

Indian
A

Amalgam

herd in Michigan. But in the morning the calf was missing. They searched for several hours and the men living in the log house helped them hunt, but no trace of the calf was found. They always believed their host had stolen the calf and hidden it in the night, but of course they had no proof. The cows were later killed and eaten by the wolves which could be heard nights howling in the forest.

They had slept in the wagon enroute at night and on arrival lived in it until a shelter could be built. They, with the assistance of David's brother, William, and Jane's 16-year-old brother, Henry Clark, built a log cabin in the deep woods about a half mile east of what is now Avondale.

* "One day while Grandmother Shadley was alone with the children, three Indians, two men and a woman, came to her door and asked for something to eat. Grandmother, mortally afraid, and her nearest neighbor at least a mile away through the woods, offered the Indians fresh bread and milk.

The spokesman scowled ferociously and said, "Me no like bread and milk! Me like meat and 'taties.'

Now the meat and potatoes were kept in a little cellar beneath the cabin floor, the only entrance to which was through a trap door in the floor. Poor Grandmother was torn between fear of refusing the Indian's demands and fear of what would happen to her children left alone with the Indians. Finally she raised the trap door, hurried down and brought up the meat and potatoes. She nervously cooked a complete meal while the Indians waited. Then they stuffed themselves on her good food, took off single file through the woods, leaving Grandmother a complete nervous wreck.



SHADLEY CAMP

My father, Clem, was the oldest of those three small children."
(As Told by Clemmie Shadley Yarhouse)

Mr. Shadley had a homestead claim of 160 acres and he operated several branches of lumbering.

In Osceola Township: James Watson, Daniel Ogilvie, Isaiah Mains, Joseph Staninger, Joseph White, John Hoffmeyer, Thomas Wilcox, John W. Fritz, Benjamin Pelong, Alexander Morton, Wilson Stickney, Lemon D. Reynolds, Holland Underwood, Edmond Underwood, Edwin Hulbert. (15 families.

History tells us that the Board of Supervisors of Mecosta County (to which Osceola was attached) established the present townships of Osceola, Cedar and Hartwick. First election on April 5, 1869, at the residence of David Shadley. 34 votes were cast. As this was before Woman Suffrage the vote seems to indicate 34 families. So far as we can learn there were no white people living within the limits of the present City of Ewart. There was no railroad, no roads, no bridges across the Muskegon River.

John Hoffmeyer was the first permanent settler in Osceola Township - his nearest neighbor was 16 miles distant. He first worked for D. A. Blodgett in sawmills and then homesteaded 160 acres of land. He later owned 510 acres in Osceola County. He ran a combination camp store, hotel and tavern on the Muskegon River. He had worked for several years in shipyards and on railroads. He built the "Roving John." (See story elsewhere).

During May, 1871, James Kennedy built a lumber mill, a store, and a boarding house. The mill and shack they called a store, and boarding house were located along the bank of the river, north of present US-10 and along 10 to where we now have US-10 bridge.

"Aunt Hattie" DeShelter, (then Morgan) waited on table for the first meal served in that boarding house and also swept out the Kennedy Mill for the first religious service in the settlement.

In June, 1871, there was just one temporary dwelling in what we know as Ewart.

We must remember that there had been a little community at Wings Siding and another at Winsorville. Wing's Siding and dwelling burned and the few people moved to Winsorville, a settlement - one quarter mile north of the river and two miles west of Kennedy's Mill.

Mark Bentley came from the east in August in 1871 and by then the train had only reached Lake Station and he walked to Ewart.

It was a dense forest with thick underbrush that made the area almost impossible to pass through.

In the fall, Sept. 8, 1871, the railroad, Flint & Pere Marquette, steamed into Ewart. This was the first train in the county.

The N. O. Pettibone family lived in a little log hut across the railroad from what is now Forest Hill Cemetery. According to their daughter, Elva Pettibone Trumble, the only way to get across the river prior to the railroad, was to walk across on the stringers before the ties and irons were laid in 1871. Mr. Pettibone was a civil engineer who worked on the survey of the Pere