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1875
SHELF FLAT

ILLUSTRATED
HISTORICAL ATLAS
OF
FAYETTE COUNTY
INDIANA.
1875

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AN ILLUSTRATED
HISTORICAL ATLAS OF



(**FAYETTE CO.**)
INDIANA.

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1875.

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SECTIONAL MAP
OF
FAYETTE
COUNTY,
IND.



History of Fayette County, Indiana.

Fayette County, Indiana, was established by act of the Legislature, bearing date December 28, 1818, which provided that after the "first day of January next" the said county shall "enjoy all the privileges which belong to separate and independent counties."

COUNTY BOUNDARIES, ETC.

Prior to the organization of this county the line dividing Wayne and Franklin Counties, was the line which now divides Harrison and Connersville Townships, Fayette County; and the western limits of Franklin and Wayne Counties had been known as the "Indian Boundary," or the west line of the "Twelve Mile Purchase." Nearly the entire township of Orange, all of Fairview, more than five-sixths of Posey, and a small portion of both Harrison and Connersville Townships, as constituted to-day, were west of this line, and in what was known as the "New Purchase" which was acquired of the Indians by the treaty of St. Mary's, Ohio, Oct. 3, 1813.

The lands acquired by the treaty of 1818, lying north of Jennings County, and south and east of the Wabash River, and west of the old or "Twelve Mile Purchase," were formed into what may be styled a preliminary county, to be known as Delaware County. All counties lying contiguous on the east and south of the same were given concurrent jurisdiction over this vast territory, until such time as it should be more particularly organized. Of this County of Delaware, about seventy-five square miles, or one third of the County of Fayette, was formed, while about fifty-five square miles was taken from Wayne County, and perhaps 135 square miles was taken from Franklin County.

The eastern boundary of Fayette County for the first two years of its existence was the "Indian Boundary" or east line of the "Twelve Mile Purchase." The eastern line has been twice changed by Legislative act. First. When Union County was formed, in 1821, and again in 1826, when a strip two miles wide from east to west, and three miles from north to south, was taken from Franklin County. These six sections constitute the east end of Jackson Township to-day.

The following extract from the act of 1818, organizing Fayette County, may be of some satisfaction to the curious who would like to know how Brownsville, Union County, once fell within the limits of Fayette County. After the usual enacting clause the section reads as follows:

"That, from and after the first day of January next, all that tract or parcel of country which is enclosed within the following boundaries shall constitute and form a new county to be known and designated by the name and style of Fayette County, to-wit: Beginning at the southeast corner of section thirty-three, township thirteen, and range thirteen, thence north three miles; thence east three miles to the old boundary line; thence north to fractions twenty-eight and thirty-three, in the fifteenth township; range fourteen, east of the second principal meridian; thence west on said line to a line dividing sections twenty-seven and twenty-eight, in the fifteenth township; range twelve east of the second principal meridian; thence north on said line, to a line dividing townships fifteen and sixteen; and thence west six miles, thence south eighteen miles, thence east so far as to intersect the line dividing the twelfth and thirteenth townships; and thence along said line east to the place of beginning."

The east line, instead of being a true north and south one, bore to the east some twenty-five or thirty degrees, so that the county line was about three miles further east at its northern limit in 1818, than at the present time.

ORGANIZATION.

The act organizing the county named Wm. Bradley, of Switzerland; James Dill and John Watts, of Dearborn; Wilson Dunn, of Jefferson; and John F. Ross, of Clark County; Commissioners on behalf of the state to select a site for a seat of justice for the incipient county.

These gentlemen were to take into consideration the present and probable future population of the county, and also the possible future division of the county, and locate the County Seat accordingly; and also to receive contributions or donations, the liberality of which, of course, had much to do with fixing the precise locality. They met as required at the house of John McCormac (about one mile north of the town of Connersville), on the third Monday in February, 1819.

The Sheriff of Franklin County had been charged with the duty of notifying those commissioners of their appointment.

John Conner, of Connersville, having been appointed Sheriff by Governor Jennings, announced an election for two Associate Judges, three Commissioners, one Clerk, and one Recorder.

This first election occurred about the first of February, pre-

cise date not ascertained, but on the 8th of February, 1819, the first Board of Commissioners met; at which time the Clerk had not yet received his commission from the Governor, but did so on the next day. All civil officers residing within the limits of a new county were required to continue to exercise their functions until relieved by duly qualified officers, elected or appointed within the new county. It was provided in the organic act that all courts should be held at the house of John McCormac, until county buildings were erected, or until the Circuit Court saw fit to remove to more suitable quarters.

With a sheriff, clerk, recorder, judges and commissioners, all duly qualified, the machinery of the infant commonwealth may be regarded as fairly in motion early in the year of grace 1819.

We turn now to look for a few moments at the condition of affairs within the bounds of this county for a few years prior to its organization.

LAND SALES, FIRST SETTLERS, ETC.

The "Twelve Mile Purchase" of which the larger portion of the county was formed, was acquired by treaty of Dec. 9, 1809; and was surveyed in 1810, and thrown upon the market in the latter part of the year 1811. These sales were effected at Cincinnati prior to the establishment of a land office at Brookville.

In 1811 no less than 103 tracts of land were sold within the limits of that part of Fayette which constituted a part of Franklin and Wayne Counties. In 1812 but 36 additional tracts were sold, the Indian troubles and general unsettled state of the country having very much checked the rush to the new Eldorado. In 1813 the influx of purchasers seems to have revived, and 80 additional tracts were sold, followed by 99 in 1814. Here was another falling off, doubtless occasioned in part by the fact that the choicest tracts had been secured. In 1816 only 34 tracts were sold; but 19 in 1817, and very few in 1818.

Immediately upon the opening up of the New Purchase, sales revived, and in the last three months of 1820 forty pieces were sold in townships thirteen and fourteen, range eleven, east; or within the present limits of Orange and Fairview Township. The lands in town fifteen, were not placed upon the market until August 1821; when most of Posey Township became purchasable, and about 120 tracts were entered, mostly within the limits of Posey, Fairview and Orange Townships.

The total number of acres in the county is about 131,000, of which nearly two-thirds or 79,333 acres had been entered prior to 1819. Although the county was just formed, it must be borne in mind that it had been in process of settlement for about nine years, and already contained a population nearly half as great as at any period since.

An enrollment of the white male voters reported in November, 1820, fixed the number at 1153, which indicated that the total population could not have been less than 5000 one year after the county had been set up.

It is probable that the proportion of adults, young and middle aged, was greater then than at present.

Of the early settlers, a larger portion were from Ohio than from any other State. Next in point of numbers, perhaps, were Kentuckians, North Carolinians, Virginians, Pennsylvanians and New Yorkers.

In talking with Mr. A. B. Conwell he declares that "the first settlers were nearly all poor, but honest." Many of them having emigrated with little more than they could carry on their backs, and a man was looked upon as being in affluent circumstances who had a good team and money enough to buy 80 acres, or a "quarter" of land at government prices.

EARLY FINANCES, ETC.

Although the first ten years in the history of "that tract of country," afterwards called "Fayette County," found it rapidly filling up with hardy, enterprising pioneers, they were far from rolling in wealth. Money was a scarce article; but fortunately they had learned to do with little. A glance at the county finances, rates of taxation, pay for public services, etc., will cast a flood of light upon the frugal habits of the pioneers.

For making out the tax duplicate of the year 1819, Jonathan McCarty was allowed the princely sum of \$5.00.

In 1820 the Clerk made out three duplicates for which he was allowed the handsome sum of \$45.00.

In 1820, assessing the revenue cost \$35.00.

In 1821, the paper, ink and quills used by the county officers, cost \$12.62 $\frac{1}{2}$.

The duplicate for 1820 amounted to \$946.02 $\frac{1}{2}$, to which was added \$189.25 as receipts from licenses.

The Commissioners' records show that the treasurer received \$2,762 during the first 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ years of the county's existence, and

the statement of the condition of the treasury was spread upon the records "verbatim et literatim."

To provide sufficient funds to meet the exigencies of the times, the Commissioners levied the following tax for 1819:

On each horse, mare, colt, mule or ass over three years old.	37 $\frac{1}{2}$
For every town lot, for each one hundred dollars of its valuation.	
For each 100 acres of first-rate land.	50
For each 100 acres of second-rate land.	50
For each 100 acres of third-rate land.	43 $\frac{1}{2}$
For each stallion on the price of the season.	31 $\frac{1}{2}$

The rates of taxation was but slightly increased for several years. Almost one-fifth of the revenue of the county was raised from licenses or permits to vend merchandise and "keep tavern or public house." The license for tavern keepers was fixed at \$10, and lest these licensed victuallers should be hard upon the traveling public, they were furnished with a schedule of prices as follows, as will be seen upon an inspection of the Commissioners' record:

For every $\frac{1}{2}$ pint of French brandy or wine.	50
For $\frac{1}{2}$ pint of peach brandy or gin.	25
For $\frac{1}{2}$ pint of whisky.	25
For porter, per quart.	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
For strong beer, per quart.	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
For dinner, breakfast or supper.	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
For lodging, per night.	25
For horse, per night to hay.	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
For oats or Indian corn, per gallon.	25

The earliest duplicates seem not to have been preserved, and the only clue to the financial condition of the county, is the meagre annual reference to it to be found in the Commissioners' record until 1828. From this we learn that there were 1162 taxpayers in the county, of these only 29 were required to pay more than \$5.00 each for state, county and road purposes. Jonathan Jones was the heaviest on the list, his amounting to \$11.56 all told.

The first 100 persons on the list of 1828 were charged with \$140.88.

The State tax was	\$954.29 $\frac{1}{4}$
County tax.	1,091.81 $\frac{1}{4}$
Road tax.	19.29 $\frac{3}{4}$

Jonathan McCarty was charged with the tax on 83 town lots, the tax on which was \$5.45. Of these lots one was appraised at \$50; three at \$25; one at \$20, and the balance at from \$2.50 to \$5.00, which would indicate that Connersville corner lots were not held in as high esteem forty-five years ago as at present.

FIRST COURTS, ETC.

The first term of the Commissioners court was begun on the 8th day of Feb., 1819. Basil Roberts, Harrod Newland and John Tyner constituted the first board, and have all since passed from works to rewards. Each was subsequently re-elected one or more times. Their first official act took place on the 9th of Feb., 1819, and consisted of dividing the county into five townships, to be known as Columbia, Connersville, Brownsville, Harrison and Jenings.

This board seems to have zealously guarded the public funds, as they appeared to supervise all of the orders of the Circuit Court, making allowances for court officers and expenses.

They passed upon the allowances of all, from the judges to bailiffs, and dealt out to the grand jurors their paltry pay of seventy-five cents per day.

The position of a commissioner was an onerous one. Besides such ordinary matters as allowing the numerous bills presented, providing the "ways and means" for filling the county exchequer, there was a host of minor offices to fill from fence viewer to county agent and treasurer.

They had to appoint road viewers for roads innumerable upon the application of twelve or more "respectable" inhabitants.

The five new townships were each to supply with constables, inspectors of elections, overseers of the poor, and the like. At this first session Newton Claypool was made treasurer, Nicholas Reagan was appointed county agent, and Adonijah Morgan assessor for the county. The Sheriff was in those days collector of the revenues, which he paid over to the Treasurer for safe keeping. John M. Wilson was the first sheriff elected, and was allowed by the board a credit of \$80.99 $\frac{1}{2}$, on account of delinquencies for the year 1819.

CIRCUIT COURT.—The first term of the Circuit Court was held May 3, 1819; John Watts, Esq., Presiding Judge; Jonathan Caldwell and Edward Webb, Esq., Associate Judges; Jonathan



COM'RS { W.A. HOLLAND.
JOHN SPIVEY.
LINNVILLE FERGUSON

CLERK OF C.C.: JAMES G.F. LEACH.
AUDT: W.H. GREEN.

COURT HOUSE, CONNERSVILLE, IND.

RECORDER: C.H. SANDERS. TREASURER: G.M. NELSON.
SHERIFF: D.B. BALL.



RESIDENCE of A. M. SINKS, Esq. Atty at Law, CITY OF CONNERSVILLE, INDIANA.

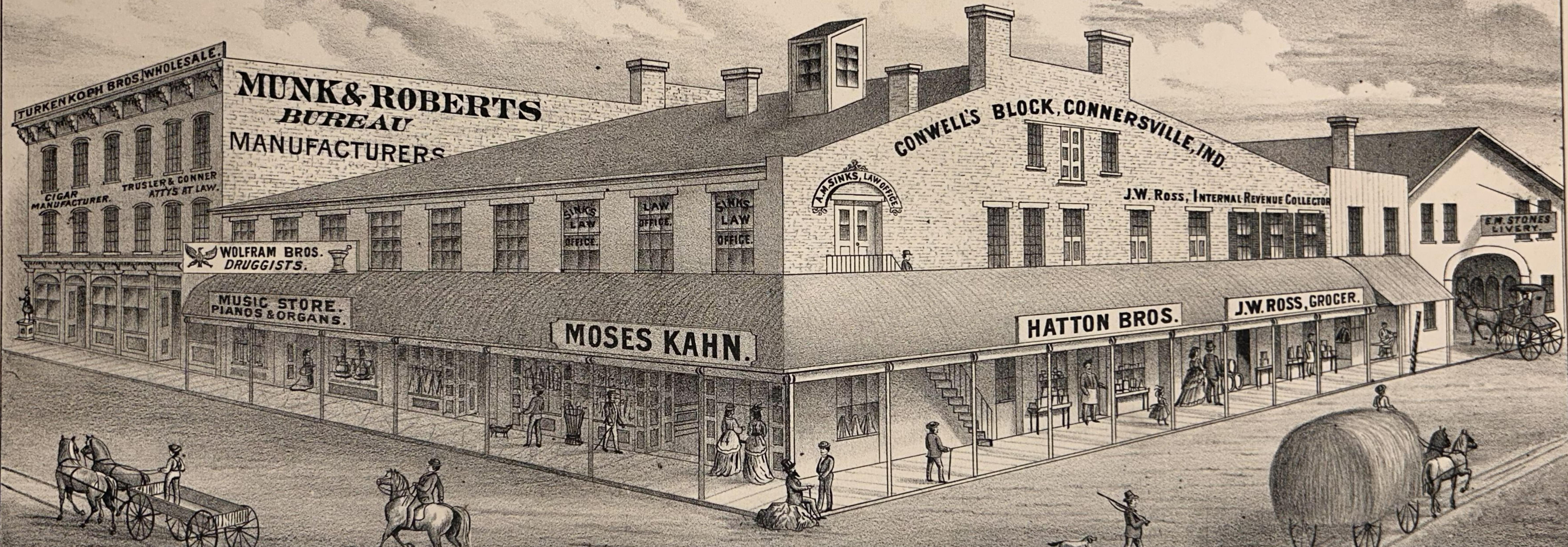
FAYETTE COUNTY REFERENCES.

CONNERSVILLE TOWNSHIP.

NAME.	POST-OFFICE.	SECTION.	BUSINESS.	NATIVITY.	Year Settled In County
Claypool, B. F.	Connersville.		Attorney at Law.	Fayette Co., Indiana.	
Collins, John	"		Saloon and Billiard Hall.	Ireland.	1859
Chitwood, Joshua	"		Physician and Surgeon.	Union Co., Indiana.	1848
Chitwood, G. R.	"		Physician and Surgeon.	Gallia Co., Ohio.	1848
Connell, A. B.	"		Retired Merchant.	Sussex Co., Delaware.	1821
Doll, F.	"		Eating House.	Baden Baden, Germany.	1832
Enyart, Samuel	"		Woolen Manufacturing.	Warren Co., Ohio.	1841
Florea, L. W.	"		Attorney at Law.	Fayette Co., Indiana.	1846
Florea, G. C.	"		Attorney at Law.	Fayette Co., Indiana.	1848
Forrey, W. C.	"		Mayor and Attorney at Law.	Fayette Co., Pennsylvania.	1834
Green, W. H.	"		County Auditor.	Clark Co., Indiana.	1854
Groff, Joseph G.	"		Groceries, Confectionery, Bakery, Eating House, Ice Cream Saloon, Billiards, etc.		
Griffis, T. L.	"		Dry Goods, Clothing, Shoes, Notions, Hats, Carpets, etc.	Connersville.	1826
Griffith & Co., O. P.	"		Hardware, Tools, Iron and Nails, Coal, Agricultural Implements, etc.	Fayette Co., Indiana.	1847
Fryburger Bros.	"		Proprs. Fryburger House, Dlrs. in Groceries, Teas, Notions, Seeds. <small>Commission Merchants.</small>	Fayette Co., Indiana.	1852
Huston, William	"		Banker.	Franklin Co., Pennsylvania.	1850
Higgs, John M.	"		Editor "Connersville Examiner."	Franklin Co., Indiana.	1829
Harlan, James M.	"		Farmer.	Fayette Co., Indiana.	1849
Jewell, J. H.	"		Farmer.		
Koogler, A.	"		Physician and Surgeon.	Green Co., Ohio.	1863
Little, Thomas M.	"		Attorney at Law and Notary Public.	Fayette Co., Indiana.	1840
Leach, James G. F.	"		Attorney at Law and County Clerk.	Butler Co., Ohio.	1854
McFarlan, J. B.	"		Carriage Manufacturer and Real Estate. Residence on Lincoln Avenue.		
McIntosh, Jas. C.	"		Attorney at Law.	Fayette Co., Indiana.	1827
Nelson, G. M.	"		Trees, etc.	Fayette Co., Indiana.	1828
Rike, Edwd. P.	"		Jeweler.	Montgomery Co., Ohio.	1864
Root & Co., P. H.	"		Woolen Manufacturers.	Fayette Co., Indiana.	
Roehl, Chas.	"		Attorney at Law.	Prussia.	1865
Sparks, Hilton	"		Farmer.	Fayette Co., Indiana.	1845
Sinks, A. M.	"		Attorney at Law.	Clermont Co., Ohio.	1867
Sinks, Geo. M.	"		Editor and Publisher "Connersville Times."	Clermont Co., Ohio.	1865
Saunders, C. B.	"		County Recorder. Residence N. E. Corner 4th and Eastern Avenue.	Saratoga, New York.	1857
Trusler, G.	"		Attorney at Law and Farmer.	Fayette Co., Indiana.	1881
Uhl, John	"		Proprietor Valley Flouring Mills.	Germany.	1857
Vance, S. W.	"		Physician and Surgeon.	Connersville.	1824
Zeller, Ignatius	"		Dealer in Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Silver and Plated Ware, etc. Wall Paper, Window Shades, Chromos,	Germany.	1855

HARRISON TOWNSHIP.

Broaddus, Warner H.	Connersville.	2	Farmer and Member of Legislature in 1872 and 1873.	Fayette Co., Indiana.	1826
Caldwell, Joseph	Harrisburg.	33	Farmer.	Fayette Co., Indiana.	1811
Cole, A. G.	Connersville.	15	Farmer.	Baltimore Co., Maryland.	1839
Chrisman, Jesse	"	6	Stock and Produce Farmer.	Fayette Co., Indiana.	1839
Dale, Joseph B.	Harrisburg.	4	Farmer.	Fayette Co., Indiana.	1838
Duncan, William A.	Connersville.	6	Farmer.	Franklin Co., Pennsylvania.	1850



TRASLER & CONNER,
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Turkenkoph Bros.
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Cut & Plug Tobacco.

C. K. Conwell,
REAL ESTATE
AGENT.

MUNK & ROBERTS,
BUREAU
Manufacturers.

Wolfram Bros.
dealers in
DRUGS,
Pianos and Organs.

Moses Kahn,
CLOTHING
DRY AND
Furnishing Goods.

A. M. SINKS,
Attorney at Law
AND
NOTARY PUBLIC.

Hatton Bros.
GROCERS
and dealers in
All kinds of Produce.

J. W. ROSS,
Internal Revenue
Office Up Stairs.

J. W. ROSS,
Dealer in Groceries
AND
QUEENSWARE.

LITTLE & LITTLE,
ATTORNEYS
AT LAW.

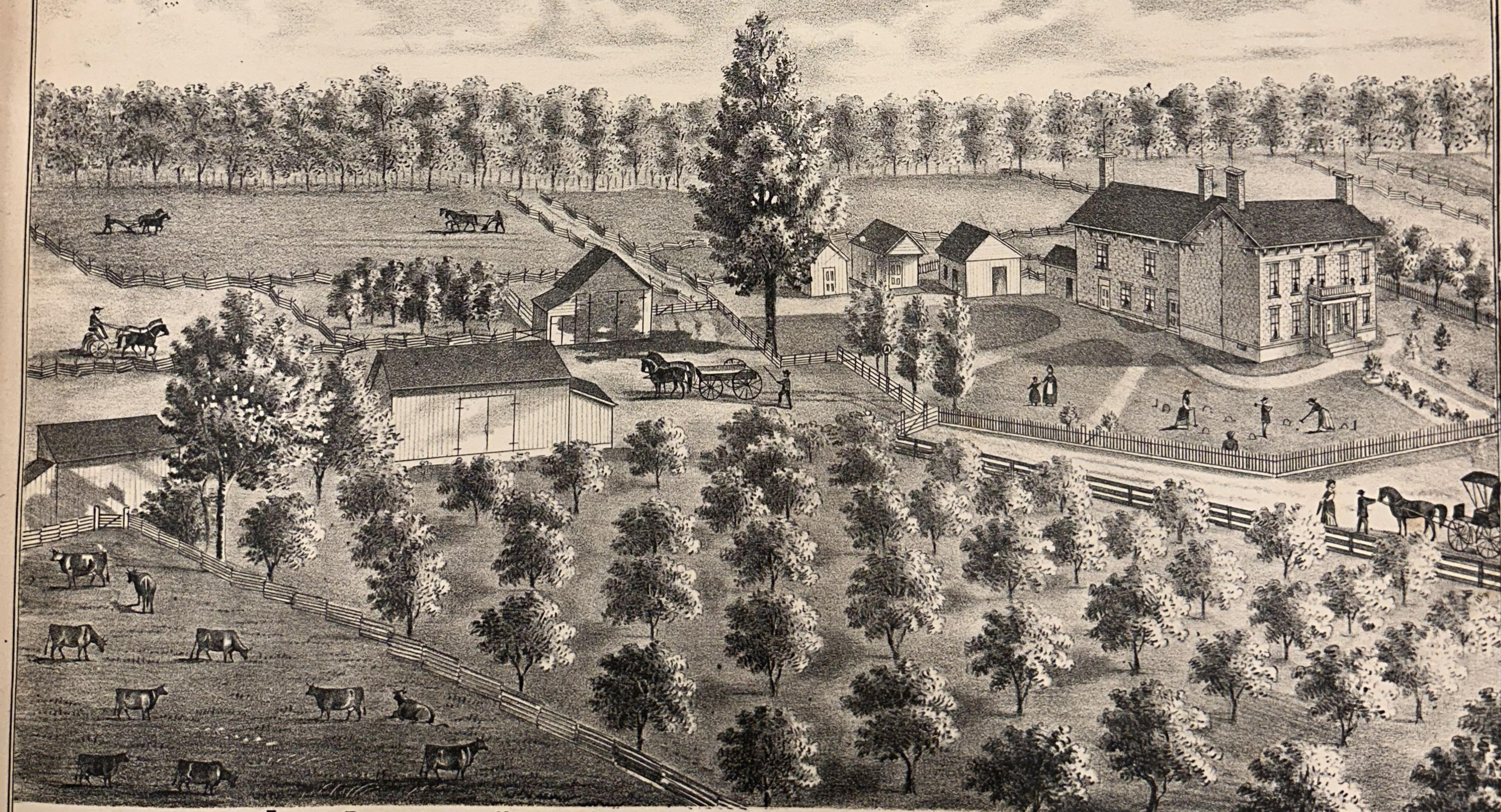
G. BARON,
Tailor, Repairing
AND
NEATLY DONE.

HENRY HOLLAND,
HAIR CUTTING
AND
BATH ROOMS.

E. M. STONE,
LIVERY
AND
FEED STABLE.



THE POOR HOUSE, CONNERSVILLE CITY, INDIANA.



FARM RESIDENCE OF HIRAM JEFFREY, ESQ., FAIRVIEW T^P, FAYETTE CO., INDIANA.