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HUDSON IN 1800

Hudson June 2nd, 1862

Eds Beacon: It is with pleasure that I occasionally notice in the Beacon, sketches of the early settlement of the Reserve. I take the liberty of sending you some extracts from a letter received from my brother in law, Dr. Wm. N. Hudson, now a resident of Middleport, O, in reply to some inquiries that I had made of him relative to this subject. He writes from recollection and not from record. Yours, Harvey Baldwin

He commences with the first settlement of Hudson and says, I have first taken up the families, five in all, that were on the ground the 5th day of June 1800, and who I believe, all sat at a table made of elm bark on the 4th of July, 1800, of that year, in the shade of the forest on what is now a part of the green, a few rods north of the actual center of the township, and a very little west of the north and south road. I recollect that the number who sat together at the dinner was 42 being all the inhabitants then in the township old and young. Their names are as follows, Viz: David Hudson, his wife Anna Hudson, their children Samuel, Ira, Wm N, Milo L and Abigail L. Hudson, 8. Thaddeus Lacy, his wife Rosannah Lacy, their children Isaac H., Ann and Susan Lacy, 5. David Kellogg, his wife Mrs. Kellogg, their children Eleanor, Hiram and infant, 5. Samuel Bishop, his wife Mrs. Bishop, their children Ruth, David Luman, Reuben, Joseph G. Bishop and a maiden sister of Mrs. Bishop, Ruth Gaylord, 9. Elijah Noble, his wife Anna Noble, and child Ira Noble, 3.

Those not having families at the time, or whose families were still at the east were Joel Gaylord, Heman Oviatt, Dr. Moses Thompson, Stephen Perkins, Wm. Leach, Reuben Parker, George Darrow, Joseph Darrow, Gordon Crandall, Richard H. Blinn, Allen Gaylord, and John Wood, 12; Total 42. If any others I do not now recollect them. If you wish to be more accurate, apply to some who are living that were on the ground at the time. Their number is now few. I will name a few I do not know are dead: Allen Gaylord of Newburgh, Stephen Perkins of Solon, Phebe Hollenbeck, formerly Phebe Bishop, and our brother, Timothy Hudson. All the others I suppose are deceased. If you know of any others who are living, please state it in your next. (David Bishop still lives), or if any of those just above named are deceased, please inform me. I asked Dr. Hudson if he could inform me when the first grist mill was erected on the Western Reserve, in reply he says, I am not able to tell you certainly when the first mill was erected on the Reserve, but I will give you the dates of some that I know, and nearly the date of some others in the eastern part of the Reserve. In the summer of 1800, Wm. W. Williams, put mills in what is now Newburgh in Cuyahoga County, where we got the flour and meal made for us in the north western territory. Previous to that all our ground flour and meal was brought from Steele and Norton mills in Bloomfield, Ontario County, New York. But you know, I suppose, that we made in those days meal from corn, some in wooden mortars and more on what we called Blood Mills, those being a tin grater made by punching many holes through a piece of tin, then giving it a curve, and nailing to a piece of wood. In 1801 Ezra Wyatt, and Aaron Norton, commenced building mills







































































































































































































































































