from a neighboring tree as this one fell. Their elation at getting the big game was turned to mourning by the discovery of this sad accident, and death of their comrade. They abandoned the enterprise, carried the body of their dead comrade to a burial place and returned to the East.

The first settler of the township was Daniel Warren. He came from New Hampshire to Painesville in the fall of 1808. He was very poor in this world's goods. Had a few household goods but not an elaborate outfit. A barrel set on end, covered with the end board of the wagon had to serve as a table at first. The cooking and baking was done in a five-quart iron kettle. The next year he moved to Newburgh. Here the family remained while he built a log cabin on his farm in the new township, walking back and forth to his work, two and a half miles. It was built without the use of a single nail, a commodity quite useful and much used in later years. He moved in January 4, 1810. The moving is thus described by himself: "I procured a horse on which Mrs. Warren and her three weeks' old babe rode, the boy of two years I carried on my back, while neighbor Prentiss, with an ox team, hauled our few household things. This trip was over two and a half miles through the woods, and Mrs. Warren remarked, 'We left New Hampshire to go into the wilderness, and I guess we have made it out'" The "first run of sledding" after the Warrens moved to their log cabin home, a happy party of their friends from Newburgh and Cleveland, to the number of fifty, came out for a "house warming" and crowded the little cabin. They had a jolly time and among other things held a formal meeting and proposed to name the new township. As Mrs. Warren was the first and only woman residing in the township, it was suggested that she select the name. She proposed Warrensville and her choice was adopted by acclamation. Thus township 7 of range 11 was named, and when the civil township was organized the name was retained. Occasionally in the historical annals of Cuyahoga County we have a chance to bring the women into notice and this instance is a break in the usual course of local history, which recites in detail masculine activities in the main. A woman named Warrensville. Of course, womanlike in the selection of the name, she was thinking of honoring the name of her husband, the first settler. The house warming party went home long after midnight and all remembered for long this enjoyable, and, we may say, historic party. Mrs. Warren was a true pioneer woman. Her husband was a bricklayer and followed his trade in addition to clearing the farm. Thus, she was often left alone with the children. Bears and wolves would come around the cabin at night, rather disquieting callers for a lone woman in a wilderness miles away from any other human habitation. She could not telephone, she could not start the phonograph, nor play the piano for diversion. She could not strike a match to look into a dark corner, or listen to the latest music over the radio. We could continue

the list, but sufficient has been included to give us a thought backward to the pioneer woman who helped build this civilization with all its greater advantages. Mrs. Warren once came home from Newburgh and was followed closely, on all sides, by a full pack of wolves for it was getting dark when she reached her door in breathless fear. She lived out her life in Warrensville, surviving her husband, Daniel Warren, who died in 1862, seven years. Of their children, the babe that was with them when they came to the log house as first settlers, only lived a year. This was the first death in the township. In their family also occurred the first birth in the township, that of William H. Warren, who was born December 26, 1812. Other members of the family of children were Hiram V., Moses N., James M., Othello, Paulin, and Julia C To add to the colony of Warrens in the township, Moses Warren, the father of Daniel, came to the township after the War of 1812 and settled on lot 54. His sons, besides Daniel, were William and Moses. To add to the family numbers but not to the name, a father-in-law of Daniel, James Prentiss, came with his family and settled on lot 54. He was a Revolutionary soldier. He lived only five years after coming to the township but left a family consisting of four sons, Robert, James, Samuel, and Cyrus. The last named, Cyrus Prentiss, moved to Ravenna, and among other business activities, was the first president of the Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railway. Asa Stiles came to the township in 1812 and settled in the Warren neighborhood. He came from New York state. He had three sons, Amos, Hiram, and Wilbur. In the same year, Jacob Russell came from the same state and located on lot 23. He was an elderly man when he came and died eleven years after at the age of seventy-five. His sons were named Ralph, Rodney, Elijah, Elisha, and Return; nearly all of this family joined the Shakers, of whom we will speak after this. Peleg Brown settled on lot 63 shortly after the Russells came, and Fred G. Williams on lot 41. Brown remained until 1837 when he moved to Indiana, and Williams joined the Mormons and drifted to the west with them. Benjamin Thorp came in 1813. His farm was on lot 62. Here he remained for fifteen years, when he moved to Michigan. William Sickel came at the same time and was a near neighbor of Thorp. He was a shoemaker, perhaps the first in the township. He worked at his trade in connection with farming and clearing until his death in 1836. Without a map of Warrensville as subdivided into lots in the survey it will be difficult to gather from the location of the first settlements any accurate idea, but the numbers will give some general idea of the location. We have a number of settlements noted in 1815. Josiah Abbott settled on lot 54 and some years later moved to Missouri. The same year Abraham S. Honey and Chester Riskey came. They got interested in the Shakers and joined the North Union Community. Caleb Baldwin settled on lot 48 at the same time, where he remained until led off by the Mormons. After this Enoch Gleason located on lot 67. He came with his family from Berkshire, Massachusetts. Lot 67 was east of the center and this was the only family living in that part of the township before 1820, except the Baldwin. Gleason had seven sons, Milo, Ariel, Ephraim, Almon, Enoch, Perry, and Loren. Jedediah Hubbell came in 1815, made some improvements and moved away but came back in a few years and was long a resident of the township. He had a large family. A grandson, Charles Harold Hubbell, born in Warrensville, in 1836, had a long service in the Civil war, was a member of Col. Jack Casement's regiment, when first enlisted, and in the closing years of the war was assigned as chief clerk in the quartermaster's department at the headquarters of Gen. John M. Palmer. Quite early Ansel Young settled on lot 42, Gabriel Culver on lot 83, Reuben and Beckwith Cook on lot 74, Aruna R. Baldwin on lot 13, Moses Higby on lot 105, and Nehemiah Hand on lot 25. Most of the families, of whom the head has been named, moved on farther west in a few years.

John and Luther Prentiss, probably without families, came from New Hampshire, in 1819. They drove a one-horse team and the trip occupied twenty-eight days. John took up a farm on lot 38, and Luther on lot 13. John was a resident of the township fifteen years and Luther during his lifetime. As an evidence that he was single when he came, his sole possessions consisted of one suit of clothes, an extra pair of shoes, and a razor. As an evidence that he was a thrifty pioneer, he had after some years as a pioneer resident of Warrensville, 70 acres of land, paid for, and had raised a family of six children. Three years

before this the civil township of Warrensville had been formed. The voters met at the house of Josiah Abbott, November 7, 1816, and Daniel Warren was the chairman of the meeting. James Prentiss, Peleg Brown, and William Sickel were the judges of election, one of the three acting as clerk. The officers elected were James Prentiss, Peleg Brown, and William Sickel, trustees; F. G. William, clerk; Josiah Abbott, treasurer; Daniel Warren, justice of the peace; Robert Prentiss, constable; Moses Warren and Robert Prentiss, poor masters; Benjamin Thorp and Abraham Honey, fence viewers. The commission of Daniel Warren as justice of the peace was dated January 6, 1817, and was signed by Gov. Thomas Worthington. At this first election James Johnson and Humphrey Nichols were the only voters who were not elected to office.

Col. John E. Adams came to the township in 1826 and located on lot 51. Here he built the first and only pioneer stone house in the township. A list of the heads of families or householders in the township by 1829 will give a practical illustration of the progress of the settlement of the township following the housewarming at the log cabin of Daniel Warren, and will include many names that are familiar to the people of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County: Col. John E. Adams, William Addison, Peleg Brown, Gabriel Culver, Sylvester Carber, David Benjamin, Jedediah Hubbell, Appleton Collister, James Johnson, Orrin J. Hubbell, Thomas Kneale, Asa Stiles, Abel Shepard, Daniel S. Tyler, Benjamin Thorp, Daniel Warren, Moses Warren, Moses Warren, Jr., William Kelly, Isaac Cooper, Return Russell, Salmon Buell, Benjamin Sawyer, Elisha Russell, Andrew Barber, John Woodruff, Ralph Russell, Moor Bell, Enoch Gleason, Ebenezer Russell, Beckwith Cook, Ephraim Gleason, N. C. Hains, Nehemiah Hand, James Lee, Daniel Pillsbury, Job Hand, Thomas Radcliff, Lyman Wight, Oliver Ransom, Caleb Baldwin, F. L. Burnett, Joseph Clyne, Nathan Goodspeed, Ansel Jenny, William Fairchild, Dayton Thorp, Isaac Lassler, Jefferson Wallace, Bazaleel Thorp, Andrew Wilson, William Watterson, Warner Thorp, Thomas Collister, John Kelly, William Cain, Thomas Cain, George Kent, and William Kerruish.

The last named came from the Isle of Man, one of a large number of Manxmen who settled in Warrensville in this early period of the township, William Kerruish. He was the father of W. S. Kerruish of the Cleveland bar, of whom we will speak more particularly in a later chapter. W. S. Kerruish was born in Warrensville in 1831 and is now ninety-two years of age. He goes to his law office almost daily, but contents himself largely with reading from the literature of all time and does not practice law in the courts. His loss of memory of names and faces is quite general. In an address before the Early Settlers' Association of Cleveland delivered forty years ago, he speaks of his early life and of the pioneer Manxmen. He says: "Not long ago I happened upon one of Judge Tilden's speeches in which he gave a mirth provoking account of the terror caused him on his advent into Ohio by the long howling of the wolves, as they surrounded his first night's lodging in the Buckeye State, and how gladly he would have deeded away, had he possessed it. the fee simple title to the whole Western Reserve for a foothold once more on the soil of old Connecticut. My earliest recollections are of a much later period of an age of bottomless mud, and of new fields covered with stumps, the mud and stump period. I well recollect coming into the city from Warrensville by the present Woodland Avenue road - how we first came to the two principal landmarks - the Cutter mansion and Doctor Long's house, and what a weary quagmire there was yet to pass, what a stretch of quagmire and country before we reached the 'city,' and how we passed the tempting apple orchard which then covered the now thickly populated space extending eastward from the present junction of Woodland and Broadway. Many reminiscences of Warrensville life might be recalled. You are most of you aware that emigration from the Isle of Man to this locality commenced comparatively early and has been very large, large considering its source, for the island is but thirty miles long by thirteen wide, and half of it mountains at that. As indicative of the number of this class of our population and the readiness with which they, as a general thing, identified themselves with the interests and advancement of their new home, I may say that upon an estimate made some

time since, the survivors of that emigration, with their descendants, together with later arrivals, number in this county alone between 3,000 and 4,000. As an instance of the way they rooted themselves in the land, it is, or was a fact, a short time ago, that if you took a southeasterly course from a point in Newburgh Township, you might pass for five or six miles along the road with Manx landholders continuously on either side. The tradition of the origin of this immigration is as follows: A native of the island, who was something of a traveler, who had been on the medical staff of the British army abroad, and who among his wanderings came to America, visited the falls of Niagara, passed along the southern shores of Lake Erie, going through this place and returned to his island home. He was a man of superior judgment and education; and though this must have been anterior to 1820, as I have heard it related, he foresaw and predicted that this region between the waters of 'the beautiful river' and the southern shores of Lake Erie was destined to be the seat of a mighty people. In the year 1824, or thereabouts, one Manx family came and settled near Painesville, mistaking it for the town founded by Moses Cleveland. Various letters written home by this single settler and passed from hand to hand produced great excitement in that small and far off community. It was afterwards said that the marvelous accounts of deer and turkeys running at large, and forest trees distilling sugar, and land to be got for the asking, were not sufficiently explained, and that the more sober colors of the picture were left out"

Mr. Kerruish referred to William Kelly and wife, who settled in Newburgh, Rev. Thomas Corlett, Thomas Quayle, Patrick Cannell, and Deacon Benjamin Rouse.

Perhaps the most unique among the pioneers of Warrensville were the Shakers. Their community, occupying the territory which is now Shaker Heights village, was early established but has passed into history. The foundress of this religious denomination was Ann Lee, who was born in Toad Lane, Manchester, England, in 1742. Her father was a blacksmith and she was employed at one time as cook in the infirmary of her native town. It is recorded that she was a quiet child of a visionary temperament. She joined a small religious body called the French Prophets. The leader of this organization was one Jane Wardly, who was considered by her followers as "the spirit of John the Baptist operating in the female line." These people were called Shakers because like the early Quakers they were seized with violent shakings and tremblings when under the influence of strong religious emotions. Ann Lee married a blacksmith, whose character was very bad and their four children died in infancy. She took the lead in the Shaker society and promulgated the doctrine of celibacy. She preached that the second coming of Christ would be in the form of a woman. They argued that as Eve was the mother of all living, they could recognize in the new leader of their sect the spiritual mother. They were very zealous, preaching in season and out, and suffered from opposition by the constituted authorities and from mob violence. In 1774 Ann and eight of her disciples immigrated to America. One break in their ranks occurred after their arrival in New York. Abraham Stanley, displeased with his wife's celibate creed, abandoned her for another woman. Ann and her followers settled at Watervliet, a small place up the Hudson, but were imprisoned on refusal to take the oath, being thought unfavorable to the Revolutionary cause. On being released they began preaching and made many converts. Ann Lee died in 1780 and the head of the church has been vested since in a man. Being to some extent apart from all regular society, many charges were made against them of a scandalous nature, but these were outlived and they soon came to be highly respected. The official name of the general organization is "The United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Appearing." In 1870 there were eighteen Shaker communities in the United States. The one at Warrensville was known as the North Union Community. The origin of this community is attributed to Ralph Russell, who was one of the early trustees of Warrensville township. He owned a farm on section 22, or lot 22, of the township. He became interested in the new creed, perhaps through the labors of some missionary, visited a neighboring community at Union Village and joined the Shakers. He came home a missionary and proselyted quite actively. Then Richard W. Pelham and James Hodge, elders of the Union Village Community, came in 1822 and they with Russell made many converts. It was

announced that Russell had had a vision, that a strong ray of light came from Union Village in a straight horizontal line and touched a point in Warrensville near Russell's home. The two elders stayed six months and superintended the founding of the community. All Shaker communities were socialistic in their temporal arrangements and the new converts began at once building log cabins and clearing land. In the spring of 1823, the trustees of Union Village bought a large tract of land in Warrensville They got donations of land and bought still more and in four years Ashbel Kitchell was appointed presiding elder and the Warrensville community was launched as a separate entity. The equality of the sexes was brought into exercise, two of each sex governing its own side of the house. The Covenant, which was the pledge of organization, was signed September 8, 1828. In the signing the sexes were separated as at their meetings: Elijah Russell, James S. Prescott, Samuel Russell, Chester Risley, Return Russell, Elisha Russell, John P. Root, William Andrews, Edward Russell, William Johnson, Daniel N. Bird, Ambrose Bragg, Benjamin Hughey, Barney Cosset, Riley Honey, Ebenezer Russell, and then Mary E. Russell, Prudence Sawyer, Emma H. Russell, Lydia Russell I, Lydia Russell II, Jerusha Russell I, Jerusha Russell II, Clarissa Risley, Clarinda Baird, Melinda Russell, Hanna Addison, Caroline Bears, Candace P. Russell, Mercy Sawyer, Esther Russell, Abigail Russell, Phebe Russell, Phebe Andrews, Ahneda Cosset, Adaline Russell, and Diana Carpenter. In the fall sixteen more brethren and twenty-seven more sisters signed the Covenant and became members of the community.

We quote from reminiscences of Melinda Russell, one of the signers of the Covenant, which were written forty years ago. "In 1811 my grandfather, Jacob Russell, sold his farm and gristmill on the Connecticut River and took a contract for land in Newburgh (now Warrensville), Ohio. His oldest son Elijah, my father, shouldered his knapsack and came to Ohio to get the lot surveyed, he made some improvements, selected a place for building, and returned, coming back the next year with my brother Ralph. They cleared a piece of land, planted corn, built a log house, and then went back to Connecticut to assist in moving the family. They formed an odd procession, father's brother Elisha, and brother-in-law, Hart Risley, accompanied them with their families. The wagons were drawn with oxen, my father walking all the way so as to drive, while grandmother rode on horseback. Then father returned for his family. We embarked at Sackett's Harbor, August 1st and arrived in Cleveland, August 31. There being no harbor at that time, the landing was effected by means of rowboats. We then pulled ourselves up the bank by the scrub oaks that lined it, and walked to the hotel kept by Major Carter. This hotel was then the only frame house in Cleveland. Father was taken sick with ague the next day after we arrived, so our house was built slowly. We moved in the last of November, without door or window, using blankets for night protection. At that time two of the children were sick with the ague. Father, when the chills and fever left him for the day, worked, putting poles together in the form of bedsteads, a table upon which to put what little we could get to eat, and benches to sit upon."

This community of Shakers, apart in a sense from the rest of the settlers, was yet a community of pioneers enduring the same lack of conveniences and grappling with the great task of subduing the wilderness, as shown by the extract from the experiences of the Russell family. It was located in the northwest part of the township. The first meetings were held in a log cabin, which they erected near that of Ralph Russell. This was undoubtedly the spot believed to be divinely selected and designated by the ray of light. This log cabin served as a meeting house until 1826 when a frame house for the center family was built. The stone work of this house was done by James Prentiss, who came from Cleveland, and in the meantime was converted to the Shaker creed and joined the community. Their numbers grew, and their possessions, until they held 1,400 acres of land in addition to the original tract turned into the community by Mr. Russell. They educated their children but as a part of the whole community. The Shaker tract was made a separate school district and it received its share of the state school fund. We have just referred to the signing of the Covenant. After this was signed, a perfect organization was

effected. James S. Prescott and Chester Risley were chosen elders for the men, and Prudence Sawyer and Eunice Russell, elderesses for the women. There was much religious enthusiasm and the church was called "The True Millennial Church." The preaching was by elders from the parent body, Union Village community of Warren County. As they grew in numbers they were divided into families. There was the East Family of twenty-five, with John P. Root and Charles Taylor, elders, and Rachel Russell and Harriet Snyder, elderesses. There was the Center Family of thirty members, with Samuel Miner and George W. Ingalls, elders, and Lusetta Walker and Clyminia Miner, elderesses. There was the Mill Family of twelve members, with Curtis Cramer and Watson Andrews, elders, and Lydia Cramer and Temperance Devan as their elderesses. The duties of these officers were largely spiritual. The temporal affairs were controlled by a board of trustees. These trustees were James Prescott, George W. Ingalls and Samuel S. Miner, and they were assisted by three office deaconesses, Candace Russell, Abigail Russell, and Margaret Sawyer. Each family had a comfortable residence, connected with shops and buildings where many were employed, but agriculture was the principal occupation. In 1849 a large frame meeting house was erected at the Center Family. It was 100 by 50 feet and with twenty feet posts. This had to do with spiritual matters but temporalities advanced in the same proportion. In 1829 the community built a fine gristmill, with two overshot wheels and two runs of stones, and soon had a linseed oil mill, and a better and larger sawmill. In 1850 they built a large brick woolen factory. They had a woodenware factory, a tannery, a broom factory, and small factories for varied manufactures. Their products were notably good and they had a ready sale. As the members of the community grew old the Shakers were compelled to employ outside help to work on the farms and in the shops. As death thinned their numbers, enough converts were not secured to take their places. This thrifty and model socialistic community united in religious zeal and holding to the doctrine of celibacy prospered and came to be a large factor in the development of Warrensville. By 1877 meetings in the large meeting house were discontinued. Before that the forms of worship had changed, and marching substituted for dancing. Today they exist as a community only in history and the thriving and attractive village of Shaker Heights, a community of social life, but not socialistic, has taken their place.

The first schoolhouse in Warrensville arose log by log, steered and propelled by brawny hands in 1815. Its walls were of rough round logs with a stick chimney backed with stones and a fireplace that received logs eight feet long. Previous to the building of this temple of learning there had been schools taught in the log cabins of settlers. The first school teacher was Miss Hanna Stiles, the second Lora Hubbell, and the third Mary Stillman. The first teacher in the first schoolhouse was William Addison, father of H. M. Addison, long a citizen and welfare worker of Cleveland. The first singing school was taught in that schoolhouse and at a meeting of the Early Settlers' Association, held in Cleveland forty-three years ago, H. M. Addison, "Father" Addison, as he was called, brought a copy of a singing book used in that school. At the first school in this building pupils came from the Russell, Honey, Warren and Prentiss families. Addison was followed by Ansel Young, and he by Azial Aldrich. In 1830 four school districts were established and later there were eight or nine. In 1875 the school enumeration of the township was, males, 234, and females, 221, and a fine building costing nearly \$300,000 had been erected at the Center. This building was erected in 1878 and the school board was composed of J. G. Gleason, president, and V. D. Hammond, clerk, and the following members: Jacob Steuer, J. G. Gleason, Thomas Nelson, Robert Carran, Seth Knowles, Robert Drake, James W. Smith, and Lafayette Conkey. Exclusive of the villages, which had been formed from the township, including only Warrensville township as it exists today, the schools are in the one building at the Center. There are six teachers employed and the enrollment is 205. The principal is William O. Myers.

The first store in the township was kept by Parker Boynton. He sold to E. W. Brunson. When it again changed hands, the firm name was Birchard and Brewer, then John M. Burke, then William H. Warren.

The first postmaster was Milo Gleason, who conducted the office at his house. He was followed by the following postmasters in their order: Amos Birchard, John McKee, Chester Butler, John M. Burke, W. H. Warren, Edwin Taylor, and D. Nowak, who had a small store and post office with a tri weekly mail from Chagrin Falls. Outside of the Shaker community the manufacturing interests of Warrensville have been very limited. A steam sawmill was operated west of the Center by William R. Truesdell. It was moved and taken over by T. J. Radcliff, who ground feed and had a cider mill in connection with it. On Mill Creek two sawmills were operated, one by Palmer and one by Flick. The Palmer mill started as a water mill but later applied steam power. The Flick mill was soon discontinued. The first sawmill in the township was started by Ezra Smith on Shaker Brook in 1820, a gristmill was afterwards operated by the same power. Mr. Kerruish has referred to the mud and stump period. This followed the blazed path and preceded the advent of the plank road. In 1817 the township was divided into four road districts and the supervisors were Moses Warren, Robert Prentiss, Benjamin Thorp and Serenus Burnet. Under these men the citizens worked out their poll tax, which was a requirement of three days' work for each man, regardless of his wealth in property. The fellow whose sole possessions were a straw hat, overalls and suspenders, and cowhide boots, came under this requirement in common with the largest landowner. Their work was done with plow and scraper and shovel. Gravel was sometimes hauled from the bed of streams and deposited in the low places. These roads of dirt were a great advance over the primitive trail in dry weather but often became great stretches of mud at other times. The building of dirt roads was greatly facilitated by improved tools. A new scraper was invented that at the first glance was condemned by the gang, but after being put in operation called forth this remark from a member: "By thunder, that thing deceives its looks."

In 1850 the first plank road was built. The Center road was planked for some distance by a company but after these planks gave way they were not replaced. In 1870 the Cleveland and Warrensville Plank Road Company built five miles of plank road extending from the city limits of Cleveland to a point three quarters of a mile east of the Center. The road running south from the Center, and that from Randall northwest to Newburgh was also planked. Now came the railroad, that wonderful transformer of a continent, and with it the old song, with its refrain: "Bless me, it is pleasant, this riding on a mil." The Cleveland and Mahoning and Atlantic and Great Western Railways were built through the southwestern part of the township. These roads used the same roadbed but had tracks of different gauge. Randall Station came into being with the advent of railroads. How did it get its name? In this wise. In 1868 a post office was established here and it was named after Alexander W. Randall, who was then postmaster general of the United States. Before the post office was established it was called "Plank Road Station." Important and interesting landmarks of the early days are the taverns. In 1848 George Lathrop put up a tavern called the Plank Road House. This became widely known and was patronized by a multitude of local and distant travelers. After him the landlord was Otis Farrer, and Charles Grassmeyer followed Farrer. Another called the Blue Tavern was opened at the Center by Charles Wickerson. At that time the Center included a Methodist Church, town hall, and eight or ten dwellings. Four years before the Plank Road House was built, Dwyer Sherman built one. Following him as landlords were Nickerson, Teed, Kingsbury, McKee, and Birchard. In 1877 A. A. Gillette opened a fine country hotel one and a half miles west of the plank road.

Since the jolly party at the house warming in the log cabin of Daniel Warren, since the town meeting that was called to order and presided over by Daniel Warren, since the same gentleman entered upon his duties as justice of the peace, with an emphasis on the last word, many men have served the township and their names as public officers in "town meeting" government, represent many of the most prominent of the pioneer families of Warrensville. Among those who have served as trustees in the first half century and more, were James Prentiss, Peleg Brown, William Stickel, Gabriel Culver, Daniel R.

Smith, Robert Prentiss, Ralph Russell, Caleb Baldwin, Caleb Litch, Asa Stiles, Caleb Alvord, Josiah Abbott, David Benjamin, Enoch Gleason, Solomon Buell, Jedediah Hubbell, John Prentiss, Milo Gleason, Orrin J. Hubbell, Moses Warren, Daniel Warren, Beckwith Cook, Nathaniel Goodspeed, Andrew Wilson, Horace Hamilton, John Woodruff, Moses Warren, Jr., Samuel M. Prentiss, Bazaleel Thorp, Solyman Hubbell, Nathaniel Lyon, Frederick Sillsby, Amos Birchard, Warren Thorp, Asa Upson, John J. Proper, Everett Holly, Erastus Smith, Oliver Ransom, Pliny S. Conkey, Linus Clark, Albert Kingsbury, Otis Lyon, Russell Frizzell, Henry Wetherby, Thomas Cain, John Hewett, James Clapp, William Bowler, John T. Radcliff, Asahel Lewis, William H. Cole, Gad E. Johnson, James K. Quayle, H. N. Clark, B. F. Eddy, Otis Farrer, John Radcliff, Jr., Robert Drake, D. L. Wightman, J. P. Thorp, William H. Warren, L. B. Prentiss, John Caley, G. W. Harland, Elermie Earl, T. Nelson, A. S. Cannon, L. Leppert, Jr., R. Walkden, A. J. Conkey, John C. Teare, W. W. Smith, Sebastian Fieg and James Smith. Clerks, F. G. Williams, Ansel Young, Martin Clark, Almon Kingsbury, P. L. Brown, Orrin J. Hubbell, Luther R. Prentiss, William H. Cole, Parker Boynton, Milo Gleason, William H. Warren, Linus Clark, W. S. Cannon, Solyman Hubbell, E. Holley, William Taylor, J. M. Burke, Hammond Clapp, Edwin Taylor, W. W. Blair, W. W. Smith, and H. B. Hammond. Treasurer, Caleb Baldwin, Daniel R. Smith, Edmond Mallet, Charles Risley, Beckwith Cook, John Prentiss, Salmon Bud, Sylvester Carter, Enoch Gleason, Peleg Brown, Asa Stiles, Daniel Pillsbury, Moses Warren, Orrin J. Hubbell, Asa Upson, William H. Cole, Elijah W. Bronson, David Birchard, Amos Birchard, Truman Eggleston, William H. Warren, Oliver Ransom, Hart Taylor, Milo Gleason, J. T. Radcliff, John M. Burke, O. B. Judd, G. E. Johnson, D. P. Badger, D. Nowack, John Shirring, and David Wade. In the '80s William S. Corlett and William Sanders were serving as justices of the peace. The present officers of the township are Myron J. Penty, justice of the peace; trustees, Harry Deeks, James L. Doyle, D. H. Ton Benken; clerk, William Maichus; treasurer, William Shankland; assessor, O. M. Wetmore; constable, Guy O. Peck.

In 1819 the total tax of Warrensville was \$12.50, and out of this, 80 cents was not collected. In 1821, after Orange was organized, the tax was only \$6.50. This was all collected and paid out as follows: Paid Aruna R. Baldwin, constable, 54 cents; Ansel Young, clerk, \$1.18; Asa Stiles, trustee, \$1.55; Ebenezer Russell, trustee, \$1; Josiah Abbott, trustee, \$1; George Cannon, collector, 60 cents, and Chester Risley, treasurer, 18 cents. It may be assumed that the treasurer got what was left out of a distribution based upon relative services. In 1828 the vote for president in the township was, John Adams, thirty-two votes, and Andrew Jackson, fifteen.

A village can pass ordinances that are laws of local application and particularly since the advent of automobiles many villages have come into being, usually formed by action of the county commissioners or by vote of the people in connection with action by the township trustees. Formed in whole or in part from the territory of Warrensville have been Idlewood Village, Shaker Heights Village, East View Village, since annexed to Shaker Heights, North Randall, Beachwood Village, and Cleveland Heights, now advanced to a city. East View was formed May 1, 1906. In 1920 the territory was made a township for judicial purposes, and at various times portions were annexed to the city of Cleveland and to the village of Shaker Heights, and in 1920 the entire remaining village was annexed to Shaker Heights. The officers of the village who last served, were: Mayor, E. J. Kehres; clerk, H. M. True; treasurer, C. R. Mack; council, Bruce Bessler, R. W. Kehres, J. Litnel, H. T. McMyler, J. T. Newton, and Bert Rhodeharmel. Idlewood Village was formed by action of the county commissioners May 27, 1907. Two years later it was made a township and five years later a portion of the village was annexed to Cleveland Heights Village. The present officers are: Mayor, John J. Howard; clerk, W. A. Horky; treasurer, John J. Bartenstein; council, Judson Sambrook, Martin Huges, Albert Crawford, Carl Papier, A. Geiger, and Tom Paulet. North Randall Village was formed May 2, 1908, by action of the county commissioners. Here is located the racetrack that has been the scene of many historic races. It took its name from the name given to the post office as first established. The present officers are: Mayor, B. O. Shank; clerk, Myron J. Penty; treasurer, Ralph

Lougee; marshal, J. E. Wise; council, F. J. Breekranz, Frank Caton, Win Kinnan, William S. Lougee, Harry Morgan, and Vin Stengel; board of education, H. J. Ellicott, George Nichols, and Arthur Thorp.

Shaker Heights Village, which includes in its boundaries the lands once owned by the Community of North Union, is unique and beautiful. Its streets are winding roads, well paved, and its territory is dotted with homes of taste and variety, not in close proximity but scattered in places as were the log cabins of the settlers. Its school buildings reflect the substantial and characteristic taste of the inhabitants. The high school building at South Woodland and Woodbury roads located on twenty-five acres of ground, on which \$200,000 has been expended in beautifying the grounds, has no equal in the county in size and locality of the school grounds. The land and building cost over \$500,000. A junior high school building is in process of construction on the same grounds and will be opened in part this year. This new building includes everything known in the way of up-to-date school facilities. There are twenty-five teachers in the high school, a number doing special supervising work. The enrollment of pupils this year at the close of the spring term was 360. The graduating class numbered thirty-three, and the junior class numbers forty-four, indicating a growth in advanced pupils. As indicating the class of people sending pupils to the high school it is ascertained that over 90 per cent of the graduates from this school enter college. The principal is R. B. Patin. Shaker Heights Boulevard School at Southington and Drexmore Roads employs ten teachers and has an enrollment of 310 pupils. The principal is Mrs. Mae McClaren. East View School at Lee and Kinsman roads has three teachers and has an enrollment of eighty pupils. The principal is Miss Isabelle Campbell. Sussex School at Norwood and Sussex roads has five teachers and 105 pupils and the principal is Miss Isabelle Campbell, who is also in charge of East View. Malvern School at Malvern and Falmouth roads has six teachers and 120 pupils. The principal is Mrs. Violet Stone. Onaway Building at Woodbury and Onaway roads has a corps of fifteen teachers and an enrollment of 325 pupils, and the principal is H. D. Snook. The school board of the village maintains twelve tennis courts, football and baseball grounds with other outdoor athletics. The football team of the high school played the past season with only one defeat to record and that to Cleveland Heights High School players. The school district is not co-extensive with the village, including a portion of other territory. The assessed value of the property in the district is \$34,000,000, and the population about 4,000 souls. The village has no bonded indebtedness, improvements have been paid for entirely by assessment, and no part out of the general fund. The school district has a bonded indebtedness of about \$1,500,000. The salary schedule ranks up with the best of the county schools and attracts teaching talent in keeping with the progressive spirit of the school system. The superintendent is Dr. C. B. Cornell; the business manager and clerk of the board is J. W. Main, in active charge for the Board of Education, which consists of Starr Cadwallader, president, H. H. Hampton, vice president, Miriam K. Stage, Bessie C. Newton, and L. L. Parish.

Just when the Shaker Community pulled up stakes and left the township is not definitely recorded in the annals but their exodus was complete with one solitary exception, and that, as related to the writer, is in this wise. On leaving, the Community exhumed the dead and removed the bodies to another resting place where the living located. For some reason, known only to the inner circle, one man had offended the authorities and was not permitted to be buried on Shaker soil, he had been ex-communicated or something. On one of the winding roads of the beautiful village his grave remains with its monument marking the spot, the sole reminder of the onetime presence here of the pioneer, thrifty, peculiar colony of Shakers. Just what his offense was is not known, but by it he became in a sense historical and his grave, if not a shrine, is a historical landmark.

The township of Shaker was formed in 1911 from a portion of Cleveland Heights Village and with the ultimate object of forming a village, as stated in the petition to the county commissioners. An election was held in August of that year, the petition having been granted by Commissioners Eirick, Fisher, and

Vail. At this election W. J. Van Aken, John L. Cannon, and O. P. Van Sweringen were elected trustees; C. A. Palmer, clerk; B. L. Jenks, treasurer; Ira C. Farley, justice of the peace; James Farley, constable; and B. O. Speith, assessor. The following board of education was elected: E. A. Petrequin, James H. Rogers, E. W. Davis, G. N. Wasser, and W. L. Evans. John L. Cannon was chosen president of the board of trustees. Soon proceedings for the forming of a village were under way, an election was held and no votes were cast against the proposition. The first officers of the village were: Mayor, Ford N. Clapp; clerk, Carl A. Palmer; council, John L. Cannon, T. S. Grasselli, James H. Rogers, Max J. Rudolph, William J. Van Aiken, and - Rickey. The present officers are: Mayor, William J. Van Aiken; clerk, Carl A. Palmer; treasurer, William J. Pinkett; assessor, W. C. Weiding; marshal, W. E. Arnold; justice of the peace, W. J. Zoul; council, John L. Cannon, Frank Alcott, William T. Cashman, John Hecker, C. B. Palmer, M. J. Rudolph. Shaker Heights Village maintains a paid fire department, the volunteer fire department, as conducted in so many villages not being possible here, where a collection of stores and shops in near proximity provide the personnel of the force. There are eight paid men, as follows: John K. Irwin, chief; Henry S. Mackey and Merle Hand, lieutenants; George Frank, John Lumsden, Harry Antis, Otto Lehman, George Jumont, Harry Hruxnadka, and Joseph Kirchner. There are eight others than the lieutenants. They have a chemical and a pump engine of the latest model and two thousand feet of hose and provide ample protection against the fire demon.

The annexation to Shaker Heights Village of East View was consummated in 1919. On August 8th of that year the council of Fast View passed an ordinance of annexation and on November 4th a vote was taken in each village. The vote in East View was ninety-four for, and fifty-four against, and in Shaker Heights, one hundred and fifty-five for, and sixty-seven against annexation. So, the vote in each village carried and the annexation was consummated.

One of the enterprises of the past few years that has been a great boon to the thriving village has been the construction of a rapid transit line from Cleveland. It operates two lines of cars, Shaker Heights direct, and Shaker Heights Boulevard cars, which bring rapid transit to the doors of a large population, and is particularly well equipped, for it has its private right of way the whole distance. A ride over its route on the fast-moving cars makes the mud and stump era seem to be far in the mists of antiquity, and the wilderness that once was here, yes, but a century ago, we think of as a fabled vision,

"But thou hast histories that stir the heart
With deeper feeling; while I look on thee

They rise before me. I behold the scene
Hoary again with forests; I behold

The Indian warrior, whom a hand unseen
Has smitten with his death-wound in the woods,

Creep slowly to thy well-known rivulet.
And slake his death-thirst. Hark, that quick fierce cry

That rends the utter silence! 'tis the whoop
Of battle, and a throng of savage men

With naked arms and faces stained like blood,
Fill the green wilderness; the long bare arms

Are heaved aloft, bows twang and arrows stream;
Each makes a tree his shield, and every tree

Sends forth its arrow. Fierce the fight and short,
As is the whirlwind. Soon the conquerors

And conquered vanish, and the dead remain
Mangled by tomahawks. The mighty woods

Are still again, the frightened bird comes back
And plumes her wings. * * *

So centuries passed by, and still the woods
Blossomed in spring, and reddened when the year

Grew chill, and glistened in the frozen rains
Of winter, till the white man swung the axe

Beside thee-signal of a mighty change."

Cleveland Heights, having at the last census a population of 15,025, is rapidly increasing its numbers and gaining in wealth. Its tax duplicate has increased in eight years from \$40,000,000 to \$90,000,000. The high character of its schools has been a great factor in its development. The Board of Education consists of George A. Coulton, president; Mrs. Alice C. Tyler, vice president; Edward W. Keen, Alfred M. Corcoran, and Harrison B. McGraw. The clerk and treasurer is Wallace G. Nesbit.

The Heights High School on Lee Road, principal, Carl D. Burt; the Coventry School, with Miss Mary Jack as principal; the Fairfax School, Lee and Scarborough roads, with Miss Lillian Cleland as principal; the Lee School, on Lee Road, with Miss J. Belle McVeigh as principal; Noble School, near Noble Road, with Miss Gertrude McGuire as principal; Roxbury School, on Roxbury Road, with Miss Iscah Rhodes as principal; Severance School, on Taylor Road, with Miss Anna Gage as principal, and Superior School, on Superior Road, with Miss Josephine Armstrong as principal, include the principal schools of the city. L. B. Brink and Albert B. Harvey are Junior High principals, and these named, with a superintendent of large and varied experience and a corps of splendid teachers, make up a school organization of unusual merit. There are enrolled in the High School 750 pupils, in the Junior High schools, 1,000, and in the grade schools 3,150, making a total enrollment of nearly 5,000 pupils. There were 152 in the graduating class of this year. James W. McLane, the superintendent, who voluntarily retires this year, has had a teaching experience of over forty years. He was at West High in Cleveland for six years, at Central High for eight years, was principal of Lincoln High for eight and a half years, and of the Normal School five and a half years, and completes a long service as superintendent of the schools of Cleveland Heights. We quote from his interesting report of this year a brief paragraph illustrative of the change that has come to us since the days of the log cabin, when parental authority was supreme: "We live in a time of the supremacy of the child in the home; and the deference shown to childish and youthful complaints, especially when accompanied by a summer shower of tears, is amazing. No child or youth can ever be made ready for the inevitable conflict that life is, unless he has been reprov'd, disappointed, opposed, defeated, and required to subordinate some of his selfishness to larger things. We should always preserve youthful rights, but we must also emphasize youthful duties and responsibilities, if this republic

of ours is not to prove itself a disastrous experiment in self-government."

Superintendent McLane has as a personal staff Miss Eda G. Willard, assistant superintendent; Miss Marion G. Clark, supervisor of upper grades, and Miss Minnie Lee Davis, supervisor of primary grades. There is a board of medical inspection consisting of Dr. H. F. Staples and Dr. Ethel Harrington, and Mrs. Ada G. Willard and Miss Edna K. Ellis, school nurses. The school libraries are under the supervision of a library board, appointed by the Board of Education. It consists of an efficient body of prominent people, Charles Adams, president; Alfred Clum, secretary; Charles K. Arter, F. W. Ramsey, Mrs. Fred B. Becker, Mrs. T. E. Borton, and T. H. Hogsett. There are 15,500 volumes in the library, which is located in the Coventry School Building, with branches at Fairfax and other schools. The librarian is Miss Helen Keeler. We have given this brief outline of the educational activities of this city, but its police and fire departments, its activities in the way of public improvements are in keeping with all the rest. This being, like Shaker Heights, a residence town and in reality, a residence section of Cleveland, but with its own government, we will speak of the churches in a review of the county at large. Cleveland Heights, formed out of Fast Cleveland and Warrensville townships, was established as a village May 10, 1905. Its rapid growth permitted its advance to a city, and it is now one of the three cities, outside of Cleveland, in the county. The three are Lakewood, East Cleveland, and Cleveland Heights. The present officers are: Mayor, F. C. Cain; clerk, H. H. Canfield; treasurer, E. B. Merritt; council, Frank C. Cain, R. E. Denison, W. C. Dunlap, A. W. Ellenberger, W. G. Hildebrand, R. E. Purdy, and J. W. Smith.

The Village of Beachwood, formed in part from Warrensville, was erected by virtue of a petition and a vote of the people in 1915. The first election was held June 15, 1915. The present officers are: Mayor, L. F. Lavin; clerk, Elmer J. Corlett; treasurer, W. W. Cowley; assessor, Charles Fehr; council, O. C. Sell, George McVeigh, George E. Walkden, John Bieger, Fred Neal, and B. W. Truscott.

During the administration of Tom L. Johnson as mayor of the City of Cleveland, and Rev. Harris R. Cooley, director of public welfare, a large tract of land was purchased in Warrensville for a workhouse and city infirmary, and hospital. It is a tract of good soil, and offenders confined for misdemeanors are given the forced opportunity to earn their own living by working on the farm. It is a "back to the soil" movement and while the health of prisoners is much improved and conditions much better than under the old system of indoor shops for the employment of offenders, yet the opportunity to engage in the activities there are not eagerly sought out. It is a great reform, and perhaps no better place could have been selected than the section of Warrensville chosen for its location. In another chapter we will describe in detail the institution as a part of the criminal history of the City of Cleveland. An effort is on foot to annex to the City of Cleveland the Township of Warrensville as now existing, which if carried out will bring this farm into the city and complete the passing of the township.

Warrensville Township Excerpt from Memorial to the Pioneer Women of the Western Reserve by Gertrude Van Rensselaer Wickham, Under the Auspices of The Executive Committee of the Woman's Department of the Cleveland Centennial Commission, 1896. Parts 1-4. Transcribed by Betty Ralph.

<https://usgenwebsites.org/OHCuyahoga/Cities/WarrensvilleTwpPWWR.pdf>

All four parts with many other locations are also viewable at:

<https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/2719949?availability=Las%20Vegas%20Nevada%20FamilySearch%20Library>

Warrensville

Warrensville received its name from Daniel WARREN, who was the first settler in the town. It is eight miles southeast of Cleveland, and is bounded on the north by East Cleveland and Euclid, east by Orange, south by Bedford, and west by Newburg. Three principal streams carry the surplus waters of the town to the lake: Doan Brook on the north, Kingsbury Run in the center, and Mill Creek on the south. The latter probably received its name from the fact that the first grist mill in Cuyahoga County was built on its banks, where it falls over the rocky ledge at Newburg.

It was not alone hardship and privation that the early pioneers of the Western Reserve were called upon to endure, but even death itself sometimes met them on the way. Such was the case in the first attempt at settlement in the township of Warrensville. There is a tradition among the early settlers that a man by the name of Carlton bought land where the Shaker East House (so called) now stands. Coming through the woods from Newburg, with an assistant to clear a place where on to build his cabin, their dog treed a bear.

At once the instinct of the hunter displaced all other thoughts, and laying off their coats, their gleaming axes and sturdy strokes soon brought the tree to the verge of falling. Directing his assistant to station himself with a good club just beyond where the tree would fall, he added a few more strokes, which sent the tree crashing to the ground. The bear was soon dispatched, and shouting out a note of victory, the hired man waited in vain to hear his leader's voice. Becoming alarmed, he ran hastily to the stump, where he found Carlton dead beneath a large limb which had been broken off when the tree began to fall. The enterprise was at once abandoned, and it was left to other hands to unfurl the banner of approaching civilization, and to build an altar around their humble hearthstone in the wilderness to the worship of God.

In the spring of 1810 Daniel WARREN bought a farm in the western part of Warrensville. A little spot was cleared, and in the middle, he built his cabin, so that falling trees could not crush it. And then his wife, Margaret (PRENTISS) and their two children were installed in their new home, and were living in their own new house which they had built from "start to finish" without using a single nail.

But life in the woods grew monotonous, and towards the fall we see Margaret mounted on the horse, with the baby in her arms, and Hiram on the pillion behind, going four miles through the woods to visit their nearest neighbor's wife. A pleasant day was spent. Returning home at evening, the fierce howling

of a wolf far back on her track while she was yet nearly a mile from home, told here that there was no time to lose.

Telling Hiram to hold on with all his might, she gathered her babe in a close embrace, and then applied the whip. The horse needed no second admonition, but went racing along the path as if he knew that death was on their track. They reached the clearing none too soon, for, glancing back, she could see amid the gathering gloom the fiery eyes and lolling tongues of the savage brutes as they came rushing on to their intended feast. Hearing the howling of the wolves, and knowing that it meant danger to wife and children, Daniel came running out and met them. But now the danger past, he assisted her to dismount at the cabin door, but her trembling limbs would not support her, and he had to assist her into the house.

W.H. Warren, born in 1812, son of Daniel and Margaret Warren, was the first white child born in Warrensville, and was the third one in a family of eight; two of the numbering being daughters; Paulina, who married Rodric BEBEE, and Julia, who married A.H. SHUNK. She has been matron of the Cleveland Protestant Orphan Asylum more than twenty-five years.

In 1811 Jedediah HUBBELL, with his wife, whose maiden name was Hannah TURNER, came from Vergennes, VT, locating first in Newburg, near the river, where the ague proved such a scourge that they soon moved to Warrensville. Of their nine children, four were daughters, one of whom passed in early life to the home beyond. Of the other three, the oldest, Sarah N. Hubbell, married Moses Warren, Jr., Maria HUBBELL married Hiram GLEASON, and Mary married William BOWLER.

It is related of Maria that, being left at home one Sunday with Oliver and Baby Mary, while the rest of the family attended the Shaker meeting, the house caught fire from the old stick chimney. Hastily dragging a feather bed out in to the yard and placing baby on it, she undertook to subdue the fire by dashing the pans of milk upon it.

But the flames had gained too much the start, and an hour later the family returning from church met a forlorn little girl bespattered with milk and blackened with smoke and soot, carrying the baby and bringing the news that the house was burned to the ground. Bad news spread with wondrous speed, and the next day men from all directions, some with axes, some with ox teams, came to help, and when the sun went down on the second day the family moved into a new home, which was all complete, even to a new out-door mud oven, which was ready for the Wednesday morning's baking.

About 1811, Asa STILES, with his wife, Rebecca (CAHOON), with their four daughters and three sons, arrived from New York. The oldest daughter, Hannah Stiles, married William ADDISON; Rhoda T. STILES married James WATSON; Electa Stiles married Calvin FISH; Betsy Stiles never married, but spent her life at the old homestead, caring for her aged parents and her nephews, Hiram and Harry ADDISON, the former being the famous "Father Addison" of Cleveland. In 1815 Moses Warren, Sr., with his wife, Pricilla (NOURSE) with their children arrived from New Hampshire. During the winter, which he spent with his son, Daniel Warren, he built on his own farm the first frame house in the township.

In 1822 Moore BELL, with his wife, Annice (PATTERSON), and their family of five daughters and two sons, moved into the log schoolhouse until they could build a house on their own land. Subsequently four more daughters were born.

The eldest daughter, Lucinda BELL, married Solymon HUBBELL and became the mother of three daughters, the second one being the Mary Hubbell mentioned in history. Those who knew her best will testify that she was far above the average in mental capacity, of a cheerful, sunny disposition, a beautiful singer, and an honor to her parents and the town in which she lived.

About 1823 the young people of Warrensville decided to celebrate the Fourth of July with a ball. It was also agreed that the young men should all wear white trousers on that occasion. Moses Warren, Jr., invited Clarissa SHEPHERD. When the eventful day arrived, he put the sidesaddle on "Old Bald Fact," a steady and reliable old horse, for the lady to ride, while he himself rode a younger and more mettlesome steed. When within half a mile of their destination an approaching thunder shower frightened the young horse, causing him to jump sidewise. The sudden strain on one stirrup strap was too great. It broke, and Moses went sprawling in the mud. Leaving his lady in the friendly shelter of the old log schoolhouse, he hastily rode home and soon returned clad in a more sober garb, which caused much comment when they arrived at the party. But when the misfortune which had befallen the white trousers became generally known, all readily forgave the apparent break of backwoods etiquette. The subject of this sketch is still living in his ninety-third year and able to enjoy a visit from old friends who call to see him. In 1813 Jacob RUSSELL, with five sons and several daughters, arrived from Connecticut. In 1821 Ralph Russell organized the Shaker Society, all of the other Russells joining soon after. They adopted the teachings of "Mother Ann Lee" as their rule of faith and practice. Two fundamental principles were the foundation on which their structure was built. First a life of celibacy, and second a community of interests. For a time, the society flourished. Property was acquired either by purchase or by voluntary gifts of incoming members, until the society owned thirteen hundred acres of land. A grist mill, a sawmill, and woolen mill were built, and the fabrics manufactured by the Shaker sisters at their woolen mill were eagerly sought for by those who wished to buy. Their hospitality was proverbial, and many a widowed mother with her destitute children found there a hearty welcome and a home. But as the years went by and the children taken there in childhood grew to man and womanhood, they often deserted to the world. Death also thinned their ranks, and at length it was decided to sell their possessions, and the few remaining member of their once prosperous society joined a kindred society near Dayton.

Another of those pioneer mothers that all delighted to honor was Mrs. William COLE, whose maiden name was Lovina GLEASON. Of her ten children we only have space to mention the eldest daughter, Mary, who married D.W. GAGE. From the Ohio Messenger we quote: "By her temperance work she was known throughout the State, having been an active member of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, for years laboring in its various departments for the suppression of the liquor traffic and the elevation of manhood to purer and better lives."

Miss Almira WOOD, who married Lewis BENNETT, was the mother of three daughters. The second, Lucretia Bennett, who married Andrew CONKEY, is yet a resident of Warrensville, and well remembers the line of blazed trees that guided herself and sisters through the two miles of unbroken forest to the log schoolhouse, where the foundation of an education was laid which has made them honored and respected members of the place in which they live.

In 1831 Norman WILCOX was returning home one evening from a day's logging for a neighbor. Night having already fallen; he carried a hickory bark torch to light himself and oxen on the way. Suddenly he heard a woman's piercing scream. Hastily tying the oxen to a tree, he ran with all speed to the rescue. Guided by the continued screaming he soon reach the place, where he found Mrs. Thomas OTHERTON keeping a panther at bay by waving the torch which she carried. The top of a large tree lay near at hand, with dry leaves yet adhering to the limbs.

Applying the torch, it burnt with such a fierce and crackling blaze that the panther was frightened away. Being too terribly frightened to continue on to her own home, which was yet some distance away, she thankfully accepted the invitation of Mr. WILCOX to stay with his family until morning.

Mrs. Elizabeth RADCLIFF HARRISON came to Warrensville, October, 1832. She was the mother of two daughters and three sons. Her son William Harrison, who is still living in the town, aged eight-six years, came to Warrensville the year previous and bought the home in which he still lives. They left their home in the Isle of Mann in 1828. When they arrived, it was all woods except a small plot around the little log house. Deer and wild turkeys were numerous. There was a spring a short distance from the house that supplied the house with water. Deer would be often seen going there to drink. A well-worn path on the hillside made by the deer showed that it was a favorite drinking place. Flocks of wild turkeys would be seen on the sunny side of the woods.

Ellen McSAYLE Wade arrive in Warrensville, August 1834, with her husband and four children, residing in New York city six years before coming to Warrensville. They left their home in the Isle of Man in 1826. Their first night in Warrensville was spent at a neighbor's. Next morning she and her four children crossed through the woods to see their new home. She was disappointed, but, being of a cheerful disposition, bravely met the trials incident to pioneer life. She was the mother of three daughters and six sons.

Catherine Wade HARRISON came to Warrensville with her parents, August, 1834. She was the mother of six daughters. Loving her home and family, earnest in her devotions to the church, a kind neighbor in times of sorrow and death, she was one of those of which the Scripture speaks: "Her children shall rise and call her blessed."

Miss Polly CUSHMAN belonged to the eighth generation from Thomas Cushman, who came from England to the colony at Plymouth, Mass., in the ship Fortune, which came a few months after the Mayflower. She came to Ohio from Bennington, Vt., in 1839, and was a year later married to John HEWITT.

Lurancy THOMAS moved to Hudson, O., from Vermont, where she was married to Andrew Wilson in 1829, at that time becoming a resident of Warrensville. Of her, her son writes: "Her children were her especial care, to whom she was for the most part mother, nurse, and doctor."

Belinda Bell, who married J.E. ADAMS, Jr., was the mother of six daughters and one son, all of them still living to bless a mother's loving care.

Catherine McCULLOCK, who married Truman KENT, although nearly eight years of age, well remembers the time when she taught school in Orang. James A. GARFIELD, then but seven years of age, being one of her pupils, and though so young in years, his kindness to his teacher and loving tenderness to his mother won for him a kindly place in her memory that death alone can obliterate.

The old frame schoolhouse in Warrensville in which Garfield taught school in 1850 is yet in use, not as a schoolhouse, but as a farm residence. In searching through the time-worn records of the past the historian found in an autograph album belonging to a granddaughter of one of the men who were school directors at that time, the following memorandum, which had been cut out and pasted into the album as

a keepsake: "James A. Garfield commenced keeping school November 11, 1850, ending February 22, at \$15 per month, 3 ½ months, \$52.50."

It was the custom in the early times to hold religious services in the schoolhouse, as the people had not then built a regular place of worship. One evening services were being held in what is now known as the beehive. Mrs. Ann WATERSON happened to sit facing her own house in which three of her children were sleeping. Suddenly she saw flames bursting through the roof. She was so terrified that she could not speak, but, springing to her feet and pointing toward the house, she gasped: "Oh! Oh! Oh! And then sank down again. The minister was surprised, but a moment later he was dumbfounded to see the whole congregation rush pell-mell out of the house without waiting for doxology or benediction. The children were saved but the house was consumed. Again, the men turned out as they did when the HUBBELL house was burned and in two or three days, they had a new and better house than the one that was destroyed.

But the log houses are gone. In their stead palatial residences or comfortable farmhouses have been built. The kind and loving Christian mothers that made those humble hearthstones the dearest spot on earth to toiling husband and prattling children have gone "to that bourne undiscovered, from whence no returning feet come." Happy will it be for us if we perform as well our parts in life's wondrous drama, so that our children and children's children shall love and cherish and revere our memories as we do the memories of those who have gone before.

*MRS. WILLIAM M. WARREN,
Chairman and Historian.*

Warrensville committee - Mrs. Thomas J. CAINE, Mrs. John CALEY, Mrs. George PENTY, Mrs. Richard COWLES, Mrs. Andrew L. CONKEY, Mrs. Henry CLARK, and Mrs. Harry CORLETT.