

1835, and to March 1st, 1836.

In the winter of 1834-5 the Legislative Council broke up the Valley into smaller organizations. Town six south, one east, was organized and named Rollin. Town five, six, seven, eight, nine and fractional ten south, range one west, were organized into a single township and named Wheatland; and towns five, six, seven, eight, nine and fractional ten south, range two west, were organized into a single township and named Moscow. At the close of the session of 1834-35, town seven south, one east (Hudson), remained a part of the township of Lenawee; towns eight, nine and fractional ten south, ranges one and two east (Medina and Seneca in Michigan, and Gorham and Chesterfield in Ohio), remained a part of the township of Fairfield. Townships now named Somerset, Wheatland, Pittsford and Wright constituted the township of Wheatland, and townships now called Moscow, Adams, Jefferson, Ransom and the east part of Amboy constituted the township of Moscow.

ROLLIN.

The first township meeting was held on the sixth day of April, 1835, at the house of Joseph Real, so says the statute; but for Real we should evidently read Beal, for there the meeting was in fact held. Matthew Bennett was elected moderator, and William Beal, clerk. Matthew Bennett was elected supervisor; William Beal, township clerk; David Steer, James Bacon and Joseph Beal, assessors; Elijah C. Bennett, collector; David Steer and John T. Comstock, directors of the poor; Warner Aylesworth, Asa R. Bacon and Joseph C. Beal, commissioners of highways; Elijah A. Bennett, constable; Joseph Gibbon, Orson Green and Joseph Steer, commissioners of common schools; Joseph Gibbons, Orson Green, Joseph Steer, Elijah C. Bennett and James Boodery, "school inspectors of common schools."

It was voted that "our cattle, hogs and sheep, run at large the ensuing year;" and "our pathmasters be fence-viewers." The record does not state the number of votes, polled at the township meeting, but at the general election, held on the fifth and sixth days of October, 1835, there were fifteen votes polled for Governor, three votes for Lieutenant Governor, nine votes for Senator, fifteen votes for Representative in Congress; three votes were given for "Representative of Michigan." Of the votes given for Governor, Stevens T. Mason received three, and John Biddle received twelve; Edward Mundy received the three votes for Lieutenant Governor; Olmsted Hough, Edward D. Ellis, and Laurent Durocher, each received three votes for Senator; William Woodbridge received thirteen votes for Representative in Congress, and Isaac E. Crary received three votes; Allen Hutchins, Hiram Dodge, James Wheeler, and Darius Meed, each received three votes for "Representative of Michigan." There were also twelve votes cast against the ratification of the Constitution of Michigan, and one for its ratification.

The reader will notice, perhaps, a discrepancy between the statement of the whole number of votes given for the office of Representative in Congress and the aggregate of votes stated to be given to the two candidates. Fifteen is said to be the whole number given for the office, while Woodbridge is said to have received thirteen, and Crary three. From a careful review of the vote it seems plain that Woodbridge only received twelve votes. The reader will also have noticed, perhaps, that at the township meeting no justices of the peace were elected. That meeting was held under the territorial laws, and by these laws justices were appointed by the

Legislative Council. That position was held, no doubt, by Joseph Beal, whose name appears as one of the inspectors of the election.

In May, this year, Dr. Leonard G. Hall settled in this township, and has ever since been a resident of the Bean Creek Valley. For several years his ride extended over a vast extent of territory. He was kind, skillful and attentive, and nearly all the earliest settlers have had occasion to call down blessings on his head. In the same month Daniel Rhodes and his son William came into the township, and in June John Foster located land on section twenty-seven, and immediately commenced operations there. Barnabas Bonney settled on section thirteen, and Samuel Comstock, having purchased an interest in the lands of the Rollin Mill Company, built a house and moved into it in the month of July.

In April of this year, work was commenced on the saw mill in Rollin. Mr. William Beal was made superintendent of the work, and for that purpose left his farm and dwelt on the mill property. The mill frame was raised in the fall of that year, and in November of that year the sawing of lumber commenced and enabled the settlers to make their cabins more comfortable for the approaching winter. The saw mill, finished, preparations were at once commenced for the building of a grist mill.

In the fall Bishop Van Wert, Jacob Foster and the three Haskins settled in the township.

Sometime during the summer of this year a post office was established at or near the mill property, and William Beal was made postmaster and Porter Beal mail carrier. Before that, the settlers of all the northern part of the Valley had to go to Adrian for their mail matter, which was no small task. From the western part of the Valley a day and a half was required to go to the post office, and each letter cost the recipient twenty-five cents, — compulsory prepayment was not then in vogue.

Thompson, who had opened a small trading establishment south of the lake, attempted to sell whisky to settlers and Indians. He was cited to appear at Adrian, which effectually squelched the business in that township for some time.

Among the purchasers of real estate in 1835 were these: Erastus Farnham, July -3d; Elijah Brownell, July 11th; John Talbot, May 11th; Amos Steer, June 25th; Oliver Griswold, Nov. 6th; Darius Cole, Feb. 20th ; Leonard G. Hall, June 22 ; Stephen Vail, Barnabas Bonney, June 1st; William Godfrey, June 3d; James Kenly, June 18th; Harvey Houghton, May 27th; Joseph Webster, Nov. 21st; Abraham P. Vosburgh, William Campbell, Nov. 21st; J. Warner Aylesworth, Ezra Lord, July 10th; John Haskins, Matthew Bennett, Abijah S. Clark, Phebe H. Clark, May 11th ; Luther Evans, July 3d; Lydia Howland, June 4th; Calvin Jenks, June 13th; Samuel Comstock, July 7th ; Hiram Hitchcock, Jared Comstock, June 19th ; Rachael S. Beal, July 18th; Sylvester White, Oct. 20th; John Foster, June 1st; Lorenzo Sheldon, Thomas Kealey, June 9th; Edward Knapp, May 26th ; Daniel Peck, May 26th ; Rufus Peck, Ira Jones, June 26; Moses T. Bennett, July 16th.

The Bean Creek Valley- Incidents of its Early Settlement. Collected from the Memories of its Earliest Settlers, Now Living and Verified by Reference to Official Documents.

By James J. Hogaboam; Hudson, Michigan. Jas. M. Scarritt, Publisher, 1876; pages 46-48.