

Memories of Hinckley

**By
Rex Bartlett**

**With supplementary notes by Lillian Christian Dake
Index by Helen Vaugh
Donated by Dr. William K. Buchanan**

Courtesy of Fort Vance Historical Society

MEMOIRS OF HINCKLEY

by REX BARTLETT.

with supplementary notes by:

LILLIAN CHRISTIAN DAKE

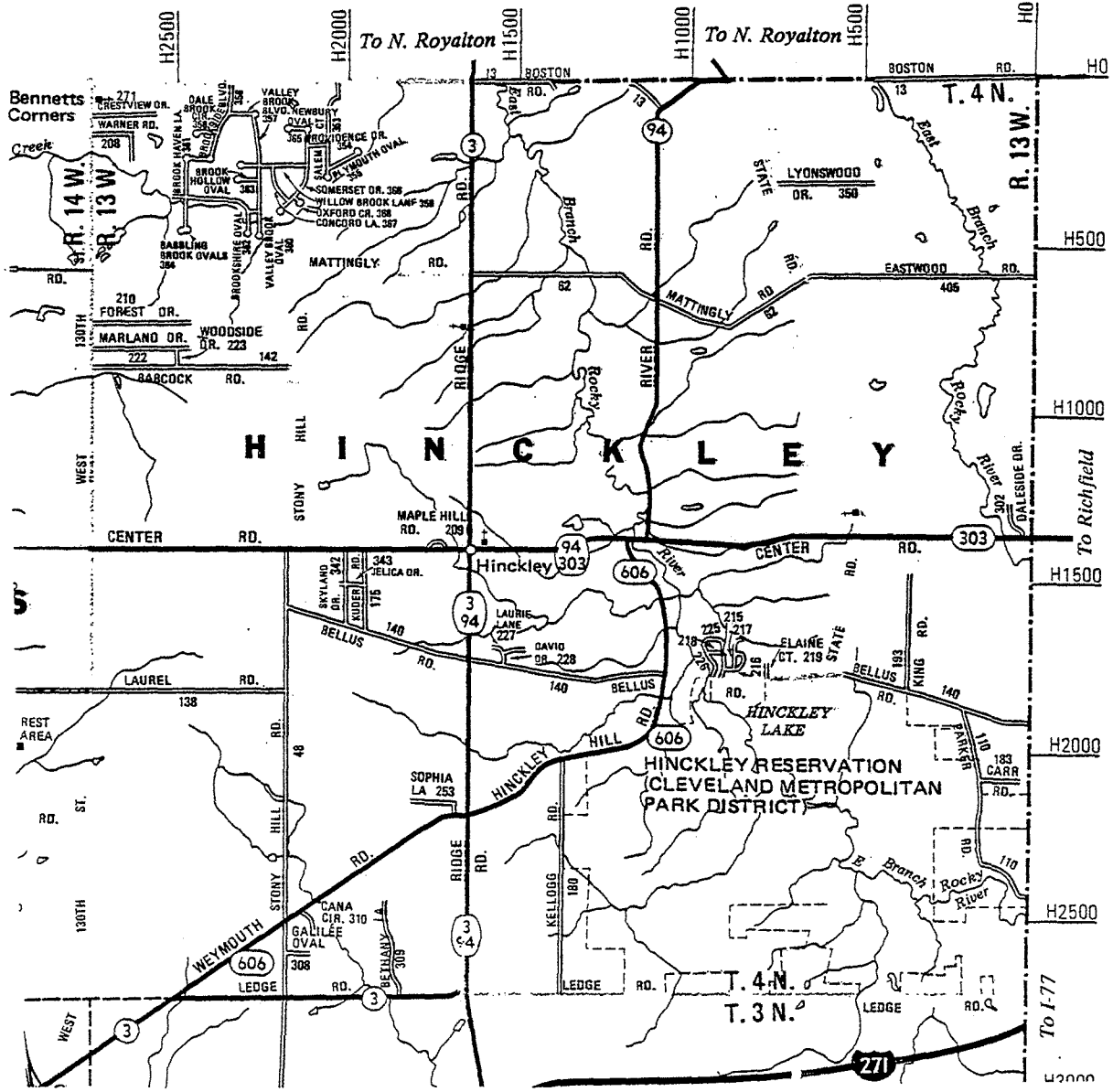
Index by: Helen Vaughn

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CUYAHOGA COUNTY



SUMMIT COUNTY

To N. Royalton H2500
 To N. Royalton H1500
 To N. Royalton H1000
 To N. Royalton H500
 To Richfield H1000
 To Richfield H1500
 To Richfield H2000
 To Richfield H2500
 To I-77 H2000

Bennetts Corners

HINCKLEY RESERVATION (CLEVELAND METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT)

T. 4 N.
T. 3 N.

R. 14 W.
R. 13 W.

T. 4 N.
R. 13 W.

LYONSWOOD OR. 350

Hinckley 303

Weymouth 606

771

I was interested in your Gazette comment about Frank Dake. While we lived in different sections of Hinckley, we were in High School together, when High School was held in the eastern half of the frame building, which has since been torn down. Not only did I know Frank Dake well, but also his wife, Lillian Christian, who, after living with her parents on the "Rabbit Path" in southwestern Hinckley, later removed to the Lucian Chidsey farm at Sherman Corners.

Jennie Rupert--It happened in the old Methodist church which stood adjacent to, and to the west of the cemetery at the top of Hinckley. The funeral was under the direction of Branch and Longacre of Medina. As you know Mrs. Rupert is a tiny woman. The old custom of passing around the bier was still in vogue. Mrs. Rupert was in the line, and as she got to the coffin, Mr. Branch, thinking that she was a little girl, picked her up bodily so that she could look at the remains.

My earliest memory of the store on the northwest corner of the four-corners that is Hinckley Center (but not the central point in Hinckley) was its being conducted by John Brongers. I hope that his memory can be preserved as long as Hinckley has a history. It seems to be a belief of some people that he was a Jew from Holland, and that he first appeared in Hinckley as a pack peddler, later going through with horse and wagon, and finally buying the store. Be that as it may, I think he belonged to the old Disciple church(now Lutheran)in Hinckley, and when I started going to Sunday School there, he was its Superintendent. Sometime, whether before or after he bought the store, he married Addie Piper, who lived on the West Town Line toward Bennetts Corners.

I can't remember whether or not Addie Brongers was my first Sunday School teacher, but at least before long she was a teacher of boys my age, and so continued until her death from cancer. She was truly a remarkable woman, and beloved by her "boys". We were honorary bearers at her funeral. When her end approached, she sensed it. My mother was one of those who stayed at her house the night before she died, and that night I went in where she was. She shook hands with me and expressed the wish that I would live a good life. Towards morning she called Mr. Brongers and asked him if this were the end. Mr. Brongers told her "Yes". She then had him take the Last Supper with her.

While Mr. Brongers had other teamsters, in the days when his goods were hauled from Cleveland by wagon and team, the only one I can remember is Will Pugh, who worked for him for many years. Mr. Brongers' first clerk in my memory was George Wait, who later married Mrs. Brongers' niece, Mabel Pierce, daughter of Phebe Piper Pierce. This marriage was within my memory and she lived at the end of the lane going north from the lowest bend in Hinckley Hill where Will Pugh lived.

Will Pugh married Florence Johnson, who had a sister Ida and brothers George and James, said James being the one who was burned to death a few years ago. In my earliest memory of them, the Pughs lived at the top of the hill north of Hinckley, on the east side of the road. However, before they lived there, I can remember the place being occupied by Beecher Bell whose father, William Bell owned the place before him. Said William Bell married as his second wife, Laura Cleveland, daughter of David Cleveland. William's first wife was Aurora Piper. I am under the impression that she was an aunt of Addie Brongers. Beecher Bell moved from Hinckley to Brecksville, where he carried the mail, merchandise, and passengers from the railroad station east of Brecksville to Brecksville Post Office and vice versa.

George Wait was a son of Milton Enos Wait, who lived a mile and a half west of Hinckley Center (Bowmans lived there the last I know), and a grandson of George Wait, who lived on the south side of the road at the top of Hinckley Hill, adjacent to the cemetery. The younger George Wait moved to Grangerburg and was engaged with his brother-in-law Fred McMillan in making cheese. He finally moved to Medina, where he died and where his widow still lives.

The store beside Brongers' store was run by Ransom D. Riley and his son Wallace. The Maccabee Hall was over this store. The only article of merchandise which Brongers did not handle, but Riley did, was meat. The old Hinckley Post Office was in Riley's store, although I believe Mr. Brongers was postmaster before Mr. Riley. To even up the score of Riley selling meat, Mr. Brongers handled the drug business.

I am reminded of Dr. Chase's medical and recipe book. Somebody brought in a prescription from Dr. Chase's book and Mr. Brongers attempted to mix the ingredients. Result--an explosion that almost set the store on fire. Mr. Brongers in his earlier days used to "hit the bottle" a little. He was cured of this when a customer came in after a piece of cloth, which Mr. Brongers also sold. He measured the cloth and started to rip the piece off. After a while it was discovered that he was ripping lengthwise of the cloth. He never took a drop of alcoholic drink afterwards, and kept the cloth in question as long as he kept the store, as a reminder. Mr. Brongers was a grand old man, but quite a humorous book could be written on some of the things he did and said, and he had to take his share of kidding from everybody because of them which he always took in good part and would laugh with everybody else.

Ransom Riley had brothers, Eugene and Hugh P. and a sister Amanda Riley Shook. Wallace Riley was his only child. Wallace married Evelyn Sturtevant of some town near Ashtabula (Andover) who came to Hinckley as a milliner for Amanda Riley Shook. Their children whom I especially remember were Walter and Maxine and Maynard. Ransom D. Riley married Sarah Wait, daughter of Elisha Wait, who was a brother of the older George Wait mentioned and lived a mile and a quarter west of Hinckley Center across the road from the Cleveland's.

I never knew Luther Riley, but he had a daughter Myrtie Riley, who married a man we knew as "Crate" Wilbur. They did not live in Hinckley very much, but they had two sons Luther and Lee who were one-time schoolmates of mine and a daughter of two whose names I do not remember. Also there was a James Riley whose relationship to the Hinckley Rileys I never knew.

Eugene Riley had sons, Carl and Julian and a daughter Clara who married Clair Miller of Granger. Carl's wife was (Theresa?) Cumberworth who lived near Bennetts Corners. Carl died in Buffalo, New York, where he was connected with a business college. Julian married Winnie McKee, daughter of George McKee and sister of Wallace of Hinckley.

Hugh P. Riley lived right next to the "village green" at Hinckley Center, on the northeast corner of the intersection of the roads there. As Hinckley had no hotel facilities and it was in the time of "drummers", after business with the stores and tinshop there, Hugh Riley and his wife furnished meals for them and other transients. They had two daughters, Mabel Frances Riley and Bessie Riley. Mabel Riley was a teacher and never married. She was my teacher in the first, second and third grades. I believe her own first year of teaching was in Richfield, and then she was in Hinckley in old District #4 east of Hinckley Center

(the old schoolhouse was bought by William C. Ehman about 1908, moved to the Center and converted into his hardware store, when #4 moved into the then new school building) for the next three years. If my memory does not fail me, she then went to Lorain, Ohio, where she was at the end of her teaching career. I had the somewhat unique experience of her not only being my first teacher, but also of her being a classmate of mine in later years, when in the summers of 1914 and 1915, we attended Kent State Normal College, and were in the same music class. Bessie Riley married, first, Frank Montgomery of the West Town Line (had a daughter Ruth) and second Ray Hurd. They had two children Eloise and Clark. She and Ray lived for some years on what to me was the Kinch farm on the north side of the road at the top of Hinckley Hill, later lived in the Hugh Riley house, then moved to Florida, after a period of time in Berea. Ray Hurd died in 1957.

Amanda Riley married Eli Shook. They lived on the east side of the road going south from Hinckley Center, at the top of the hill south of Hinckley Creek in the second house (the first being occupied by Barney Ritz). Eli Shook was Hinckley's undertaker, being succeeded after his death by his son Judson in partnership with Elliott Begelow. Their other son was Charles R. Shook, who conducted a barbershop on the east side of Hinckley Creek across from the Grange Hall. Charles also made ice cream there and served it. His mother, Amanda Riley Shook, conducted a millinery shop over his barbershop. Of course his refreshment stand next to Riley's old store and in front of his home, is recent enough to be remembered by most everybody. I counted Charles Shook and his wife as among my best friends. The house and stand are gone now--replaced by a gas station.

Charles Shook married Eva Hoddinott, of, I believe, Granger. Eva Hoddinott had sisters Bertha, Jessie and Lou. Their father was George Hoddinott, who had, by another wife, Myra and Roy. Myra is an employee of The Old Phoenix National Bank in Medina. Bertha married William Ehman. Their daughter, Lucille married George Emmett, and they had a daughter Jean. Jessie married Clayton Benjamin whose parents lived on the Brunswick side of the West Toen Line, north of Sherman's Corners, and whose mother was a daughter of Horatio Chidsey. Lou married as his second wife, Dedill Ganyard of Granger, later of Medina. The children of Charles and Eva Shook were Clifton, Reade, and Virgil.

I remember the old Town Hall, long before it burned, with its entertainments where people were jammed in so tight that, had a fire broken out, Hinckley would have suffered a great loss in population. With the dances held there, the elections, etc., and the old High School consisting of two years, which was eventually moved to the "new building" about 1908, and a third year added to the curriculum.

Before William Ehman moved his tinshop to his later location, about 1908, and added his hardware store (building the whole from the District #4 schoolhouse and adding on) he was in a building situated to the north of the Lutheran Church (old location). Mr. Ehman was truly a thrifty, self-made man, extremely honest and filled with faith in the honesty of his fellowmen. Although living in western New York at the time, I attended his funeral in 1930. The sermon was delivered by Charles Searles, and I count it among the best sermons I ever heard on such occasions, because it really summed up Mr. Ehman's deeds in their true light. Mr. Searles told how Mr. Ehman would spend hours on some puttering job, at the end of which he would charge fifteen cents, and he would likely as not charge it. Another detail which always impressed me was his hospitality. If

anybody came to him with a "job" and he was still there at dinnertime, Mr. Ehman would have it no other way than that the customer must come home with him for dinner. I worked for him in 1913, the summer I graduated from Oberlin High School, for \$4 a week and my room and board, and it was one of the mistakes I have made when I didn't stay with him. I left him to teach school, but three years afterward I stopped that and went to western New York. Among others who worked for him I remember Del Isham, Herman Fulmer, Forrest Charlton, and George Emmett.

There was one industry in Hinckley Center which may have been almost completely forgotten, and that was the mill conducted by Alfred Boulden. His mill was situated a short distance north of the Grange Hall, and I remember it very well. Mr. Boulden and his wife and their granddaughter, Maud Boulden Smith moved to the State of Washington about 1904. They were English. The saw and grist mill was in operation at the time the foundry (which became the Grange Hall) was. In 1919 the old boiler was still there, among the ruins of the mill, near the east bank of Hinckley Creek. The feature of the mill which, as a small child, remains in my memory was the method Mr. Boulden had of getting the grist to the farmers' wagons after it had been ground. The ground grist was finished off on the second story of the mill, from whence Mr. Boulden had a car track (probably wooden) running to the east, the grist was loaded into the car and sent down the incline on which the track was made, and to the level of the farmers' wagons, upon which it was transferred. My memory of Mr. Boulden made me, when I was in the earlier school grades, appreciate the poem more, which was in one of my readers, which started out - "There was a jolly miller beside the River Dee, who worked and sang from morn til night no lark so blithe as he And this the burden of his song forever used to be I envy nobody, no not I, and nobody envies me". Then the poem goes on to say that "Good King Hal took issue with the miller over the theme of his song "Thou'rt wrong, my friend," "Thou'rt wrong as thou can be For could my heart be light as thine, I'd gladly change with thee" "Thy mealy cap is worth my crown, thy mill my kingdom's fee".

And then there were two blacksmith shops at Hinckley Center. One was on the south side of the Hinckley Hill, at the bend at the bottom of the hill. It was run by Ira Waldo, and later, by Charles Wait, a son of Sanford Wait, whose widow Jennie married Charles Babcock. Ira Waldo had three brothers and one sister whom I knew. The brothers were Ed who lived in Richfield, Prentice Waldo who lived about where the first bend in Hinckley Hill begins, on the north side of the road, and Anson Waldo, who lived, if my memory does not fail me, in the second house north of Ehman's, or second dwelling north of church.

Ira Waldo lived where Mrs. Jennie Rupert now lives, and moved from there to a farm about a half-mile north of "Maple Corners" as we knew the four corners a mile west of Hinckley (303 and 48). Morris Judson Wait lived at these corners, the barn on the west side of the road and his house on the east side. Next north of Wait's was the farm which I first knew as the Gilbert Farm, where Lyle Gilbert lived and where Wilder Sheldon later lived, and just north of that was the Rupert farm, where Jennie Rupert lived with her husband Samuel and her daughters Ola (Smith), Rena (Ritchie) and Doris (Veverka). My impression is that the Ruperts and Waldos exchanged places of residence, but it seems that, between the Waldos and Ruperts, James Goodrich lived where Mrs. Rupert now lives. The maiden name of Ira Waldo's wife was Gargett () and I think she was from Richfield. They had two sons, Ben--in government service in Washington and Ralph.

Prentice Waldo's wife's name was Emma. They had four children, Lida, Waylon and Winnie (twins) and Blake. Winnie married Charles Oakley. After Prentice Waldo's death his widow married Spencer Charlton, whose first wife, Laura Shook had also died. Prentice in addition to operating his farm on the side of Hinckley Hill, was a butcher.

I did not know Ed Waldo very well, as he apparently moved away from Hinckley before my time. Anson Waldo had a son, Charles Waldo, who lived in Conneaut, Ohio. Anson had practically retired before I knew him. He was the first janitor in the frame school building that was erected at the Center about 1908. These Waldos had a sister Lucy who married Alexander McKee. I do not remember Mr. McKee, but they lived on the north side of Hinckley Hill, just west of the lane going down to the Pierce or Pugh place, in a house whose roof had a much greater slant than any of the others. Lucy later married Thomas Roberts, and lived at the top of the hill immediately North of Hinckley Center, on the west side of the road. I don't know as I can name all of the children of Alexander and Lucy, but those I can remember were Lizzie who married "Bob" Ingersoll and moved away; Ella who married Milton Charlton and lived on the west side of the "River Road" north of the "Center Road" and perhaps a mile north of said "Center Road". Fred who married Edith Sylvester and lived on the east side of the road about a mile north of Hinckley Center, George who married Lou Finch and lived on the east side of the "River Road" (94) some distance north of the "Center Road" and Arthur who moved away from Hinckley.

Lou Finch who married George McKee was the sister of the first wife of Amos R. Webber. Mr. Webber's second wife was a cousin of his first wife and Mrs. McKee, Nettie Finch. I once received a typewritten letter from Mr. Webber which contained an item that amused me very much. He went on to say, as an apology for typing the letter, that when he was in Congress he came home one time, in the spring and upon seeing his father-in-law, he asked Mr. Finch what he had been doing all winter. Mr. Finch replied that the fall before he had received a letter from Mr. Webber and that he had spent all winter trying to figure out what Mr. Webber had written. So Mr. Webber took to typing his letters thereafter.

Regardless of whether or not people agreed with Mr. Webber on his stand on the liquor question, we cannot but admire him highly for his courage in fighting for his convictions. He was unalterably opposed to the liquor traffic, and a personal friend and admirer of Carrie Nation. He was elected to Congress and knowing full well it would be his political death, he introduced into Congress the first prohibition bill ever introduced in Congress the purpose of which was to do away with the liquor traffic in the District of Columbia. Of course the bill was defeated, and so was he at the next election. In spite of this, he staged a remarkable comeback as a Judge in Lorain County, and it was a source of pride to him that he and his son were both elected (the son as Prosecuting Attorney) in the same year. The Webber family represented by Amos O, Dr. John and Harry Webber was in some way related to Joseph Webber of Webber's Corners and his sisters Mrs. Sylvester and Mrs. Pettit.

As I think back, my good friend, Amos R. Webber, had a brother John Webber, who was a dentist in Medina. I am not too positive about the following, but I am under the impression that Dr. John married as his first wife, a sister of Ranson D. Hugh P, and Eugene Riley, and Amanda Riley Shook. Their son Walter was or is a druggist in Medina. My impression that Webber's first wife was a Riley was based on the fact that Walter Webber and Mabel Riley were first cousins. Amos R. Webber also had a brother, Harry Webber, who was a lawyer in Canton, Ohio.

Daughter of Frederick Riley

I am ashamed that I cannot recall the names of all of the Children of Ella McKee Charlton. She had a daughter Ruby who married Leslie Piero, whose daughter married Kenneth Babcock. Ella had a son Roy (Raymond) who I think is still in Hinckley. Fred McKee had two children, Leland and Sadie (Mrs. Melvin Case). George McKee had four children, Horace, Winnie, Wallace, and Fayette, of whom Winnie (Mrs. Julien Riley) and Wallace survive. Ella had Ford who married Bessie Gilbert, daughter of Will Gilbert.

So the Waldos and McKees of Hinckley are very closely related.

The other blacksmith shop I have mentioned was operated by Spencer Charlton. It stood on the opposite bank of Hinckley Creek from the Grange Hall. Just across the driveway to the west of Spencer Charlton's shop there stood an old wagon shop which had been operated by Spencer's father, T. C. Charlton. This old shop was burned, early one morning, perhaps about 1911. As to Spencer Charlton's blacksmith shop, there occurred something that seems almost unbelievable, when the original blacksmith shop burned. I was in my teens at the time. Although the shop burned after bedtime, quite a crowd got up and congregated. In the crowd was James Goodrich, who was almost invaluable at such times, due to his exceptional ability to keep his head and "size up" a situation and determine what course should be taken to keep damage down to a minimum. Mr. Goodrich approached Spencer Charlton and asked him if he wanted to save the foundation, that he might rebuild. Mr. Charlton agreed, with the result that ladders were placed against the shop, water was very handy from the creek, buckets were obtained and bucket brigades formed from the creek, up the ladders and onto the fire. The fire was put out (be it understood that the ladders were put against the stone foundation, which rose quite high next to the creek), and when things had cooled off sufficiently, it was possible to walk across the floor of the old shop, although it had been burned through in many places, and the foundation was undamaged, and a new blacksmith shop was built upon it.

T. C. Charlton, father of Spencer, was a wagon-maker, and although I never knew of his preaching but once, he had been a minister of the gospel. I think he was a native of England. His wife attended my mother when I was born, January 14, 1894. They lived the first house west of the old wagon shop, up Hinckley Hill, on the north side of the road. Later, Spencer and family lived in that house, and I believe his daughter, Norma Baloun lives there. I knew five of the children of T. C. and wife; Spencer, Milton, William, Rollo, and Mary.

Spencer married Laura Shook. She was related in some way to the family of Eli and Amanda Riley Shook, but I do not know how. She was, I think, from the southeastern part of Medina County. They had children, Forest, Mahlon, and Norma. Forest married Estelle Chidsey, daughter of Lucian Chidsey of Sherman's Corners and later of Brunswick Center. Forest was unusual in that he was one of not too many who took a correspondence course to augment his education and carried it through and used it later. He did this while working at Ehman's tin shop. Mahlon married Hazel Turner of Hinckley Ridge and eventually moved to Medina. Norma married William Baloun and lived in Hinckley, in T. C. Charlton's old home.

Milton Charlton married Ella McKee. Will lived in Royalton. His daughter, Bessie, married Edwin Kinch and they were formerly of Hinckley, living on what I knew as the Kinch place, at the top of Hinckley Hill on the north side of the road. The farm was later bought by Frank Swift, and still later by Ray Hurd. Rollo lived in Richfield. He married a sister of Harry Arnold, who when I first knew him, lived on the road paralleling the West Center Road which passed through "Pekin" and its western terminal was at the road leading south from "Maple Corners". Harry Arnold's farm was on the north side of that road leading south and near the western end of it. He later moved to the George Wait place, at the top of Hinckley Hill, and on the south side of the road. Mary Charlton married Charles Van Deusen, had sons Ora and Ray, and lived on the east side of the River Road, the first farm north of the Center Road. Spencer Charlton and Mary Charlton Van Deusen were active in the old Methodist Church, which stood adjacent and to the west of the cemetery near Hinckley Hill.

Originally Hinckley Hill did not have the curves in it that it has today, but went straight up to the top, past the old stone house (I wonder if there is any trace of it left) that was at the end of the lane going south, west of the house where Mrs. Rupert lives. However, the grade was so steep that the road down the hill was soon constructed with its curves as it is today. I can remember when W. K. Coover lived in that old stone house, and I think he was the last one to do so. He moved to the house on the corner (northeast corner) formed by the intersection of the lane going north from the Hinckley Hill road, to the Pierce-Pugh place. Becoming aged, he left there to go to the County Farm in Lafayette.

Hinckley Hill was a popular place for coasting in the wintertime, but dangerous, due to the curves and the momentum acquired. There was at least one death on that hill due to coasting. I think the victim's name was Wait, and that he was a brother of Hubert Wait. This happened before my time, but as I recall what I have heard, he hitched on ahead of a large sled, on a small sled and attempted to guide the big sled down the hill. He was thrown off and the big sled ran over him.

Among my coasting experiences: A short distance east of the business section of Hinckley Center, there is a short hill going downward, then another rise, and a long slope clear to the Rocky River Valley. A few times in my experience, the road was sufficiently icy that we could start at the top of that short hill gather momentum enough to carry us up the rise and over it, and clear to the Rocky River bridge. That, also, had its perils, aside from meeting vehicles on the way down (which rarely happened in those days). There is a quite sharp bend near the foot of that long decline, and we have had the experience of "piling up" right there. Am I right in my surmise that, a little north of that bend was the place where the wild animals were driven and slaughtered in the famous Hinckley Hunt?

Upon examining a map of Hinckley Center published on 1897 I find that there are several landowners whom I do not remember. These include K. M. Phelps and Uriah Wilcox, north of the Center, and T. N. Easton and W. S. Salisbury on Hinckley Hill.

I suppose that since my time in Hinckley there have been several new houses built, which would throw me off the track in telling of who lived in which in my time. However, on the north side of Hinckley Hill, just west of the old wagon shop was the home of T. C. Charlton. Next above that at the corner of the lane going north was a house which in 1897 was owned by E. Wilcox. I do not remember him, and the first family I can remember as living there was that of Wilder Sheldon, who married Hattie Damon, sister of John Damon who lived on the hill on the Center Road going up toward the Ridge. I believe the next tenant was Ellen Riley, widow of Eugene Riley, and the last one I remember was William K. Coover.

Then, at the end of that lane, was a place listed in 1897 to George Pierce. I do not remember him, but I have written of his widow, Phoebe. In 1901 or 1902, James Goodrich and his wife, Eunice Cleveland Goodrich lived there. His wife was known to me as Aunt Eunice, and he as Uncle Jim. However, the relationship they bore to me was more distant than that. She was a daughter of George and Electa Train Cleveland, and a first cousin of my grandmother, Laura Jane Anderson Chase. She died on that Pierce place. Soon afterward, Will Pugh and his wife, Florence Johnson Pugh brought the place.

West of that lane, under the brow of Hinckley Hill, where its steep read loomed up prominently, and reached by a path which came out by the lane, was the residence of Alexander and Lucy Waldo McKee. After his death and her marriage to Thomas Roberts, Uncle Jim Goodrich and his daughter Sarah (who married Wallace McKee) lived there. It was there that I joined a girls' club, much to the disgust of some of the girls, but with the approval of enough of them to vote me in. Ford Charlton, son of Milton and Ella (McKee), and his wife Bessie Gilbert Charlton also lived there, some time afterward.

This McKee place was truly "under the hill". For the ground sloped abruptly to it. Above it was a house, listed in 1897 to Sarah Hicks, I remember her well. I don't know how many children she had, but I remember her son Bert who married Caroline Ritz, daughter of Barney Ritz, and lived in North Royalton, and her son, Henry Hicks, who lived with her until her death, and alone in the house afterwards.

Then came the place where Prentice Waldo lived. After I left Hinckley in 1916, John Oakley built a small house to the west of where Prentice (Prentiss) Waldo lived.

When I first knew John Oakley he lived on the north side of the Center Road, up the hill toward Hinckley Ridge. I forget his wife's given name, but her surname was Severance, and she was a sister of Annette Severance Wait, wife of Morris Judson Wait, and of the wife of Orlando Wilcox, prominent attorney of Cuyahoga Falls. John Oakley's mother's maiden name was Garfield, and she was a cousin of President James A. Garfield. I also remember her very well. John Oakley had at least two brothers, Henry and Ralph. I believe Henry never married, and he lived with John at the place above mentioned. John Oakley had a son Charles who married Winnie Waldo, daughter of Prentice Waldo, and a daughter Angie, who married Albert Benjamin and lived in Royalton. John Oakley's wife died in the place near Hinckley Ridge. Afterward he and his daughter Angie moved to Hinckley Center and lived toward the top of Hinckley

Hill on the south side of the road. This place was immediately west of the place where Mrs. Alma Babcock lived at the time of her death. Here, John and Angie Oakley were both seized with typhoid fever - both very severe cases. The Hinckley Tent of the Knights of the Maccabees proved themselves to be one of the really rare fraternal bodies. They engaged the services of two trained nurses -- a Miss Oviatt and Miss June Wilcox (who became the wife of George B. Smith) and in providing for the care of the Oakleys they broke their treasury completely, but were responsible for the saving of both lives.

John Oakley was a stone mason. About 1911 he and his mother and Angie moved to the place across the road from the Cleveland homestead, a mile and a quarter west of Hinckley. His mother died there at an advanced age.

At the top of Hinckley Hill, on the north side of the road was the Kinch farm, listed in 1897 to J. L. Kinch. He married Mary Bigelow. Their children were Edwin, Alda, Amber, Hazel, Theda, and Roy. Edwin married Bessie Charlton. Alda married Dan Steingass and lived in Medina. Amber married Andrew Bradway and lived in Medina. Hazel married Leland McKee and afterward, James Sampson, and lived in Cleveland. Although I knew Theda and still have to get even with her for pushing me into the creek once over my shoetops, I do not know whom she married. Roy died about 1931.

After Mr. Kinch's death, his widow remained on the place a short time, when it was taken over by her son Edwin, while she went to Medina to live with her daughter Amber, or rather in the same house with her children, Theda and Roy. She died while living in Cleveland with her daughter Hazel. Mr. Kinch specialized in Leghorn eggs. Eventually his farm was bought by Frank Swift, who had become well off in the production of Leghorn eggs. Mr. Swift lived there with his son Winfield and two of his sisters, and he died there. The last owner of the farm I know about was Ray Hurd.

Now to start at the bottom of Hinckley Hill again and take the places on the south side of the road. Very close to the Creek, on the west bank was the parsonage connected with Disciple church. I cannot remember any minister living there. The first family I can remember there was that of Charles Shook, who moved from there to the house he was living in when he died recently, immediately north of the old Riley store. Next to live there was the family of Elliott Bigelow, who married Pearl McIntyre, daughter of Barker McIntyre. They had daughters, Anna and Isabel, and eventually moved to the house where Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Babcock now live. Anna Bigelow married J. J. Mortimer and lives at East Richfield. Isabel died at about the age of six, very suddenly after a tonsilectomy. After the Bigelows left the parsonage, the family of Elmer Isham, brother of Del lived there. Their children were Raymond, Clyde, Virginia, and Herbert. Virginia died there before she had reached her teens, and the rest of the family moved away. Elmer was a soldier in the Spanish-American War. The family of William Springborn also lived in the parsonage after the Ishams, but I don't remember whether or not they followed them.

Proceeding up the hill, the first building we came to was Ira Waldo's blacksmith shop. This was rebuilt into a dwelling by George Emmett, and at my last knowledge was occupied by Mrs. Lillian Bellus. Next was the dwelling of Ira Waldo, where Mrs. Jennie Rupert lives. Then the lane ending at the old stone house, and on that lane was the house of Mary Beckley.

Then the house where Spencer Charlton lived as early as I can remember. He eventually moved to the house where his daughter Norma now lives, and the other place was sold to a Mrs. McGorry of Cleveland. West of this was the Dick Saulisbury place, listed in 1897 as belonging to R. I. and W. S. Saulisbury. That place was sold to Joseph E. Babcock and was where his widow, Alma McCreary Babcock and her daughter Wilma lived.

Next came the house I have mentioned where John Oakley and his daughter Angie had their siege of typhoid fever. I can remember when "Bill" Tuman and his sister Jerusha lived there. After that was the place listed in 1897 as the property of M. Greenwood. I do not remember him, and the first occupant of that place was Rush Van Deusen.

My recollection of Rush Van Deusen was that of an old, white-haired and bearded man, carrying one of his small children on his shoulder. He was the father of twelve children - six by each of two marriages. By his first wife he had (order of birth not guaranteed) Charles who married Mary Charlton and lived on the east side of the River Road, directly north of the Center Road; Byron who lived directly north of Charles; Dexter who lived alone almost directly across from where the River Road joins the Center Road from the north; Newman, who lived on the north side of the Center Road almost a half-mile east of Hinckley Center; Jennie who married Thomas Royston and lived at almost the exact geographical center of Hinckley Township; and Omar, who was an attorney in Medina. Newman Van Deusen had sons Clarence of Lorain and Clyde of Hinckley. Clyde died many years ago. As stated, Charles had sons, Ora and Ray.

For his second wife, Rush married Annie Fusick of Royalton Township - a girl not yet out of her teens (at least hardly so). Their children were Esther, who I think still lives where she was born; Orpha and Annie, who died young; Martha who married after I left Hinckley; and Martin, who married Irma Cartwright and lives in Hinckley. I cannot but sing out a word of praise for Annie Van Deusen; She was one of those women who was ever ready to help those who were in need of help, and was always around when such help was needed. She was a large woman, who if she had been smaller there would not have been room in her body for that big, willing, sympathetic heart of hers. Several years after Rush's death, she married Judson Shook, son of Eli. Their son Eli Judson Shook died in boyhood.

Lest I forget, although he did not live on the hill, Rush had a brother, Don Van Deusen. While it may not be known as "Maple Corners" now, the four corners a mile west of Hinckley Center was known to me as such. Turning north there, and past the Gilbert and Rupert-Waldo farms I have mentioned, we finally come to a three corners with a road going west. Don lived at the southwest corner of the road. He was a soldier in the Civil War and had lost an arm. I am under the impression that he was twice married, but in my remembrance he married Mrs. Delight Painter who had a son Frank. It always looked peculiar, but when Don and his wife, Delight, would go for a ride (of course this was before the day of the automobile) they would ride in a surrey with Delight always sitting on the back seat.

Continuing up the south side of Hinckley Hill from Rush Van Deusen's, the next house quite close to Rush's had only one occupant that I can remember, although more must have lived there. In 1897 it was listed to M. Goodrich. I do

not know who M. Goodrich was, but it may have been Maria Hatch Goodrich, mother of "Uncle Jim" Goodrich. At any rate the only occupant of the house that I can remember was Elwin Goodrich, brother of "Uncle Jim". Also, I am under the impression that a family by the name of Cle lived there once.

The Goodrich item might as well be taken up now. There once lived in Hinckley, Anson Goodrich and his wife Maria Hatch Goodrich. They had three sons, James Candee, Eugene, and Elwin, and a daughter who married a man by the name of Houseman and moved away, then came back in later years for a brief period, then moved to Brunswick Center, where they stayed a while and moved elsewhere. Of the Houseman children, I can remember Herman, Alice, and Grace, and in their short stay in Hinckley they lived a half-mile west of Hinckley Center, on the north side of the road, at the point where a road goes south past the spot where James Johnson burned to death a few years ago. This farm was listed to N.M. Musser in 1897 (wife of D.O. Musser) and occupied by her son Victor, in that year.

Elwin Goodrich had two sons who lived in Cleveland. He died of a stroke, I believe, in my boyhood. Eugene married a woman by the name of Cole and they had children -- Mamie (I am not certain of this name) Harley, Harry, Charles, Sarah, and Dewey. They lived for the most part in Michigan, although all but the two eldest children came back to Hinckley eventually. Sarah was adopted by her aunt and uncle, James and Eunice Cleveland Goodrich, and is now the wife of Wallace McKee. Dewey lives, I believe, in southeastern Medina County. Charles died while a young man.

James Goodrich owned several bits of property in Hinckley, after the death of his wife, although not all at one time. He purchased the D. O. Musser farm (which was originally the George Cleveland farm), a mile and a half west of Hinckley Center on the south side. This he sold to Clark Hurd, father of Ray and Mrs. Glenn Babcock. He bought the George Fulmer place immediately west of the cemetery, and the land adjacent to it on the west, where he conducted a chicken farm. He was a constable and truant officer, and superintendent of highways (or the equivalent in Ohio law). As to his character, one instance will show his attitude toward his fellow-man. A man who owned a gravel-pit some distance east of Hinckley Center (name withheld) had sold "Uncle Jim" some gravel. This man claimed that "Uncle Jim" had not paid him enough, and he walked the distance of over two miles one morning, from his home to "Uncle Jim's" to dun him. A hot argument ensued, during which neither would give an inch, and considerable anger was aroused. Finally, the man in disgust turned abruptly and started back toward his home. "Uncle Jim" had been hitching his horse to his wagon, getting ready to go to the Center. He finished "hitching up" got into his rig, and soon overtook the other man. He stopped and asked the man to ride. He got in, and they started away, chatting like old friends. As far as I know, both forgot their quarrel.

West of the house where I remember Elwin Goodrich as living was the house of George Wait, at the top of the Hinckley Hill, on the south side of the road. His place was later owned by Harry Arnold. George Wait, as did his brothers John and Elisha, wore a white beard.

I can here touch the surface of the Wait genealogy as it concerned the Hinckley Waits. Incidentally, in the case of those who now spell their name "Waite". They were all "Waits" while they lived in Hinckley, and the final "e" was added after they moved away. There were two distinct branches of Waits in Hinckley, although I believe the two branches were related in comparative closeness, although I never learned the degree of relationship. One branch was represented by George Wait and his brother, and the other by Hubert Wait and his brothers.

The father of George Wait was Enos Wait. I am pretty sure that he lived somewhere in Hinckley, but do not know just where. I am pretty sure that he was the original Wait settler in Hinckley, as far as his branch of Waits is concerned. I did not know his son Monroe, although I did know several of his grandsons through Monroe. I never heard that he had daughters. His sons that I knew of were, George, John Elisha, and Monroe.

George Wait had a wife, who, if I remember correctly, was named Caroline. They had one son, Milton Enos Wait, who lived on the north side of the Center Road, a mile and a half west of Hinckley Center, the farm at my last knowledge being owned by Mr. Bowman. Milton Enos Wait married Lucy Meacham, who I think was a sister of Mark of near Bennetts Corners, and an aunt of Clarence Meacham who lived in northwestern Hinckley. Milton had two children, Winifred who married Frederick McMillan, a cheese-maker of Granger; and George Milton Wait, whom I have already mentioned as clerking in Brongers' store, marrying Mabel Pierce, going into partnership with Fred McMillan in cheese-making, and finally living in Medina. Milton Enos Wait was one of the best neighbors we ever had, as evidenced by one incident which was not uncommon in his character. One time during "catchy" weather, my father was called away at a time when his ground had been prepared for sowing. Coming home with weather threatening, and "stewing" because he would have to fit his ground all over again, he looked out to his field, and saw "Uncle Mit" busily engaged in sowing my father's grain.

John Wait lived the first place west of the Kinch farm at the top of Hinckley Hill on the north side of the road. John Wait's home was almost directly across the road from the old Methodist church (since moved away). His first wife was a Swift, and I believe her name was Martha. They had two children--Frank who lived three-fourths of a mile south of "Maple Corners", his farm on the west side of the road and occupying the northwest corner formed by the junction of this road with "Rabbit Path" which went west across the West Town Line, after which the "Rabbit Path" became "Pompey Street" at Mount Pleasant. John Wait had a daughter, Nancy, who married D.O. Musser, who lived across the road from Milton Enos Wait until he moved to Medina and worked at Shepard's mill there. D. O. Musser was a soldier in the Civil War. Frank Wait's wife was Jennie, and her sister married Omar Van Deusen. Frank Wait had no children. Nancy Wait Musser had a son, Victor, and a daughter Etta. Victor lived on the farm immediately west of the home of John Wait, at the end of the road going south past the place where James Johnson was burned to death. He married Lillian Seeley, daughter of Harmon Seeley who lived immediately west of the (now) school building at Hinckley Center. Victor Musser's children were Mabelle and Maxwell. They removed to Oberlin.

Elisha Wait, besides being a farmer, was an auctioneer. He lived a mile and a quarter west of Hinckley Center, on the north side of the road, across from my old home in Hinckley. He married twice (as did John Wait, whose second wife's given name was Addie, and I believe her maiden name was Rudisil). Elisha's first wife was Harriet Swift, and they had a son, Morris Judson Wait, who married Annette Severance and whom I have already mentioned, and Sarah who married Ranson D. Riley. Morris Judson Wait had no children. The second wife of Elisha Wait was a widow, Mrs. Helen Wait. She had a son, Jesse, who lived in northeastern Brunswick. I never did get it straightened out what the relationship the first husband of "Aunt Helen" was to the rest of the Waits.

These Waits, especially Elisha, Morris Judson, and Milton Enos were all great whistlers, and it seemed as if they whittled almost constantly while they worked around their farms, to the extent that that section of Hinckley was referred to by some as "Whistle Alley".

Monroe Wait died before my remembrance. I am quite sure that he lived the first house north of Sherman's Corners, on the east side of the Town Line between Hinckley and Brunswick. I don't know as I remember all his children, especially since I knew of no daughters. His sons of whom I have knowledge were Sanford, Chester, Emery, and Owen and Avery. The wife of Sanford was Jennie and they had a son, Charles Wait, who operated Ira Waldo's blacksmith shop after him. Jennie married for her second husband, Charles Babcock, and they lived on the Babcock homestead in northwestern Hinckley. Chester Wait lived in Brunswick and had a son Wylie. Emery Wait likewise lived in Brunswick on the north side of the road from Hinckley Center to Brunswick. He had sons Harry and Ernest (who married Ila Damon), and a daughter who married Seeley Stebbins and lived north of Brunswick, with daughters Marguerite and Clifford (I also have Stebbins blood in my ancestry. Harry Wait married the widow of John (?) Indoe, and had a daughter, Ethel. Avery married Rhoda Francis, lived a mile and three-quarters west of Hinckley on the north side of the road, and had a son, Harley. Harley Wait married Muriel Jones of Hinckley, and had a daughter, Marguerite.

Now to the other Wait family of Hinckley, represented by Hubert Wait and his brothers. I do not remember the name of their father, but I do remember their mother, widowed at the time, whose given name was Tamar. The brothers of Hubert were Henry and Willis. Hubert lived about two miles south of Hinckley Center, on the west side of the road, south of "alger Gull" and nearly to the diagonal road leading from Pekin into Granger Township, and ending at the Town Line between Granger and Medina Townships. In 1899, Hubert moved from his farm there to Oberlin, where he went into partnership with his brother Willis in a grocery store. Hubert married a widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Blackney Allen, who had a daughter Ruth Allen. I remember Ruth Allen, but she died in very early womanhood, or perhaps not out of her teens. Hubert and his wife had a son, Horace, who was a banker in Oberlin and in Huron. He and his sister Florence were among those Waits who later added an "e" on the end of their name. Horace Wait married Alta Johnson, a daughter of George Johnson and a niece of Florence Johnson Pugh and James Johnson (the one who burned to death). Florence Wait(e) never married. She was a graduate of Oberlin College and devoted her life work to the Associated Charities of Cleveland.

Willis Wait lived on the south side of the Center Road, slightly over a half-mile west of Hinckley Center, his farm cornering on the northwest at the end of the road leading south past the place where James Johnson was burned to death. He left that farm and moved to Oberlin and entered the grocery business,

where he was later joined by Hubert. Willis also married a widow, Mrs. Blance Allen, and they had no children. I believe that the relationship between the Allen men whom Elizabeth Blackney and "Aunt Blanche" married, if any, was very distant. I forgot to mention that Elizabeth was a daughter of William Blackney, who married as his second wife, when she was sixty years old, Hannah Cleveland, an aunt of my grandmother. William Blackney was an Abolitionist and connected with the old Freedman's Bureau. He was a tailor by trade. Blanche the wife of Willis had a daughter, Permelia Allen, by her first husband. Permelia was an accomplished violinist, and when I last heard from her she was living in San Diego, California.

After Willis Wait moved to Oberlin, his farm was occupied by his nephew, Clark Wait(e). Clark moved to Grafton, Ohio, and with his brother-in-law Adelbert Davis operated a creamery. From there he moved to Alabama, where he died. His widow, Hattie (Frizzell) Waite now lives in the Pythian Home in Medina. After Clark Waite moved to Grafton, the farm was owned by "Del" Isham.

Henry Wait died before my remembrance. He had a large family, including Clark, Stanley, Webb, Ralph, Andrew, Bessie Wait Davis, Blanche Wait Casper, Gertrude Wait Searles. Clark married Hattie Frizzell, daughter of Harry and Julia, who lived on the south side of the road going from the Ridge down Tarbox Hill, through Pekin and straight west through "Law's Corners" later occupied by Halbert Cartwright. Clark had three sons, Harry, LaVerne, and Karl. The last I knew Harry lived in Royalton Township. The other two I have lost track of completely, although Harry and LaVerne were playmates of mine.

Stanley Wait married "Libbie" Eggert, daughter of Doctor Eggert, one of Hinckley's old-time doctors, who lived north of Hinckley Center. Stanley and family of two sons lived in Elyria. Webb, to my almost certain knowledge, never married. To show how small the world really is, Webb went to school in an educational institution in Anna, Illinois. My wife's family were from around Easton, Pennsylvania, and her father was a minister in the Reformed Church (although later he became a Universalist minister), and lived for some time in Anna and was connected with that school. Many years afterward, I have heard my wife's sister tell how well she knew Webb Wait. I believe Webb became a chiropractor, in the days when that practice was in its infancy. He seemed to have been held in high esteem in Hinckley, for when he died, in early manhood, he was brought back to Hinckley for burial. At his funeral, some of the singers broke down and cried. Charles Searles delivered the funeral sermon, and said it was the hardest sermon he ever preached, and he also had to stop frequently and get control of his voice before he could continue. And that feeling seemed to pervade the whole funeral gathering. That is one scene that is very vivid in my memory, even though I was small.

I never knew Ralph Wait very well, although I did know him. He was never around Hinckley to my knowledge. Andrew lived in Cleveland, where he entered the taxi business, and I believe he was the pioneer in Cleveland in that line, his yellow cabs being conspicuous there long before others ventured into the field. "Del" Isham pioneered bus service from Hinckley to Cleveland. He had a Model T Ford touring car, and began taking passengers to and from Cleveland long before similar service was installed by others. His route was Hinckley Center east to Rocky River, north on the River Road, up the hill past where Miles Porter lived, to the "State Road" (Ridge Road) and thence to Cleveland. The little old Ford rambled right along all right, and when there was no more room for passengers

inside, they would hang on the outside like bees swarming, but "Del" always got them there. Also, "Del" was the first in Hinckley to see possibilities in the raising of cucumbers for the Cleveland market, and thus was the real pioneer in that field, which was a principle source of income for Hinckley residents for many years. He also got tired of cutting seed potatoes by hand, and made a seed-potato cutter which worked very well, and it almost seems that manufacturers later got their idea from him. He had an inventive mind, as well as an artistic one, and I really believe he has done more for Hinckley than many others who have been more in the limelight.

Bessie Wait, daughter of Henry, married Adelbert Davis. He was a son of Charles and Sarah (?) Babcock Davis. The farm of Adelbert was located at the south end of the north and south road going south from a half-mile west of Hinckley Center, on the south side of the east and west road connecting there, and the Charles Davis farm was the first one east of Adelbert's. Adelbert and Bessie had three children - Walter, Helen, and Maxine. These children went to California. Adelbert and his family removed to Grafton, Ohio. Bessie died in Grafton, Adelbert married again and moved to California.

Blanche Wait Casper lived in Illinois, but used to come to Hinckley on visits. Gertrude Wait married Lewin Searles, a brother of Reverend Charles and Leon, and lived in Medina. A son of hers, Robert Searles is a minister of the gospel in New Jersey.

Referring again to the Hinckley map in the Medina County Atlas of 1897, I find on the road going south from "Maple Corners" the third house on the road going south on the east side of that road (which passes through Webber's Corners) a place which was listed in 1897 to Jay Sylvester. I am reasonably certain that this place was formerly owned by Henry Wait, father of the Waits mentioned above. What makes me so sure of that is the fact that Gertrude Searles once stopped there and wanted to look through the house, as it was her birthplace. She had other children besides Robert.

I have been working toward the farms west of Hinckley Center. But I might as well go back to the Center, and account for the remaining places there. On the southeast corner was the home of Mahala Merchant. I am fairly certain that her daughter (Luella?) married Stephen West, and lived on the River Road, the third house on the east side of the road, north of the Center Road. They had children: Celia who married one of the Hiers of Bennetts Corners and lived there; William who married Alta Steffens, and later a Colby of Mentor; Lawrence who married Louise Voss and lived at the Center; Ameret who married Ed Holden, son of Scott Holden of the West Town Line; Minna, who died in her teens; Clifton who married Estella Arnold, daughter of Harry and Calla (Shank) Arnold, and they live in Medina; and Celia who, if I am not mistaken, married a Tibbitts of Brunswick. Stephen and his wife later lived in Mahala Merchant's house.

I note that the first house east of Mahala Merchant's was listed to F. J. Hicks. That is a Hicks whom I did not know. In my memory the house has been occupied by several families, the first being a family by the name of Micholas which removed to North Royalton soon after I started school. Mabel Nicholas was the only one I can remember well, although there were other children.

Also, the house has been occupied by "Net" Olds and her sister Electa, aunts of Edith Olds Chapman and Mrs. Lottie Brown (deceased). The Olds sisters moved from there to the "Bill Tuman" house on the Hill, previously mentioned, where John Oakley and his daughter Angie had typhoid. Also, the house has been occupied by Mrs. Annette Severance Wait.

East of this house was the one owned by Lois Isham and now occupied by her nephew, "Del". A comparatively new house was erected immediately east of house by John Renz, son-in-law of "Del". Lois Isham should not be forgotten in any history written of Hinckley. She was deeply religious and really practiced the principles of Christianity. She lived to be over ninety years old, and although we perhaps did not realize it when we were growing up, she was a true friend in the finest sense of the word.

Just east of Lois Isham's home was the Harmon Seeley farm. I have mentioned that he was the father of Lillian Seeley Musser. After he left the farm, the house was occupied by Dr. Noland, whom many in Hinckley must still remember. Dr. Noland was perhaps considered a "character" by many, as he used to go his rounds in his buggy hitched behind an old, old horse that had passed the days of friskiness long since. Dr. Noland was as deliberate as his horse, but very dependable as a doctor, once he had got there. He moved to Berea. He had a daughter Ethel who was a vocalist and met a tragic death, when the car in which she was riding plunged over the cliff in Cleveland into the Cuyahoga River. Wilder Sheldon and his family lived in the Seeley house for awhile. Later it was bought by Ranson D. Riley, whose son Wallace lived there before removing to Medina.

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Later, about 1906 or so, three acres were purchased by the Board of Education, part of which came from the eastern portion of the Seeley farm, and the frame school building was built thereon about 1908. But, in 1897, the place east of the Seeley farm was listed to Josephine Smith.

I remember Josephine Smith well as one of the best friends I ever had. She had three sons --Wade(?) had daughters, Lottie and Stella. His widow married one of the John Andrews who lived in Hinckley, and they lived on the South Ridge on the west side of the road, near the South Town Line. Blake was a soldier when I knew him as he came to Hinckley to visit George B. Smith was a contractor and carpenter of no mean ability. He was conscientious and honorable to an exceptional degree. His character was brought out at the time the frame school building I have mentioned was put up. The contractor who took the job of putting up the building hired him at the then prevailing wages, as a carpenter. The Board of Education gave him an extra 75¢ a day inspecting the work. Discovering that the contractor proposed to put material into the building which did not meet with the specifications, George called his attention to it and told him that the material could not be used. Where-upon the contractor informed Mr. Smith that he could keep his mouth shut or give up his job. Smith gave up his job, with its then good wages, and spent the rest of the time, at 75¢ a day, seeing to it that the contractor kept his agreement to the letter. The result was that, when the building was torn down, a few years ago, people were amazed at the sturdiness of the building.

George B. Smith was a bachelor for several years. Then Angie Oakley came down with typhoid fever. The nurse whom the Maccabees got to care for her was Miss June Wilcox, daughter of Ernest Wilcox, who was a relative of the Wilcoxes who had lived in Hinckley, but who did not live there at the time. George saw June and was "smitten". They were married and lived on the place his mother owned. They had four children. The first lived but a few days. Then came Josephine (Jr.), Britton, and Frances. Josephine is now the wife of Henry Church and is a teacher in Newberg, Oregon, the mother of three children - Robert, Mary, and Margaret. Britton lives in San Diego, California and is the manager of a J. J. Newberry store there. Frances recently drowned in Camas Valley, Oregon, unmarried. George, his wife and Josephine moved from Hinckley to Akron, and from there to Portland, Oregon. His wife June died there. Whether before or after her death I do not know, but he became blind. After this he married a lady from Chicago, and their life seems to have been supremely happy. They went to California where he died a few years ago. A somewhat poignant vein is injected here, when in a letter he wrote me, (which I think his wife really wrote) he said he wished his mother could see the poinsettias, because they "looked" so beautiful.

I must dodge across the road here, and go back to a spot almost across from Lois Isham's house, on land which was then owned by H. P. Riley. The old Congregational church stood there, but it had disappeared before my memory.

Just east of the place owned by Josephine Smith in 1897 was the old District #4 schoolhouse, which was sold about 1908 to Willeim C. Ehman and moved to the Center. My first teacher there, as I have said, was Mabel Riley, who was there three years. A previous teacher was Rena Kennedy who married Morris Perkins of Brunswick, and whose three daughters I had as pupils when I taught at Brunswick Center. Rena Kennedy lived on the Brunswick side of the Town Line near Mount Pleasant. Immediately following Mabel Riley as teacher was Edna Hopkins, daughter of Chauncey Hopkins of Granger. Then came Pearl Cadnum, daughter of James Cadnum of Brunswick, who taught there two years. The last teacher was Ethel Damon, daughter of Bert Damon of the River Road in Hinckley. Ethel Damon was the first teacher of the grades in the new building which had been erected between the Smith and the Seeley places. Pearl Cadnum married Wade Holden, a teacher in Brunswick and eventually moved to Upland, California. Ethel Damon married Glenn Chapman of Hinckley.

The first teacher I remember in the High School when it was held in the old Town Hall and consisted of a two year course, was Mark Morton. Jay Wilcox also taught in that school, but before my remembrance. Mark Morton was the first teacher in the High School after it had moved to its new location and had become a three year course. He was assisted by Hazel (?) Lee of Brunswick. The next teachers in the High School were William C. Rohde, assisted by Lucille Simmons of LeRoy. Then Lawrence Schuman assisted by Louise Fox of Columbus. Lawrence Schuman was succeeded by his father. Morton, Rohde, and the two Schumans

also were superintendents of the grade schools all over Hinckley. Before Mark Morton's time, the High School teacher was Mr. Severy of Richfield, who later moved to Oberlin and went into the grocery business.

Now just east of old District #4 was the farm listed in 1897 to Joseph Ritz, but as long as I can remember occupied by his son Charles and wife Elizabeth. Their daughter Lucille married Charles Dolesal. And finally, between Hinckley Center and the road leading from the Center Road to Pekin, was the farm where Joseph Ritz, father of Charles lived. I make an exception here, because right where the road to Pekin from the Center Road started on the southwest corner, was the house where Frank Wilcox lived. Frank and Jay Wilcox were brothers.

I remember three Ritz brothers, Joseph, Louis and Barney, immigrants from Germany. Joseph Ritz' children were Charles, Theresa who married, as his second wife, Bert Damon of the River Road; Joseph who married Myrtie Jones, daughter of Joseph Jones and sister of Muriel Jones Wait; John and Fred, bachelors who lived at home; Ida and her twin sister Minnie(?) who never married and lived at home; and Alta who married, but I do not know whom. Joseph Ritz was a shoemaker as well as a farmer. His wife and the wife of Barney Ritz were sisters.

Louis Ritz lived on what he termed Poverty Street. His farm house was the second on the north side of the road going west from the road from Hinckley to North Royalton. This farm was later sold to Frank(?) Baloun. Among the children of Louis were; Mary who married Frank Johnson and had a daughter Mildred; Louis Ritz, Jr., who married Stella Wiltshire of Hinckley Ridge; George and Albert who married sisters, Alice and Bertha Johnson, daughters of Frank Johnson of Webber's Corners; Louisa who married Charles Willard; Dana who married Fred Ellis; Rose who never married; Charles, William.

Barney Ritz lived in the first house south of Hinckley Center and south of Hinckley Creek, on the top of the hill there. I remember him quite distinctly as having a brownish beard, and being short and fat. Among his children were Caroline who married Bert Hicks and lived in North Royalton; Mary who married Charles Smith and had a son Arthur and a daughter Mildred, at one time living on the Hubert Wait farm and eventually in Richfield near Bang's Corners. Frank; Williw; Edward who married Kitty Steffens; Ella who married Dr. Floyd F. Ayres who started practice in Hinckley and moved to Akron and Cora who married Tucheck.

I note that I have now accounted for all the old places from Hinckley Center, east to Rocky River. There remains only the old River schoolhouse, situated on the north side of the Center Road and not far from the west bank of Rocky River. Others have more vivid recollections of that than I do, never having attended it and never having been inside but once.

Now, going west from the top of Hinckley Hill, on the north side as far as "Maple Corners", I think in my rambling I have accounted for all except the farm listed in 1897 to A. E. Babcock. This farm's house was the fourth from the top of the hill. Kinch, John Wait, Musser and then Babcock. Apparently A. E. Babcock was Alma McCreary Babcock, wife of Joseph E. They had sons, Glenn M. Babcock now of the Center; Clarence J. of Washington, D. C. (deceased Feb. 1958) and a daughter Wilma. Joseph was a son of David Babcock, whom I believe to have been David Babcock, Jr. of northwestern Hinckley. If my memory does not fail me, the Babcock farm was at one time one of the holdings of Robert Whipp. Selling this farm the Babcocks moved to the Salisbury place on the Hill, where Mr. and Mrs. Babcock died.

The next farm west of the Babcock farm was that of Morris Judson Wait at "Maple Corners". He and his wife have been mentioned. There remains but one more incident which tends to show the character of the people who lived in Hinckley in the early part of this century. My father and "Jud" Wait got into a quarrel one day while helping a neighbor thresh. For several years "Jud" would not speak to my father when they met. Then his house burned to the ground. As it happened we were renting the farm where Victor Musser used to live, but were not living there. Knowing that "Jud" was minus a house to live in, my father went to him and offered to let him live in the Musser house until he could build a new one of his own. Hesitating at first, the offer was accepted, and the two became good friends once more. This is an example that while Hinckley folks had their differences which sometimes caused severe rift, when there was need past differences were forgotten.

Now going back to the top of Hinckley Hill, and starting in from the old George Wait place, on the south side of the, the cemetery came next, then the old Methodist church which was eventually sold and moved to the farm where Victor Musser lived by James Johnson. Next west of the Methodist church was the small farm of George Fulmer, whose son Merman married Clara Steffens and lived in Medina. George Fulmer was a justice of the peace in Hinckley for many years. The place was later owned by James Goodrich, who also bought the ten acres to the west, next to the road running south a half-mile west of Hinckley Center, moved two barns there from the Willis Wait farm to the west and established a chicken business. West of that was land owned by Harry Arnold upon which a house once stood, but there were only traces of it as long as I can remember.

West of "Maple Corners" on the north side of the road was the Elisha Wait farm, which after his death was owned by his daughter Sarah Wait Riley. The house there burned a few years after 1916 and was replaced by a brick (I think). West of that was the farm of Milton Enos Wait, later owned by Mr. Bowman. Then the Avery Wait farm, upon which Harley Wait built a house to the east of that occupied by his father Avery. The next and last house before we reach Sherman's Corners was owned by Lucian Chidsey, whose father Horatio lived across the road from him, on the south side of the road.

Horatio Chidsey married twice. By his first wife he had a son, Lucien, and a daughter who married Edgar Benjamin, who lived north of Sherman's Corners on the Brunswick side. His second wife was Alice Brumpler of Strongsville, who after Horatio's death married Harry Arnold. Again widowed, she now lives in Medina. Lucian had two daughters, Estelle and Vera. Estelle married Forest Charlton and lived in Cleveland. Vera was a teacher in Cleveland. Horatio Chidsey was a brother of Truman of Brunswick, who had sons, Grant and Lyman.

West of "Maple Corners" on the south side of the road stood the Cleveland homestead where I was born. My good friend Amos R. Webber wrote that farm up in his "History of Hinckley from the time it was settled by David Cleveland through its ownership successively by Hannah Cleveland Blackney, my grandparents and my parents. Next came the George Cleveland farm later owned by D. O. Musser, James Goodrich, and Clark Hurd. Then the Horatio Chidsey farm whose house faced the West Town Line.

Going north from "Maple Corners" there were two houses-- the Gilbert-Sheldon farm and the Rupert-Waldo farm, both on the west side of the road. Then through a woods to the Don Van Deusen farm and a road running to the west. Then two houses on the east side of the road, the first where James Olds lived, later occupied by Ross Babcock; the second owned by John Babcock, father of Fred and Ross. Fred married Ivy Ganyard and Ross married Mabel Sherman. The last house on this road, which at that point turned abruptly to the east, was owned in 1897 by Clark Hurd, who later sold it and moved to the George Cleveland-D. O. Musser-James Goodrich farm, a mile and a half west of Hinckley Center.

Clark Hurd married Josephine Olds, a daughter of Mortimer, and a niece of Riley Olds, father of James Olds. Their children were George, who accidentally shot himself while young; Herman who went West; Jessie who died many years ago; Ray; and Lelia Hurd Babcock.

Continuing around the bend in this road to the east, the road became what Louis Ritz called "Poverty Street". The first house on the (now) north side of the road was owned by John Andrew. John Andrew had two daughters, Lucia who married Lawrence Isham, brother of "Del" and lived on the next farm east, listed in 1897 as belonging to C. Allen; and Alice who married Perry Kellogg and lived on her father's old farm. John Andrew later bought and lived on the farm at the top of the hill north of the Center, listed in 1897 as belonging to my grandmother's aunt Larura Cleveland Bell on the east side of the road. East of Lawrence Isham's farm was that of Louis Ritz across from which was a house in which Charles Willard lived. On the south side of this road was the Isham homestead, and before coming to the road from Hinchkey to North Royalton was one of Hinckley's district schools.

Now, coming back to the road going west from the Don Van Deusen farm and proceeding west we came first to the Babcock homestead, where David Babcock, the original Babcock in Hinckley settled. As near as I can make out, this David had a son, also David, and I can remember him and his wife very well. They had several children; Charles who married the widow of Sanford Wait (Jennie), had no

children and lived on the Babcock homestead; Emma and Ella, twins who never married and also lived on the homestead; John; Joseph E; Sarah who married Charles Davis already mentioned, although I failed to state that besides Adelbert, they had a son, Frank and a daughter Nanny who married George Kuder and still lives on the Davis farm. The Kuder children I can remember are Charles, Dorothy, and Elsie. A daughter of David Babcock married James Olds and their children were Edith and Lottie Olds Brown. A daughter of David Babcock, Cora married Ira Johnson, and lived in the first house west of the Babcock homestead on the north side. Their children were Gerald and Gladys who married Ross Duncan.

The Olds family and the Johnson family seem to follow logically here. Riley Olds, father of James, and Mortimer Olds, father of Josephine Olds Hurd were brothers. Mortimer had a son (Fred?) who eventually moved to Canada. Riley Olds, besides his son James who married a daughter of David Babcock had also daughters, "Net" and Electa who never married.

Ira Johnson had brothers, Fred and Frank, who in my time lived at Webber's Corners on the southeast corner. Frank married Olive Conant, daughter of Darius and sister of Will Conant, who lived on the Diagonal Road passing through Webber's Corners. Frank and Olive Johnson had children: Elmer who married Anna Jones, daughter of Arthur Jones of Mount Pleasant; Alice who married George Ritz; Bertha who married Albert Ritz; Walter; and Mary.

Proceeding west past the farm where Ira Johnson lived and on the south side of the road, the last house on the road was in 1897 listed to Mark Meacham. In my memory a Danish family lived there for a while. Also, Clarence Meacham, son of Mark who married one of the Veber girls from North Royalton.

Now going south from "Maple Corners" the farm occupying the southwest corner there was owned by Frank Swift, the leghorn man. Before his time, this farm was originally a part of the David Cleveland homestead of 160 acres, the eastern portion of which was set off for his son, David Hopkins Cleveland. David married Eliza Swift, sister of Frank, Martha Swift Wait, Harriet Swift Wait, Lois Swift Howland, Henry of Oberlin, and the mother of Mrs. James Mattingly. David and Eliza Cleveland had two sons, Charles and Findley. These sons were orphaned at a very early age, by the deaths which came to their parents within two months of each other. Charles died in a hospital in Kentucky while still in the service, and Findley dying after his discharge and while still a young man. Mrs. S. M. Wetmore, whose husband operated the store before Mr. Brongers bought it, was Hinckley's poetess. After the deaths of David and Eliza, she composed a poem entitled "The Orphan Boys", and at the funeral of Charles in Hinckley, she had composed a poem entitled "Tears For The Orphan Boy" which was sung.

The Swifts were natives of Cecil County, Maryland. I have often wondered what brought this large family of brothers and sisters to Hinckley. I understand that when the Civil War broke out, Frank Swift joined the Confederate forces, with duress or otherwise, but that he escaped and came North. The circumstances were never made clear to me. This would not account for the migration of the Swifts to Hinckley, for the sisters, at least, were there before the war broke out, as evidenced by the marriage of Eliza to David Cleveland, and I am under the impression that the other sisters had married Hinckley men before the war had started. Frank bought the farm of David Cleveland and proceeded to go into the Leghorn chicken business, stressing egg production and devoting his whole time to it, and hiring other men to do the farm work. He had remarkable success in that field of endeavor.

Frank Swift married Maria Richards, and they had sons, Leslie and Winfield. Winfield never married. Leslie married Ella Ritz, daughter of Barney. Leslie devoted his time to the Leghorn business, and built a house on the west side of the road, south of Frank Swift's and at the end of the road going east from there, through Pekin and up Tarbox Hill to the Ridge. His children were Edra and Leona. (There was another sister of Frank Swift-Miss Jane Swift.)

I have never been able to determine the relationship of Maria Richards Swift to the Richards family in Hinckley represented by Henry Richards and his son Sherwin, and I am inclined to think that the relationship, if any, was remote. The Richards family represented by Maria was connected through marriage with the Whedons who were at one time prominent in Hinckley. Two Richards brothers married Whedon sisters. It seems that both of these Richards families lived in Hinckley at one time, but I never could find out which of the brothers was the father of Maria. I am especially interested in that problem, for Nathan Whedon, brother of the two who married Richards, married Esther Ann Cleveland, daughter of one of the many Moses Clevelands, this Moses Cleveland being a brother of my ancestor, David Cleveland.

Adjoining Frank Swift's farm to the south was the farm of Frank Wait, son of John and Martha Swift Wait. Frank and his wife Jennie had no children. His farm occupied the northwest corner formed by the "Rabbit Path" which went west through Mount Pleasant and became "Pompey Street" when it got into Brunswick.

There was one house on the south side of the "Rabbit Path". Apparently the farm on which this house stood was owned in 1897 by J. M. Van Tassel, and at that time there was no house shown on the farm. However, as long ago as I can remember there was a house and outbuildings on it and it was occupied by Wayland Baysinger. Later the farm was owned by Charles Christian, who still later bought the Lucian Chidsey farm at Sherman's Corners, and whose daughter Lillian married Frank Dake. Wayland Baysinger was a son of James, who lived further south from Frank Wait's farm (second farm on the west side of the road) with his son Russell. Wayland married a lady by the name of

Hahn, who was not a native of Hinckley. The Hahn family removed to Salisbury, Maryland. Wayland and his wife had sons, Russell, Donald, and James, and a daughter Della. The entire Baysinger left Hinckley and moved to Salisbury, Maryland, where the children with the exception of James now reside. Russell, son of Wayne, came back to Hinckley to live with his Uncle Russell and attended Hinckley High School. He is still well-known and remembered by many Hinckley residents. He is still much interested in Hinckley and those he knew there, and on occasions when his old Hinckley friends have visited him in Maryland, they have found that his hospitality leaves nothing to be desired.

Many residents of Hinckley still remember the yoke of oxen which Russell drove around the town. I have had many rides behind that yoke of oxen which finally came into the possession of a Mr. Brainard (?) of Brunswick who did all his farming with oxen. The same time Elton Johnson had a team of mules, and a pulling contest was arranged between the oxen and the mules. A "doubletree" was obtained and the mules were hitched to one side of it and the oxen to the other. At the given word both mules and oxen "buckled into it". The mules finding themselves hitched to a seemingly immovable object stopped long enough to look around to see what was the matter. Not so with the oxen who kept pulling, with the result that when the mules decided to try again, it was too late and the oxen pulled them right along with them.

At the eastern end of the "Rabbit Path" was the house owned by Owen Wait. In naming the sons of Monroe Wait, I inadvertantly left out Owen who was thus a cousin of Frank. Owen married a woman by the name of Peebles whose homestead was the farm next south from the "Rabbit Path". Among their children were Blanche who married Harry Stoffens of Hinckley, and Gertrude who married Archie Benjamin who lived on the Brunswick side of the West Town Line, north of Sherman's Corners.

As stated the farm next south of the "Rabbit Path" was a Peebles farm, listed in 1897 to the J. H. Peebles Estate. The house stood on the west side of the road, but later a house was also erected across the road from it by Francis Peebles, who I think was a son of J. H. Peebles. There was some relationship between this Peebles family and the Peebles family of the West Town Line. I do not know who was living on this Peebles farm after J. H., but I can remember when George Johnson moved there with his family, and later when William McLeod moved there with his family.

George Johnson was a brother of Florence Johnson Pugh and James. There was some relationship between him and the Johnson family represented by Ira, Frank and Fred. I seem to remember that they had a sister Mary. George Johnson married a woman by the name of Cady, a daughter of Bill Cady who was in some way related to Sidney Cady and his son Charles of northern Hinckley. George Johnson and his wife had children, Ethel, Elton who married Mildred Pettit, Norris, Alta who married Horace Waite, Freda, Hazel, and Opal. This Johnson family moved from the Peebles farm to that already spoken of as belonging to Adelbert Davis on the road paralleling the Center Road--S.W. of Hinckley.

William McLeod married one of the Peebles sisters. They had daughters Mildred and Alice. Mildred married Ray Steffens, brother of Harry.

Next south of the Peebles farm on the east side of the road was the farm of Jay Sylvester. This is the farm which I think earlier was the home of Henry Wait. Jay married Lizzie Webber, a sister of Joseph Webber of Webber's Corners. There was some relationship between these Webbers and Amos R. Webber. Of the children of Jay and Lizzie there was a daughter who married Warren Dennison; Eunice; Beebe who married a daughter of Bert and Theresa Ritz Damon; Le Grand; and Harold. The Sylvesters eventually moved to a farm on the Granger side of the South Town Line south of Webber's Corners.

Still on the east side of the road just south of the Sylvester farm was that of Lin Pettit. He married a sister of Lizzie Webber Sylvester. They had two sons and two daughters, but I can remember the name of only one, Mildred who married Elton Johnson. Mr. Pettit moved from Hinckley to a farm near Salisbury, Maryland.

Now on the west side of the road again below the Sylvester farm, was the home of Russell Baysinger, son of James.

South of the Baysinger farm on the west side of the road was the home of Pelk Fluent of whom I knew very little. On the Diagonal Road going southwest from Pekin and on its north side after it went into Granger Township was the home of Miss Viola Fluent. I do not know what was the relationship between them.

South of the Fluent place on the west side of the road was a farm owned by R. W. Salisbury or Saulisbury. This was the same man whom I have mentioned as Dick who lived on Hinckley Hill and his middle name was Wilder. In 1897 a house stood on this farm, but it burned before I can remember it.

Across the road from the Salisbury farm and a little to the south was the home of Darius Conant. I remember three Conant brothers: Darius, Isaiah, and Lewis. Isaiah lived east of Webber's Corners on the north side of the road. I think Will Conant lived there, too, and he had a son, Ray.

Lewis Conant lived also on the Diagonal Road, just west of where it crossed the road going from Hinckley Center to Granger, on the south side of the road. He had quite a large family, but I knew only a few of them. I believe the husband of Sarah Ann (?) Conant whose death notice recently appeared was a son of Lewis Conant. There was a son, Jesse. A daughter of Lewis married a man by the name of Earl. She died and he married her sister, Phebe. A daughter of Lewis married Charles Damon, who used to live on the Center Road west of Hinckley Ridge and moved to Brunswick, west of Sherman's Corners. Charles had a son, Carroll who married May Root of Brunswick and had a son, Lewis Hayden Damon, and two daughters, Ila who married Ernest Wait and Dorothea who married Ernest Gunkleman of Liverpool.

While on the subject there was Ethan Conant. I never knew his relationship to the other Conants. He lived on the southeast corner of the intersection of the Diagonal Road, with the road running from Hinckley Center

to Granger, but later built a house on the northwest corner. He married Lucy West, sister of Stephen, and they had no children.

There was one remaining house between "Maple Corners" and Webbers. This was listed in 1897 to E. E. Weltner. I do not remember him. Joe Webber, brother of the wives of Jay Sylvester and Lin Pettit lived west of the corners on the south side of the road. A house to the west of Joe Webber's on the north side of the road was listed in 1897 to E. Agar. I remember this place as the home of Seth Dean. Seth had a son "Del" who became a cartoonist and illustrator on a Dayton newspaper. Del married Ruby Sherman, step-daughter of Henry Barton, whose wife was a sister of Clark Hurd. The last house in Hinckley on the south side of the Diagonal Road was the home of Bernard Krueger, who later moved east to a farm on the Granger side of the South Town Line.

I am not so well acquainted with the folks who lived north of Sherman' Corners on the way to Bennett's Corners. In 1897 I note that the first farm on the Hinckley side north of Sherman's Corners was listed to J. M. Wait, and I am wondering if here was the Monroe Wait I have mentioned. Almost across the road from this farm was one listed to Martha J. Sherman. It seems to me that her husband was Orrin, brother of Del and Stephen Sherman who lived on the Brunswick side at Sherman' Corners. She was a sister of Clark Hurd. Her daughter Mabel married Ross Babcock and her daughter Ruby married Dell Dean. Martha married for her second husband Henry Barton and they had a daughter Sadie. The one I remember as living in the J. M. Wait place was John Hurd, a nephew of Clark and Martha.

South of Sherman's Corners on the Hinckley side was, first the residence of Horatio Chidsey situated almost to the Corners.

South of this Montgomery farm at Mount Pleasant on the northeast corner of the Rabbit Path and the Town Line, once known as "Council Corners" was the home of Harvey T. Miller, who had sons Floyd and Gaylord. Harvey's father was known as "Nigger" Miller. He came by his nickname from the fact that his home was headquarters for one of the stations on the "underground railroad" by which slaves were smuggled from the southern states into Canada before the Civil War. Gaylord Miller married Mildred French of Brunswick.

The first house south of the Rabbit Path on the Hinckley side of the Town Line was occupied by Root Baker, who sold it and moved to Kent. The next place south as listed in 1897 was that of W. W. Peebles. It does not seem to me that W. W. were the initials of the Peebles I knew there, but I knew either sons or grandsons of his, Watson and Willie. Two houses south of this Peebles farm was that of William Gay. I can remember when he lived there, but he soon after moved west of Sherman's Corners on the south side of

the road. His wife was Mary (?) Livingston, sister of Fred Livingston of Brunswick. The house next south of the Gay house was in 1897 listed to P. B. Morrell, but when I knew the house Johnny Morrell lived in it.

The last house on the Hinckley side of the West Town Line was listed in 1897 to Belle Graham. Her husband was known as "Colonel" Graham, and I think they had a daughter Thrifty. Belle was a Sylvester, but I do not know how she was related to the other Sylvesters. I seem to remember a Phelps family who lived somewhere or other near the Graham farm and had a son, Jed.

Going back to Hinckley Center and south on the road toward Granger, the first two houses on the east side of the road I have already mentioned as the homes of Barney Ritz and Eli Shook. Across the road from these houses was, until it burned (before my remembrance) a house which I think was built by Nathan Whedon and occupied by Anson Goodrich, father of James, Elwin and Eugene, when it burned. Later the farm came into the possession of John Brongers and still later of Will Pugh.

Nathan Whedon was at one time one of Hinckley's most prominent residents, and a Justice of the Peace for many years. He married Esther Ann Cleveland, a niece of my ancestor David Cleveland, who lived a mile and a quarter west of Hinckley Center. Nathan Wilson Whedon was born in Hebron, New York in October 5, 1813 and died in Hinckley on January 26, 1871. He was a son of David and Olive Wilson Whedon. In this connection there was quite a tie-up between the Whedons, the Wilson, and the Clevelands who were early settlers of Hinckley. His wife, Esther was a daughter of one of the many Moses Clevelands, this one a brother of David Cleveland. Nathan came to Hinckley in 1825, apparently a bachelor at the time. I never heard that his parents also came to Hinckley, and as he would have been only twelve at the time, perhaps the Cleveland genealogy is wrong in giving the year 1825 as that of his migration to Hinckley. At any rate the Cleveland genealogy goes on to say that he married Esther Ann Cleveland in Middlebury, Ohio on October 30, 1844. They had five children: Nathan Lindon (known as Lin) who was born in Hinckley in 1845 and died unmarried in 1903, but not in Hinckley; Harry Marcellus who was born in Hinckley in 1847, was a builder I think of Cleveland, Ohio and died unmarried; Charles Ogden (known as Og) who was a lawyer in Lincoln, Nebraska, born in Hinckley in 1849 and died in Lincoln in 1913; Mary Amelia born in Hinckley in 1851, died in Granville, Illinois in 1926, married Newton Hiram Colby who was born in Corru, New York (the town to which I moved from Hinckley); and Flora Elizabeth who was born in Hinckley in 1856, married a man by the name of Wallis and lived in Lincoln, Nebraska.

I have already shown a connection between the Hinckley Whedon family and the Richards family of whom Maria Richards Swift was a member, where two sisters of Nathan Wilson Whedon married two Richards brothers. To get Nathan straight with his Wilson relatives who lived in Hinckley and locate the original farm, we must go back to the time when Hinckley had only one known resident -- a

squatter named Walton. As you know, Hinckley was surveyed in 1819 by Abraham Freese of Brunswick. On Lot 69 (on the east side of Ridge Road and through which passes the road from Pekin, up Tarbox Hill and crossing the Ridge Road) Mr. Freese found Mr. Walton, who had made considerable improvement on that lot, which has been considered the most fertile lot in Hinckley Township. Mr. Freese paid Mr. Walton for his improvements and bought the lot and afterwards sold it to Nathan Wilson, about 1835. Nathan Wilson had married Letty Cleveland, a sister of my David Cleveland and Moses Cleveland, father of Esther Ann Cleveland Whedon. I believe in my memory Frank Smith lived on that farm, his house on the east and west road from Pekin, and considerably below that house in terms of feet and just east of the Ridge Road, Mr. Smith had installed a hydraulic ram at a spring there, with which he was able to pipe water to his house and outbuildings, and was the first in Hinckley to have running water.

Nathan and Letty Cleveland Wilson had three children--Juline, John and Louisa. Louisa died just before she was to be married. John married twice and had eight children. His first wife and three of her children are buried in the Ridge Cemetery. John and his remaining children moved to Michigan in 1865. Juline must have been living when I was born, as she was probably 67 when she died. She was insane, but not violently so, and was quite a character in Hinckley, as she roamed the roads at all hours of the day and night. She lived on the Wilson farm as long as her father lived, and for some time afterward, then went to live with Mrs. Bell, whom I take to be Laura Cleveland Bell, daughter of my David Cleveland, and still later she lived with Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Conant (a Conant whom I have never placed). A flaming red cloak which was her special pride was until comparatively recently in the possession of her relative, Flora Elizabeth Whedon Wallis of Lincoln, Nebraska. Juline was very fond of wearing men's trousers--in a day when that just wasn't being done, and in roaming the roads in wintertime, she wore layers of them. As warm weather came on, she removed them one by one as the need arose, and hung them on the first picket fence that came handy.

While it does not concern Hinckley history, another brother of David and Moses Cleveland and Letty Wilson was a practicing physician at one time in Granger. This was Dr. John Cleveland, who before he came to Granger was Surgeon-General in the Vermont troops in the War of 1812. There were several other Cleveland brothers and sisters and they furnished substantial parts of the population in various parts of Ohio and Indiana. One of them, Palmer Cleveland had a small settlement in Indiana named Cleveland.

The Cleveland, Whedons, Wilsons and the Richardses who were connected with the Whedons are all gone from Hinckley now.

There were no houses south of the Shook and Whedon farms until the four corners formed by the junction of the road going to Pekin with the road going from Hinckley Center to Granger. There on the southeast corner stood the

house of Jackson Law. I do not remember him at all. The first family I know of living there was that of Dr. John G. Noland. Soon after he moved from there the family of Joseph Martin, a Mennonite who wore no beard, lived there with his children: Fannie, Earl, Verna, Metta, and a younger daughter. They went from there to Honeybrook, Pennsylvania. Later the Greenleaf family lived there with their children: Clayborn, Madge, Cleo, and Chessie. They moved to East Richfield.

Going south and passing through the Alger Gull (which I often visited for specimens of petrified leaves and twigs) and nearly to the Diagonal Road was the farm of Hubert Wait. After the removal of Hubert to Oberlin, my parents and I lived on that farm for about a year, at the time the Grange Hall was being built. While others have lived there, I can only remember Martin L. Held, his wife and daughter, Myrtle. Then the Ethan Conant farm, the house on the southeast corner framed by the Diagonal Road. Then, south of that on the east side of the road, the Mohn farm, the only Mohn I remember very well being Ernest. The remaining houses on that road were those listed in 1897 to Clarence Dake, on the east side, and the S. Newton Estate on the west side. When I first knew the Clarence Dake family they lived on the Newton farm, later sold to Mr. Veverka. If I remember correctly the Dakes moved back to the east side of the road after the Veverka purchase. The Dake family consisted of William who married (I think a daughter of Perry Loomis of near Bennetts Corners; Ruby, Clare who married Marie Wilgus, the Wilgus family living on the Ethan Conant farm; and Frank who married Lillian Christian.

North from Hinckley Center, the first house at the top of the hill on the east side of the road was the Bell farm, where William and Laura Cleveland Bell lived, later occupied by their son Beecher, then with possibly a family or two in between, William and Florence Johnson Pugh, and still later by John Andrew. Across from the Bell place was that of Thomas Roberts who married Lucy Waldo McKee. Just north of the Bell place was that of Dr. Eggert (east side of road), whose daughter married Stanley Wait (daughter Libbie). North of the Eggert place was a place listed in 1897 to M. J. Shank, and across the road from it a place listed to Eli Shank. However in my memory, the Eli Shank house had burned and he was living in the M. J. Shank house with his wife and daughters, Nellie and Mamie. Nellie died of tuberculosis before she was 20. Mamie married a son of William Porter, who lived in Royalton Township, on the road going from Hinckley to Royalton, and I believe in Richfield.

North of the Shank places on the east side of the road, was the Henry Richard's place. Henry was the brother of George, an attorney in Medina. Henry had a son Sherwin and a daughter Mildred. Mildred died just before she was to be married. Sherwin married Luna Hatch, a daughter of George Hatch of Granger, who had moved to Hinckley and lived on the Elisha Wait farm, a mile and a quarter west of Hinckley Center. They had daughters, Marian and Elsie. Marian married Herbert Knaack and lives near Berea. Sherwin married as his second wife a lady by the name of Warner of Liverpool Township.

North of the Richards place on the west side of the road was a place listed in 1897 to U. B. (Barker) McIntyre. However, I cannot remember his living there but only at Hinckley Center where Glenn Babcock now lives. North of this

McIntyre place on the east side of the road was a place listed in 1897 to Alexander McKee. I know it only as the Fred McKee place, where Fred and Edith (Sylvester) McKee lived with their children Leland and Sadie, and where Melvin and Sadie Case now live.

North of the Fred McKee farm on the west side of the road was the home of Charles Pelot, his wife, and sons, Vere and Leo. This family moved from Hinckley to Rochester, New York. Then, near the corner (southwest) formed by the east and west road a mile north of Hinckley was the home of Carl Ehmman, father of William. Two houses were north of that on the west side of the road before reaching the North Town Line--the first one being the Dunn place, where John Dunn lived and the second and third occupied by Sydney and Charles Cady. Across were the Hrdlicka and Dolezal places.

A little account of the farms with the houses on the south side of the road, on the road leading in an easterly direction from a half-mile south of Maple Corners, the house of Harry Arnold being the only one on the north side of the road, near the west end, and that house burned. At the south end of the short road going south from the Center Road a half mile west of Hinckley Center, was the place where Adelbert Davis and his wife, Bessie (Wait) Davis lived before moving to Grafton, Ohio. Some time after their removal the place was occupied by a Mr. Kruggell who came from Cleveland with his wife and children, John, Jake, Ida, Lydia, and Caroline. They moved back to Cleveland, and later the place was occupied by George Johnson. I seem to recall George Kuder and his wife Nanny Davis Kuder having lived there also.

East of this Adelbert Davis place was the farm of his father, Charles Davis who married Sarah Babcock. East of that was the place where Harry Frizzell and his wife Julia lived, whose daughter Hattie married Clark Wait. Now, crossing the road from Hinckley Center to Granger and going towards Pekin was a place where Charles Ritz and his wife Elizabeth lived in recent times. Then on to Pekin.

On the southwest corner of the intersecting roads at Pekin was the home and blacksmith shop of William Bellus. I can remember his father, Warner very well. William had a daughter, Marie who married Raymond Ludwig, and a son Daniel. Almost across the road from him was the home and sawmill of Charles Benjamin on the southeast corner. Merritt Kellogg lived on the northeast corner, where later a family by the name of Pollack lived, and also the family of "Hum" Averill, whose daughter Myra married Charles Donahue of the West Town Line. On the road leading from Pekin north to the Center Road on the west side of Rocky River and on the west side of the road was the farm of Joseph Jones. I knew three of the Jones' children, Perry, Myrtie who married Joseph Ritz, and Muriel who married Harley Wait.

On the River Road going north from the Center Road toward the North Town Line, the first and second houses both on the east side of the road were those of Byron Van Deusen and Stephen West respectively. The third house also

on the east side of the road was owned by "Gus" Westland. He had three sons, David, Louis, and Orrin, and a daughter Jennie. A little to the north on the west side of the road was a place listed in 1897 to J. Clyne, but when I knew it was occupied by William Springborn who had sons, Willie, and Carl and a daughter Lucy. A sad tragedy concerned these Westland and Springborn families, for one Sunday afternoon when Orrin Westland and Willie Springborn were swimming in Rocky River both drowned.

North of the Westland place on the east side of the road was the farm of George McKee. To the north of that on the west side of the road was the farm of Bert Damon.

I never got the relationship of the Damons in Hinckley straightened out. At one time there was a minister, Hayden Damon. Whether or not he was the father of Charles H. Damon, who used to live on the south side of the Center Road, towards the Ridge, I do not know, but Charles Damon was a descendant of Hayden Damon. Charles Damon moved from there to Brunswick, west of Sherman's Corners, and his farm was occupied by John Damon whose sister Hattie married Wilder Sheldon. John Damon moved to the farm west of Charles Damon's in Brunswick. He had sons, Austin and Paul. Austin married for his first wife, Elva Allen, daughter of Ethan Allen of the North Ridge. Paul Damon was one of Hinckley's two soldiers who lost their lives in the first World War, the other one being David Westland. Bert Damon (he who lived on the River Road) had a sister Lulu who married James Eastwood of the North Ridge and she was the mother of Clare Eastwood. Her daughter married Louis Westland.

I was not too familiar with locations of families living in the vicinity of Bennetts Corners, or Hinckley from the Ridge east, although I did know some of them including most of the Eastwoods and Lyonses, several of the Kelloggs, Charles Parker, Bob Norton, some of the Vaughans, Ganyards, and Beaches. I have left out the family of John Steffens, whose house was the second on the north side of the road east of Hinckley Center. His sons were Harry, Ray, and Daniel, and daughters Clara who married Herman Fulmer, Alta who married William West, one who married Ed Ritz, and Katie Steffens. Also in an eastward direction from there the Diagonal Road crosses that from Hinckley Center to Granger on the north side of the road there stood a house which in my memory was occupied by Ira Bedell, his wife Mattie, a son George (?) and a daughter Lottie. Mr. Bedell died there and his widow moved away and married again.

Lillian Dake's letter supplementing Bartlett's letter

In looking over these memoirs can add information or correct some errors in same:

John Steffens' children includes Harry, Ray, Daniel, Clara, Alta, Katie and Ruby. Ruby married Edward Reidel. He had another given name.

Clarence Dake children: Mary, wife of Allen Damon, who was son of Herbert. Mary taught school at Webbers Corners, Beach School, and a school on County Road 62, which Fred McKee bought and moved to his residence for his daughter Sadie to live in November, 1918. Mary died 1933. Allen lives with his son Clayton at North Eaton. Mary had the two sons Clayton and Clarence. Ruby Dake married William Bonner. Ina Dake married Willard Daykin, were divorced and Child Olive Helen Daykin married Melvin A. West, son of Lawrence. Ina died 1918. William Dake married Mabel Loomis from Bennetts Corners. She died and William lives in a trailer at Wadsworth. He is a carpenter. Four children. Clare Dake married Marie Wilgus is the only farmer of the boys and a good one, lives now in Chatham on County Road 31 near 67. Had a son Albert and daughter Eva. Frank Dake married Lillian Christian in 1918. No children. Frank is a building mover. Lives at Reamsen Corners.

Olive Conant Johnson was the daughter of Darius Conant and sister of Will. Frank and Olive Johnson children are Elmer, Alice, Bertha, Walter and Mary. Mary married James Porter of Granger living on Co. Rd. 44.

Louis Ritz' daughter Dana married Fred Ellis, who was burned to death when drawing gas from his car to help out a stranded motorist, and it ignited. They lived where Wolny's do on Co. Rd. 48. Another daughter Louisa married Charles Willard.

Milton Charlton has a son Ford. One mentioned as Roy is evidently Raymond who married Vera Tibbitts.

Harley Wait and Muriel Jones Wait children were Marguerite and Richard, who spells his name with an E on the end. Neither Avery nor Harley did. Richard lives on the old homestead where his parents did next to Avery's. He has never married. Marguerite did and has children.

Joseph and Alma Babcock children are Clarence in Washington (milk marketing specialist with the government, who died in Feb. 1958) Glenn, a plumber at Hinckley Center, and before that drove the bus from Hinckley to Cleveland, soon after or about the time Del Ishaq quit. Daughter Wilma married Clarence Damon, son of Mary Dake and Allen Damon. Their children are David, Wayne, and Larry.

Brongers had a partner in the store at one time by name of Baer(?)

When Brongers discovered he had torn the cloth lengthwise, he said, "By gee Jerusalem. Dat's a wide piece of cloth".

NOTES ON THE FOLLOWING MEMOIRS

I came across the attached memoirs while doing some historical research. I believe the following items may be of help in understanding the memoirs.

REX BARTLETT was born around 1891 in Hinckley. He lived on Center Road, across from Bowman's fruit stand. In 1916 he left Hinckley, and LILLIAN DAKE thinks he moved to New York.

LILLIAN DAKE says the article referred to in the first paragraph, about her husband FRANK, was probably about her husband's house-moving business. LILLIAN DAKE lives at 1475 Remsen Rd. Her husband has died.

REX BARTLETT based his memoirs on the 1897 atlas of Medina county which has recently been reprinted. There are separate maps of Hinckley Center and Hinckley township. It is interesting to use the atlas as you read.

The place names have changed in many cases. This is what I have been able to figure out:

Council Corners--Laurel & west 130th. St.

Rabbit Path--Laurel Road (on the Brunswick side of W 130th., it was called Pompey St.)

Webber's Corners--Weymouth Rd & Stony Hill

Maple Corners--Center Rd. & Stony Hill

Sherman Corners--Center and W 130th. St.

Mt. Pleasant--W 130th. St. & Laurel

Whistle Alley--The north side of Center Rd. west of Stony Hill was given this name because the WATT families who lived in this area liked to whistle.

Pekin--Weymouth Rd. & Ridge Rd.

Diagonal Rd--Weymouth Rd.

Tarbox Hill--the long hill on Bellus Rd. west of State

Laws Corners--Bellus & Ridge

Poverty Streed--Mattingly Rd.

Alger Gull--the river crossing Ridge Rd. between Bellus and Rt. 606

The date these memoirs were written is unknown, but had to have been before 1958, because that was the year JENNY RUPERT died. JOANN BORUVKA
March, 1986

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Wait, Webb 14	Wilcox, June 9-17
Wait, Willis 13-19	Wilcox, Orlando 8
Wait, Wylie 13	Wilcox, Uriah 7
Waldo, Angie 8-9	Wiley, Wallace 16
Waldo, Anson 4-5	Wilgus, Marie 28
Waldo, Ben 4	Willard, Charles 18-20
Waldo, Blake 5	Wilson, John 27
Waldo, Charles 5	Wilson, Juline 27
Waldo, Ed 4-5	Wilson, Nathan 27
Waldo, Emma 5	Wiltshire, Stella 18
Waldo, Ira 4-9-13	
Waldo, Lida 5	
Waldo, Lucy 5-8	
Waldo, Prentice 4-8	
Waldo, Ralph 4	
Waldo, Waylon 5	
Waldo, Winnie 5	
Wallis, Flora Elizabeth 26	
Wallis, Flora Elizabeth Wedon 27	
Webber, Amos O. 5	
Webber, Amos R. 5-20-24	
Webber, Dr. John 5	
Webber, Harry 5	
Webber, Joe 25	
Webber, Joseph 5-24	
Webber, Lizzie 24	
Webber, Walter 5	
Wedon, Nathan 22	
Weltmer, E. E. 25	