

— Grubbs, and the present minister, the Rev. S. F. Tincher, of Mapleton. The present membership is thirty.

The first trustees were Jacob C. Coil and John Burk. The present trustees are Jacob C. Wright, Wm. M. Dawson, Hamilton Thompson, Swartz Mustard, and Isaac Morris. A Sabbath-school is held during the summer months only, with an average attendance of fifty. Wm. M. Dawson is superintendent.

The Crooked Creek Baptist Church was organized in 1837, with fourteen original members, viz.: Madison Hume, Joseph Watts, Patrick Hume, Jane Hume, Esther Hume, David and Eliza Stoops, John Kinsley, Achsah Kinsley, John and Rachel Dunn, Samuel Hutchinson, Martha Hutchinson, and Morley Stewart. Their first meetings were held in the old log school-house near the location of the present church. Their first church edifice was built in 1842, which, having become insufficient for the use of the congregation, was replaced by the present church building, which was erected on the same site in 1856.

The first pastor of this church was the Rev. Madison Hume, whose successors have been Revs. — Poin, A. Hume, — Stewart, — Craig, A. J. Martin, A. J. Riley, R. N. Harvey, T. J. Conner, and Lewis. The present membership is ninety-eight. Connected with the church is a Sunday-school, with an attendance of sixty-three pupils, under the superintendency of T. F. Wakeland.

The Union Church at Nora was built in 1864. A church organization had been previously formed (in 1861), with the following-named members, viz.: Isaiah Applegate, James Gray, Margarett Gray, Theodosia Gray, Elizabeth Gray, James McShane and wife, Franklin Hall and wife, Samuel Tooley and wife, Allan Stewart and wife, Henry Whiting, Susan Whiting, Abraham Bowen, Ruth Bowen, Peter Lawson, Catharine Lawson, Sarah Somers, Nancy Ray, William McCoy, Jane McCoy, Louisa Dawson, Samuel Whiting, Ann Whiting, Rachel Smith, Mary J. Dodd, Sally Whitesell, William Shields, Charles Huffman, and Susan Wright. Meetings for worship were held in the school-house until the erection of the church edifice, three years after

the organization. The first minister to this congregation was John McCarty, who was followed by Isaac Hardin, Henry Cottingham, and a number of other preachers. At present there is no church organization, but a flourishing Sunday-school is kept up, with an attendance of fifty-five scholars, under the superintendence of Mary Barr.

Schools.—There are fifteen public schools in this township, including the graded and high school at Broad Ripple. The school-houses are all common frame, except the school-house at Millersville, No. 2, and No. 12, in the northwest corner of the township, which is a new brick house, built in 1881; also the new graded school-house at Broad Ripple is a substantial brick, with rubble limestone foundation, four rooms finished in modern style, and is the best public-school building in Marion County outside the city of Indianapolis. The cost of the building, including out-building, furniture, etc., was about seven thousand five hundred dollars. This graded, or high school, as it is commonly termed, was built to accommodate the advance pupils for the entire township, and is, therefore, a township graded school. It is located at Broad Ripple, the geographical centre of the township, and was built in 1883. The schools of Washington township are taught seven months in the year, a term which should be increased to nine months.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

OLIVER JOHNSON.

The lineage of the Johnson family is distinctively Irish. Jeremiah Johnson, Sr., the grandfather of Oliver, early resided in Virginia, and subsequently removed to Kentucky, the Territory of Indiana ultimately becoming his home. His children were Samuel, Jeremiah, Thomas, John, Milton, Nancy, Jane, Mary, and Sarah. Of these sons, John was born Jan. 1, 1798, in Kentucky, and removed to Franklin County, Ind. In 1821, Marion County became his home. He married Miss Sarah Pursel, daughter of Peter Pursel, Esq., formerly of New Jersey, and one



Oliver Johnson

of the early residents of Franklin County, Ind. Their twelve children were Oliver, Luther, Volney, Newton, John V., Charles P., Louisa, Elizabeth, Mary Ann, Nancy Jane, Lucinda, and Sarah. Oliver was born Nov. 22, 1821, in Franklin County, Ind., and brought with his parents while an infant to Marion County. His youth was passed at the home of his father in the various employments of the farm, interspersed with periods at the neighboring school. At the age of twenty-two he was married to Miss Pamela Howland, daughter of Powell Howland, Esq., of Marion County. Their children are Mary E. (Mrs. Wm. A. Lowe), of Terre Haute; James P., of Terre Haute, who married Miss Rebecca Shoemaker, of the same place; Silas H., of Washington township, married to Miss Laura Wright, of the same township; and Franklin P., also of Washington township, married to Miss Georgie Ann Pursel, of Tuscola, Ill. Mr. Johnson for several years after his marriage rented a farm, but desiring to be independent of landlords, purchased a tract of land in Washington township, which was soon after sold and his present home secured. He has during his active career been engaged in farming of a general character, and is regarded as one of the most practical and successful farmers of the county. He has in politics been a lifetime Democrat, but not a working partisan. He is in religion a supporter of the Lutheran Church, of which his wife is a member.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

WAYNE TOWNSHIP.

THE township of Wayne is the central one in the western range of townships of Marion County. On the north it is bounded by the township of Pike; on the east by Centre; on the south by Decatur township, and on the west by Hendricks County.

The only streams of any importance in the township are White River, and Eagle and Little Eagle Creeks. The former barely touches the township on its eastern border, where, in its meanderings, it enters from Centre, and immediately afterwards returns to the same township. Eagle Creek, flowing in a south-

erly direction from Pike township, enters Wayne in the northwest, traverses the township diagonally in a very meandering course to the southeast corner, touching the southwest corner of Centre and then entering the northeast point of Decatur township, where it joins its waters with those of the White River. Little Eagle Creek, coming from the north, crosses the boundary between Pike and Wayne, and flows southwardly across the eastern part of the latter township, to a point near its southeastern corner, where the stream enters Eagle Creek.

Several of the railway lines diverging from Indianapolis cross the territory of Wayne. The Indianapolis and Vincennes road is the most southern of these, traversing the township only a short distance across its southeastern corner. Next, north, is the Vandalia line, which crosses the southern half of the township in a northeasterly and southwesterly direction. The Indianapolis and St. Louis Railroad crosses Wayne in nearly an east and west direction, near the centre of the township. The Indiana, Bloomington and Western Railway runs across the north part of the township to a point near its northwest corner, where it passes into Hendricks County.

Three small towns or villages lie within the territory of Wayne township. Of these, Bridgeport is located in the southwest part of the township, on the old National road, and also on the line of the Vandalia Railroad. The village of Clermont is in the northwest corner of the township, on the line of the Indiana, Bloomington and Western Railway; and on the south line of the township, near its southeast corner, is the village of Maywood, located on the line of the Vincennes Railroad. The population of the township by the United States census of 1880 was four thousand seven hundred and seventy-two.

Wayne, with the other townships of Marion County, was set off, and its boundaries defined, by order of the board of county commissioners, on the 16th of April, 1822, and on the same date the board ordered that Wayne and Pike be temporarily joined together in one township organization, and for judicial purposes, the union to continue until each township should become sufficiently populous for a separate organization. They remained joined in this