

Census dates were:

From 1790-1820: the 1st Monday in August
From 1830-1900: the date was June 1st
In 1910: the date was April 15th
In 1920: the date was June 1st
From 1930-1970: the date was April 1st
...fr Shelby Spirits via Defiance Co newsletter
and also seen in Buckeye Californian

**HOPEWELL TWP COPY AND REPORT TO
FIRE MARSHALL**

Date & hour of fire: Jul 24, 1907 @
5:00 PM

Owner and occupant: J R May

How occupied: dwelling

Class of bldg: wood

Where did fire originate: on roof

Remarks: Fire originated in east end of
bldg; supposed caused by spark from chimney. Fire
was extinguished and bldg saved.

Bldg value: \$500

Bldg Damage: \$25

Insurance: \$360

Total or Partial Loss: Partial

Ed F Hellwarth, Clerk

Sent: Jul 29, 1907

Date & hour of fire: Sept 26, 1907 (no time listed)

Owner: Mrs H Crouch

Occupant: D P Hole

Where did fire originate: second floor

Remarks: caused by bed clothing falling from bed
against stove pipe which caught fire. The fire was
extinguished and no damage done to building.

Damage to contents: \$15 Insurance: \$225

Was loss total or partial: partial

Ed F Hellwarth, Clerk

Sent: Oct 14, 1907

Date & hour of fire: March 14, 1908 @ 4:00 PM

Owner: Mrs E F Reis

Occupant: Abner Hellwarth

Class of bldg: wood

How occupied: dwelling

Where did fire originate: in roof

Remarks: caused by spark from chimney and
originated on roof on east side of bldg

Bldg Value: \$1500

Bldg damage: \$40

Insurance: \$1250

Content Damage: none

When insured: April 19, 1907 Was loss total or partial: partial

Ed F Hellwarth, Clerk

Sent: Mar 18, 1908



Date & hour of fire: Feb 7, 1910 @ 2:15 PM

Owner & occupant: Mary B Gordon

Class of bldg: wood

How occupied: barn

Where did fire originate: suppose on roof

Remarks: A portable saw mill was sawing near this
barn and is thought that sparks from the engine
caught in the roof. Barn was burned to the ground.

Bldg value: \$150

Bldg damage: \$150

Insurance: \$100

Contents value: \$25

Contents damage: \$25

Insurance upon: none

Was loss total or partial: Total

Dee W Fast, Clerk

Sent: Feb 10, 1910

Date & hour of fire: Feb 13, 1910 @ 9:00 AM

Owner: Jacob Fisher

Occupant: Mack Fisher

Class of bldg: wood

How occupied: dwelling

Where did fire originate: flew

Remarks: Fire was caused by defective flew damage
to building. Floor was burned around chimney also
plastering knocked off in place.

Dee Fast, Clerk

Sent: Feb 17, 1910

Date & hour of fire: Ma 30, 1910 @ 10:00 PM

Owner: Behymer Bros

Occupant: L Brandon, manager

Class of bldg: wood

How occupied: grain storage & elevator

Where did fire originate: top of elevator

Remarks: There is no question than what it originated
from a passing passenger train due here 8:45 but a
little late this eve. C & N RR Company

Bldg value: \$500

Bldg damage: total

Insurance upon: 250

Contents value: \$1,000

Contents damage: total

Insurance upon: none

Was loss total or partial: total

When insured: 1908

Dee W Fast, Clerk

Sent: June 2, 1910

If you would like a copy of any of the above fire
reports, remit \$1 for each to: Att.: Newsletter Editor
- Mercer Co Chapter OGS - PO Box 437 - Celina OH
45822-0437

*The best inheritance parents can leave a child is a
good name.*

JOHN HOLE ESTATE SALE BILL

*OH
mercer*

A Bill of the Property sold by George Hole, Administrator of the Estate of John Hole, deceased at public venue, November 27, 1852.

Number	Name of Articles	Purchaser	Amount
1	Clock	Mary Hole	1 00
1	Table	Lewis	31
1	Chest	M. C. Hole	33
1	Powder Horn	Geo. Hole	15
1	Crosscut Saw	J. Preston	2 00
4	Barrels	Mary Hole	05
	Lot of Onions	J. Preston	36
1	Keg	Mary Hole	31
	Sickle and Scythe	A. Monach	1 80
	Sickles	C. Johnson	40
	Bee hives 1st choice	J. Yaney	2 25
	Bee hives 2nd choice	S. Patty	1 35
	Bee hives 3rd choice	Bauns	90
	Bee hives 4th choice	S. Patty	1 30
	Bee hives 5th choice	J. Yaney	87
	Bee hives 6th choice	J. Preston	2 05
	Bee hives 7th choice	S. Patty	1 65
	Bee hives 8th choice	J. Yaney	80
	Bee hives 9th choice	John Green	1 25
1	Fro	Bauns	80
1	Spade	Joseph Decater	80
1	Maddock	J. Patty	60
1	Spade	Mary Hole	65
	Mall & Wedge	P. Young	40
1	Wind Mill	A. Monach	2 00
1	SAW	E.. Plummer	55
1	Plow	Jenkins	30
1	Clevis	Jenkins	20
1	Plough	Mary Hole	4 75
1	Planer	P. Young	66
	Auger	E C Trim	55
	Draw knife	P. Young	56
	Chisel	Jacob	38
	HorseShoes	C. Johnson	40
	Box of Sundries	J. Yaney	20
	Auger	J. Brown	12
	Hay	Mary Hole	1 62
	hogs 2 first choice	J. Preston	4 25
	hogs 2 second choice	John Johnson	2 31
	hogs 2 third choice	Mary Hole	1 60
	hogs 2 fourth choice	Mary Hole	1 25
	hogs 2 fifth choice	P. Young	1 72

Number	Name of Articles		Purchaser	Amount
	hogs 2 sixth choice		P. Young	1 65
	hogs 2 seventh choice		P. Young	1 45
	hogs 2 eighth choice		P. Young	1 08
1	Sow		J. Preston	3 00
1	wagon		Geo. Hole	76 40
1	Tub		Geo. Hole	55
1	Tub		Geo. Hole	75
1	half bushel		H. Ballenge	28
1	Harrow		Geo. Hole	2 50
1	wagon		Wm. Beauchamp	2 87
1	large calf		Geo. Wilson	4 25
1	small calf		John Wheel	2 70
1	Fork		T. Haywood	57
1	Cow		E. C. Trim	6 60
1	heifer		C Bodkins	5 37
2	Steers		C. Bodkins	16 00
2	Steers		C. C. Trim	40 00
	Straw		M. Walker	1 00
	Straw		B. Enyard	75
	Ladder		Geo. Hole	05
	Barley		Geo. Hole	6 75
	Corn		J. Bennet	15 55
	Barley		G. Hole	5 00
	Corn		M.P. Hole	34 00
	Corn		J Lewell	8 60
	Corn		Luis	10 00
			TOTAL	291 50

The following articles were taken by Mary Hole, widow of the deceased at the appraisement.

1	Sorrel mare	90.00	1 set doubletrees & log chain	1.25
1	Rifle	9.00	1 lot clapboards	1.00
	West field-2 acres wheat	7.00	1 Cow	12.00
	North field -9acres Barley	20.00	2 Barrels	0.75
1	Pickle Keg	0.75	1 Barrel & Salt	0.20
2	Kegs soap	0.75	1 pr. steetyards	1.00
1	lot Kegs	0.05	1 Buck saw	0.55
2nd	Choice bee hives	2.50	1 ton of hay	4.00
1	Lard Keg	1.00	1 side saddle	2.00
1	Bee hive	2.50	2 Jugs	0.12
1	lot of honey	0.50	1 do	0.15
2	Boxes	0.25	1 old Mare	10.00
2	hoes & Stalke Knives	0.50	1 lot of plow gears	3.25
1	lot of grain sacks	1.25	1 Axe	0.50
	inch boards in barn	1.00		
			Total	175.07
			Christopher Johnston, Clerk	

NATURALIZATION INTENTION PAPERS

The following are the names of people who filed naturalization intention papers. Most occurred in Mercer Co., but many were performed in Miami Co., and a few were done in PA and the city of New York.

These names are taken from the naturalization intent documents that we recently uncovered in the Mercer Co. Courthouse basement. Additional years will appear in future issues.

Every attempt has been made to interpret the correct spelling of the applicant's last name. Only a few were questionable.



Date	Name	Age	Native of	Arrived year	Allegiance to	Where intention filed
4 Sep 1837	Georg ALTHOFF	35	Hannover	Baltimore 1833	Friderick Augustus King of Hannover	Mercer Co, Oh
26 Apr 1837	Martin BAISEL	40	Kingdom of Bavaria		Lewis King of Bavaria	Miami Co, Oh
20 Nov 1837	Charles BICEL	23	Brian (Baier)	Baltimore	Charles Lodewick King of Brian(Baier)	Mercer Co, Oh
3 Sep 1837	Adam BOLENBACHER	31	Bavaria		Emperor of Germany	Butler Co, Oh
8 May 1837	Carl BRUNS		Buckeburg		Georg William of Buckeburg	Mercer Co, Oh
3 Apr 1837	Mohren BUSHERE & son Frances H.	41	France	New York Jul 1833	King of France	Perry Co, Oh
20 Apr 1837	Henry CAUSTER	29	Kingdom of Hanover		William the Fourth of the United Kingdom of Great Brittain and Ireland	Miami Co, Oh
20 Nov 1837	John DREES	34	Brien (Baier)	New York 1833	Charles Lodewick Prince of Brien(Baier)	Mercer Co, Oh
8 May 1837	John EICH	34	Bavarien		Ludwid (Ludwig) William of Ezvarien	Mercer Co, Oh
20 Nov 1837	Joseph ENNEKING		Oldenburg	Baltimore 1833	Paul Frederick Augustus Duke of Oldenburg	Mercer Co, Oh
8 May 1837	Severn D. GOEKE	32	Hannover		William Fourth King of Hannover	Mercer Co, Oh
4 Sep 1837	John GRABER	33	Hannover	Baltimore 1833	Frederick August King of Hannover	Mercer Co, Oh
20 Nov 1837	Diederick Henry HECKMAN	33	Oldenburg	Baltimore	Paul Frederick Augustus of Oldenburg	Mercer Co, Oh

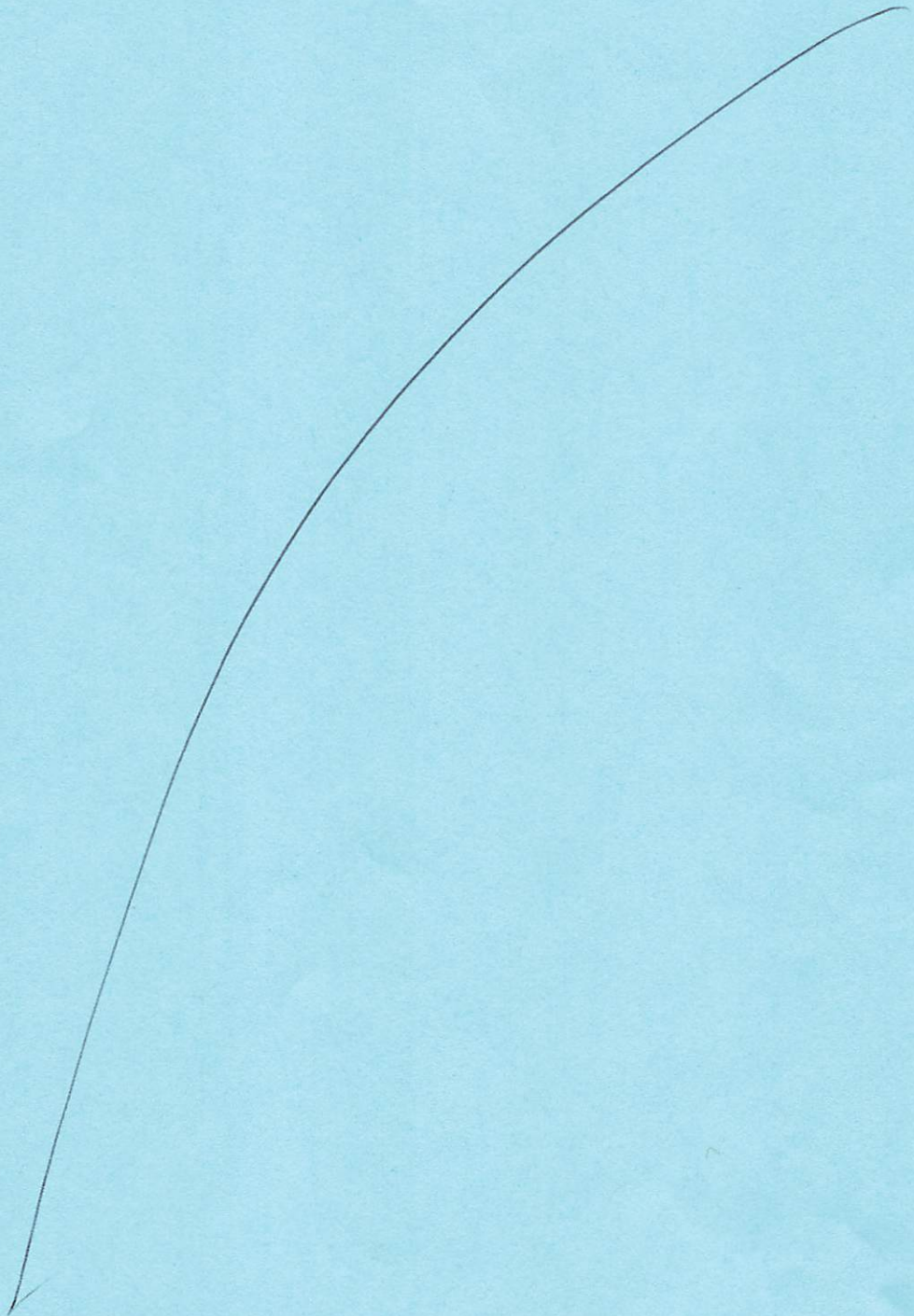
Beltz

ORANGE COUNTY CALIFORNIA
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

OCOGS REFERENCE ONLY

Date	Name	Age	Native of	Arrived	year	Allegiance to	Where intention filed
4 Sep 1837	Gerrad HEHMANN	33	Hannover	Baltimore	1833	Friderick Augustus King of Hannover	Mercer Co,Oh
20 Nov 1837	Henry JOHANNES	32	Oldenburg	New York	1835	Duke of Oldenburg in Germany	Mercer Co,Oh
8 May 1837	Gerrad KLEFFOOT	37	Hannover			William fourth King of Hannover	Mercer Co,Oh
20 Nov 1837	Bernard KOKUNG	44	Oldenburg	Baltimore	1833	Paul Frederick Augustus of Oldenburg Duke	Mercer Co,Oh
4 Sep 1837	Henry KNOST	35	Hannover	New York	1835	Friderick Augustus King of Hannover	Mercer Co,Oh
8 May 1837	F. H. KRAMER	33	Hannover			William Fourth King of Hannover	Mercer Co,Oh
8 May 1837	Francis LANGE	37	Oldenburg			Peter Frederick Augustus Prince of Oldenburg	Mercer Co,Oh
20 Nov 1837	John LAUTENSCHNIDER	48	Prussia	Baltimore		Frederick William King of Prussia	Mercer Co,Oh
9 Oct 1837	Bernard MAIER	32	Naunkirch, Oldenburg	Baltimore 2 Jul 1834 dep.Bremen 21 Apr 1834		Duke of Oldenburg	Hamilton Co, Oh
20 Nov 1837	Peter MEYER		Baden	Philidalpha (Philadelphia)		Lodowick of Baden	Mercer Co,Oh
20 Nov 1837	John OSTERM	23	Oldenburg	Baltimore	1834	Paul Fredk Augustus duke of Oldenburg	Mercer Co,Oh
8 May 1837	Seven Joh H. RATWEG	42	Prussien (Prussia)			Frederick William King of Prussien	Mercer Co,Oh
2 Oct 1837	Jacob W RICKLEY		Switzerland			The government of Switzerland	Franklin Co, Oh
2 Jan 1837	Henry SCHIERHERST	35	Oldenburg	Baltimore Nov 1833 dep.Bremen Aug 1833		Paul Frederick Augustus Duke of Holstein	Allen Co,In





Sheldon
Bissell
Loomis

Spafford

Bissell

Remassears
Son of Samuel
Forward -

THE AURORA STORY

Submitted by OGS member Mrs. Herbert Daugherty - Warren, Ohio

The members of the Big Beaver Land Company which drew Town 5 in the 9th Range - later to become Aurora - were residents of Suffield, Connecticut, or the immediate vicinity.

Corn

"Principal stockholders were Luther Loomis, Martin Sheldon, and Fidelio King, who in their day were classed among the most active business men of the State of Connecticut, and were for many years engaged in business as wholesalers in indigo, feathers, fur, etc."

By 1798 interest in the Western Reserve had reached fever heat, and many families were preparing to take up their land in the two towns of Aurora and Mantua. Elias Harmon was courting the adopted daughter of Martin Sheldon. The love affair ended in marriage, and they planned to spend their honeymoon in the new land, helping land owners set up new homes in the wilderness.

Harmon and his bride set forth in January, 1799, in a horse-drawn sleigh. They reached Pittston, N.Y. and were forced to stay there for the remainder of the winter. Ebenezer Sheldon, the date of his departure is lost, however, reached Aurora in advance of the Harmons, who resumed their trip in May.

Atwater

The Harmons were joined on their way to Aurora by Benjamin Tappan, who settled Ravenna, David Hudson, the pioneer of Hudson, and Jonathan Atwater, who set up his tent in Euclid. Harmon left his bride in Mantua with the Honey family, while he went to Aurora to join Sheldon.

Selecting a site on lot 40, near where the Sheldon home now stands, the two men erected a small cabin and, on July 2, 1799, Mrs. Harmon and the remainder of their household goods were brought into Aurora. Mrs. Harmon set up housekeeping and the two men cleared a small field, planting wheat. While working for Mr. Sheldon, he built his own cabin in Mantua on fifty acres of land which had been given him as part of the bargain. In the fall the Harmons moved into their own home in Mantua, while Martin Sheldon prepared to retrace his steps to Connecticut, to spend the winter with his family.

After spending the winter in his old home at Suffield, Connecticut, Captain Sheldon loaded a few of his household possessions on a sturdy covered wagon, in May, 1800, and gathered his family about him to tearfully bid goodbye to the New England homestead. His family consisted of his second wife, Love Davis, four sons and one daughter, Hulda. Another daughter, who had recently been married, remained in Connecticut. They came over the mountains of Pennsylvania, through Pittsburg to Warren, which at that time was a village of three cabins.

Leaving Warren, they floundered through the Braceville

Our Samuel
for 1800
Samuel, Jr. with
25 on
5 Jan 1799
Our Oviatts
Humphreys
Settled in Braceville Ohio
Trumbull Co - (from Conn)

Swamps and a terrible thunder storm broke over them, making further progress impossible. Trees had blown down in every direction and their wagon was completely hemmed in. Luckily, none of the party was injured, although all were thoroughly frightened as they huddled in their wagon while the storm raged far into the night.

With the character of the true pioneer, Sheldon rode horseback to Warren at daybreak, where he enlisted the services of the residents in chopping his way clear. Undaunted by the terrifying experience, the party pushed on and on until they climbed the hill that gave Mrs. Sheldon and the children the first glimpse of their new home.

The Sheldons enlarged their clearing, planted more crops about the stumps, hunted coons and woodchuck and tanned skins. Wild turkeys and an occasional bear or deer supplied the family with meat.

Major Spafford and his party of surveyors accepted the Sheldon's hospitality, and legend has it the town got its name that night. To the Captain - "Aurora" meant the dawn of a new day, and it was also the name of the Major's favorite daughter.

In 1802, a Methodist missionary by the name of Bostwick called at the Sheldons for dinner and was offered a night's lodging in return for a sermon. This was the first church "service" of the new community.

In 1803, the first regular church service was held at the Sheldon home by Reverend Joseph Badger, from the Connecticut Missionary Society. There were fifteen present and we may assume that this was the total population of the tiny town.

In the fall of 1803 more early settlers began to arrive. The first was Judge Samuel Forward. He pitched his tent across from the tract of land so long afterwards owned by General Nelson Eggleston. With him came Chauncey, Oliver, Dryden, and Rannsell, (his brothers) from Granby, Connecticut. Later, Forward and his wife moved to the Huntington cabin which was vacant. (Samuel Huntington, had removed to Warren to practice law, and later became Governor of Ohio.)

In 1804, James Henry from Harpersville, N. Y. arrived. Henry was a direct descendent of Oliver Cromwell. John Cochran, Jr. and David Kennedy, senior and junior, bought land on what is now the Cleveland road, route 43. Samuel Ferguson and others whose names have faded into history, also arrived and took up property.

As late as 1813, nearly one-half of the entire township was held by Ebenezer Sheldon, who acted as one of the agents for the Big Beaver Land Company. Martin Sheldon, Fidelio King, and Issac Leavitt were, as mentioned above, large shareholders in the enterprise.

Bissell

THE AURORA STORY

continued

The first white child born in Aurora, on April 8th, 1804, was a son, born to the Oliver Forwards. He was named Oliver Cromwell Forward, after his illustrious forebear.

In 1805 the Holcombs, Cochrans, Cannons, and Grangers as well as Mary Sheldon Harmon, with her husband, Ebenezer Harmon came to Aurora, in 1806. The first Elias Harmon was Ebenezer Sheldon's brother-in-law, and Mary Sheldon his daughter.

Bissell

Robert Bissell and family, from Vermont, also arrived in 1806. One of these children, The Reverend Samuel Bissell became the well-known scholar and early teacher of the Western Reserve. After graduation from Yale, he maintained an academy at Twinsburg known as the Twinsburg Institute.

Samuel was nine years old when he arrived in Aurora. He helped his father clear the dense forests, working in the fields and woods by day, and studying by flickering candle light in the crude log cabin, with its bark roof and dirt floor. He soon became better educated than his teachers, and walked a mile and a half each evening to the home of Reverend John Seward, a well educated man who helped him. After years of diligent study, he was admitted to Yale. With a few dollars in his pocket, he walked to Yale from the Reserve.

In 1826, with his degree, he returned, and resolved to open an "Academy" at Aurora. His announcement of the new venture stated that the tuition for twelve weeks would be two dollars and "you may pay me anything you please, when you please, and nothing if you don't please."

By 1831 the "Bissell Academy" had grown, and Twinsburg invited him to preach and have his academy in their village. Two of the first three graduates from Western Reserve College were prepared for college by Mr. Bissell.

~~DO NOT CIRCULATE~~

The Orange County California
Genealogical Society

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