

PIONEER DAYS IN HUBBARD

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and

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In the days when all the land from the Mississippi to the Atlantic seaboard was covered with virgin forest, the empire-building French leaders, traders, and priests were the first white men to invade the hills and valleys which had known only the cry of the wolf and the war whoop of the Indian.

As always, when old civilizations reach out into primitive country, traders are in the vanguard. Among those who came into this area were Bienville and his little band of explorers and traders. The Algonquin tribes, such as the Shawnees and Wyandottes, roamed over these lands on the trail of wild game and on the warpath. It was with these tribes that the French traded.

Here we see Bienville and a group of these French traders giving bright colored cloth and beads in return for valuable furs and skins of wild animals. This scene was repeated many, many times in the valleys of wild and beautiful rivers known to the Indians as the Mahoning and the Shenango, and possibly in the shelter of these very hills, furs were exchanged for bright objects and other trinkets which appealed to the Indians.

(Bienville came down the Ohio Valley. There is no evidence that he actually passed through Hubbard.)

The Tylees Survey Hubbard Township 1798

After the French were officially driven from this country by the English during the French and Indian War in 1763, The American Revolution brought into being a new and free nation, the United States of America. The state of Connecticut maintained its claim to Northeastern Ohio, including what is now known as Hubbard township. Connecticut sold these lands to secure money for the benefit of her school system. Neamiah Hubbard acquired the land which we now know as Hubbard township.

Mr. Hubbard sent Samuel Tylee, a surveyor, out to this territory to measure it into plots suitable for sale to the early settlers. With Mr. Tylee came his three stalwart

brothers and his two sturdy sons, William and Sanford. These men endured untold hardships laying out the first boundaries on which the property lines of today are based. In fact, Mr. Tylee and his helpers ran a boundary line down this very valley one hundred and forty-two years ago.

First Settlers Arrive 1801

After the surveying of the territory had been completed, the Tylees went back to their homes in the East, but they had become so attached to this country that they returned to it three years later, in 1801, bringing with them the first settlers of Hubbard township.

Weary of travel across the mountains in covered wagons, the only means of travel in those days, the settlers arrived here, anxious to locate their home sites in this new promised land. Overjoyed to find their new homes in these wooded hills, they set to work at once, clearing hillsides and cutting down giant trees to build rough cabins in which to rear their children and find safety from wild beasts. The joy of setting their feet on new land which belonged to them was surpassed only by the industry with which the men tilled the newly cleared lands, and the bravery of the women who cared for the children, spun their own flax, carded, spun, and wove their own wool, and made the family clothing.

The first four families to settle here were the Tylees, the Roberts, the Busseys, and the Clarks. Following soon after came Johnathan Carr, Walter and John Clark, Daniel Carey, Cornelius Dilley, William Erwin, Samuel Ewart, George and James Frazier, John Gardner, Jess and Absolom Hall, Henry, William, and Alexander McFarland, Benjamin Marsteller, John McCleary, James Minary, Robert McKay, James Mitcheltree, John Porter, William Parvin, James Pothour, David Reed, Henry Robertson, Edward Scovil, Amos Smith, John Snyder, William Veach, Samuel White, Benjamin Mayers, Edmund Burnett, Benjamin Marstellar, and others. Most of these early settlers were of English or Scotch-Irish descent.

The new settlers had hardly established their homes before the war of 1812 broke out.

The draft in the state of Ohio after General Hull surrendered his army and post at Detroit took away every able bodied man in Hubbard township. On the military roster of Ohio appear the names of David Doughton, William Burnett, Amos Smith, David Kays, John Randall, John Duer, Robert Love, John Wilson, Augustus Smith, Isaac Hoover, Archibald Price, John Mayers, Samuel Tylee and others. The soldiers from Hubbard were ordered to report in ten days with rations and blankets. But there were no blankets on hand, and no wool from which to weave them—for the spring clip had already been used up. So the farmers sheared the young lambs, and the women and girls worked night and day carding wool, spinning it into yarn and weaving it into flannel. This flannel was

dyed with black walnuts and made into blankets which were soon strapped to the backs of the departing soldiers.

Discovery of Coal Brings Welsh Miners 1861

After the War of 1812, Hubbard remained a small agricultural community for a half century. The farmers in those days would load up their wagons with rye, honey, cheese, and dried apples. They made the long journey to Cleveland, Pittsburgh, or Ashtabula and brought back coffee, iron, and salt.

Money was scarce and was used only for the payment of taxes and interest. Dry goods and groceries were paid for with butter, eggs, cheese, and meat. During this period a grist mill, a saw mill, a carding mill, a tannery, and an ashery were built, and a school was started.

However, the discovery of coal in this vicinity, about 1861 brought about a vast change. Experienced Welsh miners moved to Hubbard to work in the coal fields. In addition to their knowledge of coal, the Welsh brought with them their native love for singing. They loved songs of the type which we shall now hear.

Hubbard Men Leave for Civil War 1861

The burning question of slavery arose to tear apart the states of the Union and to cause friction among the people of Hubbard.

Hubbard, however, soon became known as a place friendly to fugitive slaves.

When the War Between the States broke out in 1861, Hubbard contributed her share of young men to preserve the Union. The men who left their homes for the battle fields were: Samuel Tylee, C.N. Clingan, Charles Hammond, William McKinley, Thomas Brishbine, Noah Pound, Harrison Fiddler, H.A. Huff, John Applegate, Hank Patterson, H.H. Clingan, M.V. Bentley, Lem. Marsteller, M.B. White, Robert Jewell, Benjamin Veach, Milton Mathews, Tom Mathews, James Mathews, Emory Bentley, Dan Murphey, David Struble, John Randall, Willis and John Clark, C.W. Jackson, James Hamman, Steve Schidell, Thomas Rock, and W. L. Jones. Records of the Civil War include also such familiar names Romali, Waldorf, Burnett, Robets, Patterson, Thornton, Bailey, Dilley, Mayers, Humes, Bell, Fiedler, Sullivan, Probert, Courtney and Hewitt.

Emery Bentley met his death while in service and is buried in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

This scene is typical of the sad farewells which were said at that time.

The war weary but victorious soldier returns. Guns used in scene was seized from a rebel soldier by C.N. Clingan. The knapsack and cap were worn by Johnathan Applegate during the war.

Here we see the last member of the Tylee post of the Grand Army of the Republic. He holds fond memories of the past and a love of the flag for which he fought.

The Irish Arrive 1862

The spirit of gayety, and love of life which the Irish lend to a community probably appeared in Hubbard about 1862.

The records of St. Patrick Church show that fourteen Irish families had settled in Hubbard by 1862. It is believed that the earliest Irish in this section of Ohio came from the Pittsburgh and Johnstown districts of Pennsylvania at the time of the construction of the Ohio and Pennsylvania canal about 1839. It is probably that many of these people were attracted to Hubbard by the prospect of work in the recently opened coal mines and on the railroads which were being built in this vicinity.

The names of the earliest Irish Settlers known because of their membership in the original congregation of St. Patrick Church are: Michael Pigott, Robert Holway, Nicholas Donie, John Sullivan, Patrick O'Neil, John O'Neil, James Smith, Patrick Heffernan, P. Donahue, Miachel Nughet, John Clancy, the Follays, and the Whe lans.

Germans Appear 1864

In addition to the Pennsylvania Dutch who came over the mountains into Ohio in the first half of the 19th century, hundreds of liberal minded Germans came to this section direct from the fatherland after the unsuccessful revolutions of 1848. By 1864 enough of these immigrants had settled in Hubbard to organize a Lutheran church. Some of the names connected with the founding original church are: Ebinger, Harder, moss, Brunswick, Wahl, Schreiber, Schultz, Gilner, and Kulo w.

The Germans are a musical people with a special liking for instrumental music. In the early days many German bands toured the United States.

Hubbard Begins the Manufacture of Iron and Steel 1868

In 1868 Andrews and Hitchcock leased the E.P. Burnette coal mine and in connection with their fuel holdings engaged in the blast furnace business. Four years later a second furnace was built. In the same year the iron works of the Hubbard Rolling Mill Company was also built. The plant consisted of puddle furnaces, muck rolls, bar mill, and guide mill. The plant afterwards came into possession of Jesse Hall and sons who had been instrumental in founding the industry. It was dismantled in 1893.

In the operation of the early blast furnaces there was much more manual labor than in the modern furnaces. The iron ore, the limestone, and the coke were wheeled by hand on to a hoist. After the hoist was raised to the top of the furnace, the barrows were wheeled off and their contents dumped into the top of the stack.

Many Italians Made Homes in Hubbard 1870

The first Italian to settle in Hubbard township was Philip Marcovechio who came to Coalburg in 1870. Anthony Ross, father of Mrs. Carrie Carano, arrived four years later. From 1874 to 1880 came James Madeline, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Note, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Dominic, Peter Ferrando, Sabatino Marino, Mrs. James Policy, and James Cataline. These families lived in Coalburg where most of the men worked in the mines. In 1884 Dan Dominic and family moved to the village of Hubbard and have lived in the same house on Needmore Street for the last fifty-three years. Numerous Italian families followed and today those of Italian descent made up an important part of the population of Hubbard.

Among the organized groups in Hubbard are the Addua chapter of the Sons and Daughters of Italy, the Marconi Society, and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Society.

Fire Department Organizes 1875

The Hubbard Volunteer Fire Department was organized in 1875. They got off to a good start, for at their first fire on the roof of the Cramer building the record reads, "Fire Co. out quick and soon had fire out with slight damage to the building". The records indicate that George Terry was the first Captain of the company. The earliest roster available is dated 1887 and lists the following names which, no doubt, include many of the charter members: George Terry, C.N. Clingan, G. H. Stewart, L.R. Worley, J.L.Gillmer, C.W. Hammond, F. P. Hibler, J. L. Craig, W. R. Wadsworth, A.D. Allen, G.D. Sitts, S. Q. March, H. H. Clingan, E. E. Eyster, H.A. Huff, A.A. Allen, J. R. Jeffreys, Thomas J. James, Ralph Stevenson, Charles Schultz, Ed Sitts, and W. R. Clark.

Hungarians Come to Hubbard 1880

The First Hungarians came to Hubbard about 1880. Some of the early settlers were Sam Kline, John Guidosh, George Kutty, James Kacsari, Paul Demko, Steve Katocs, Louis Nagy, and Charles Kudracs. They all worked at the Andrews and Hitchcock Furnace.

Slovaks Settle in Hubbard 1888

In the year 1888 the first Slovaks came to Hubbard. Some of the first families were Mr. and Mrs. Mike Klucher, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Sharisky, Mr. and Mrs. John Svirloh and Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Klucher. Most of the men first found employment at the old Andrews Hitchcock Furnace.

Spanish-American War Takes Hubbard Men 1898

When the United States finally declared war against Spain because of the Cuban situation, Theodore Roosevelt's Rough Riders were not the only ones to volunteer for service in that tropical campaign. Present Hubbard Citizens who took part in that struggle are: Earl Greer, Evan Jewell, and Barney Gavin. Among other Hubbard men who took part were: Jess Lane, Harry Sears, Duncan McDonald, Ernest Bergman, Frank Ritze.

Romanians Take up Residence in Hubbard 1900

The first Romanians came to Hubbard in 1900 from parts of Austria-Hungary, which are now a part of Romania. The early families to settle here were those of John Brandus, Nick Michlia, John Morar, and Nick Cernea. Of the Romanians who came to live in Hubbard later, the majority came from Transylvania. Most of them were unmarried young people and a few who left their families in Europe. The majority of these people worked at the Andrews Hitchcock Furnace and the American Sintering Company.

In 1914 the Romanians of Hubbard organized the Society Apolzana which is a member of The Union and League of Romanian Societies of America. This organization is still in existence in Hubbard.

Dr. Bond Buys Hubbards First Car 1903

In the days when automobiles were known as Horseless carriages, Dr. Bond brought the first gasoline buggy to Hubbard, a 1903 Cadillac. An automobile ride in those days was an adventure. Linen dusters, leather caps, veils, and goggles were all a part of the regular equipment of motorists.

Hubbard Sends Boys to First World War 1917

When boys were called throughout the nation to participate in the World War, Hubbard sent her full quota. From some one hundred homes, of varying nationalities, went boys to undergo the rigors of military training, or to enter the ranks of overseas fighters.

The names of those who did not return are deeply enshrined in the memory of Hubbard.

Those who did come back are the heroes who walk in the midst, carrying on the everyday activities of the village.

The entire list of World War participants is a long one, familiar to the community. As time lends perspective, the names and deeds of these men will become more and more deeply etched in the records.