SKETCH OF THE

EARLY HISTORY OF INDIANA COUNTY,

PENNSYLVANIA.

FABLAN. A western county was revealed by Ast of Assembly of 1883, on or parts of Westmarchard annutive. That part south of the purposes, and the Courts of Westmarchard country is considered to the North by Jefferson tourty, on the East by Clearfield and Cambria; on the South by Westmarchard, and on the West by Armstrong. It has between 60 day 24 min and 10 day, and 36 min, most hardtade; and 10 day, and 10 day, and 36 min, most hardtade; and 10 day, an

Moses chambers an old man-of-war's-man was one of the first settlers in this region. Conrad Rice, a blacksmith, from Lamenstee County, came here with an family and occasion of \$1705. During the summer he creeted a cobin, 22 by 24 feet, and cleared some land. A blacksmith shop was early creeted by him, which the settlers came to patronic. In the full and Morrhead's mult was completed. This was the first still in tony Run, White. Township, hear where Lewis I mburn now required some land. Some years later A. Deckoo make the was built. Some years later A. Deckoo mult a saw mill on the same Whites actively creek was built a few years after Moorhead's and afforded great advantages to the normal value of the same whites active the creek was built a few years after Moorhead's and afforded great advantages to the same whites a subject the creek was built a few years after Moorhead's and afforded great advantages to the same whites a subject the creek was built as few years after Moorhead's and afforded great advantages to the same whites a subject to seek region in the Moorhead's and afforded great advantages to the same whites a subject to seek refuge in the Moorhead's and afforded great advantages to the bank of the Moorhead for the same whites a subject to seek refuge in the Moorhead for I. In 179 said Allisson of Hamman. Subject to seek refuge in the Moorhead for I. In 179 said Allisson of Indiana, comed by A. Nician. About the year 172 Allisson and Adams were obliged to seek refuge in the Moorhead for I. In 179 said Allisson of Indiana, comed by A. Nician. About the year 172 Allisson and the Moorhead for I. In 179 said Allisson of Indiana, comed by A. Nician. About the year 172 Allisson and the Moorhead for I. In 179 said Allisson of Indiana, comed by A. Nician. About the year 172 Allisson and the Moorhead for I. In 172 were an Indian to Interest and Indiana because the Indiana because of Indiana borough and Indiana because of Indiana borough and Indiana the Indiana because of Indiana borough and Indiana the Indian

ARRIGHTRANG.—Armstrong was formed soon after the organization of West Moreland County, and in 1870 had a population of 1,322. The soil is a sandy loam, and well adapted to farming. The principal Village is "Shelocta," situated on Crooked Creek. Cool is found in abundance in the southwest part of the Township. Among the early settlers were Israel Thomas, James McCreight, Jacob Anthoy, and William Devlin. David Peelor settled in Armstrong about the year 1789, Benjamin Walker settled in 1788, on the farm now occupied by his heirs, about the first in the Township. Shelocta has a population of 113.

BANKS.—Banks was formed from Camee in 1869, and in 1879 had a population of 747. The principal production is lumber, and valuable white pine is found in all parts of the Township. The waters of the Little Mahoung Creek and Susquehannah River, afford convenient the form of the Little Mahoung Creek under There is a paint bed of great but maker. There is a paint bed of great but makenown value about one mile and a half northwest of Smithport. The farm of Mrs. Horton at Smithport divides the waters of the Susquehannah from those of the Little Mahoung; the one flowing to the Chesapeake Ray, and the other to the Gulf of Mexico. Among flowing settlers were Joseph Stear, James Obern, Simon Uber and George

BELACE LECE.—Black Lick Township was formed from Armstrong Townships in March, 1807. Armstong and Wheatfield then being the only two Townships in the county. Black Lick is now in a flourishing condition. The principal productions are Wheat, Corn. Oats, Coal and Limestone. Particular attention is paid to Breechag fine eatile. The surface is moderately hilly, and is inhabited by descendants of Ireland, Germany, England, and a few people from the New England States. The population in 1870 being 1,016. Among the early settlers were Rev. Henry Baker, John Harrold, George Aultman and Patrick Mctice. John Jamison was one of the first Ministers in Indiana county. He resided on the farin now occupied by W. J. Coleman. Win. McCrea was also one of the early settlers. Archibald Coleman, died recently at the age of 85, and was one of the early settlers. George Repine, Malachia Sutton and Joseph Spiers. who are still living, were among the early settlers. George Repine, Malachia Sutton and Charles Campbell came before, the Revolution. In 1773, (after the war commenced) he and five other settlers were taken prisoners by the Indiana, and were held in custody five years, and were then exchanged or escaped, and after peace was restored they returned to their former settlement in Black Lick, Campbell built a Grist-mill and Saw-mill, on the present site of Lytle & McKeage's Grist-mill. Samuel Dixon was here before the trouble with the Indiana and war driven off, but returned after peace was restored, with his family and was driven off, but returned after peace was restored, with his family and was driven off, but returned after peace was restored, with his family and was the first justice under the sew law, and was the first justice under the sew law, and was the first justice under the sew law, and was the first justice under the sew law, and the first Justice. Robert Dody was the first justice under the sew law, and the first Justice. Robert Dody was the first justice under the sew law, and the first Justice. The oarly seventy o

BRUSHE VALLEEW.—This Township was formed from Whonfield in 1835, and in 1870 had a population of 1,402. The soil is a sandy loam; is adapted to gram and stock growing, which is the cheef employment. Coal, Iron and Lime are found here in abundance. Among the first settlers was James McJonnid, who at their in Mechanicsburg in 1790, which is the principal James McJonnid, who at their in Mechanicsburg in 1790, which is the principal

BUBBELL TOWNSHIP,—Burrell Township was formed from Black Lick in 1854, and had a population of 2,427 in 1870, including Blaireville. It has a very irregular boundary, as may be seen from the map. The surface is an alternation of hill and dale, grove and meadow, which is divided into farms, most of which are highly productive. The minerals are coal, iron ore, fire-clay, and stone-ware clay, and lime-stone. The surrounding hills are teeming with bitaminous coal, lange quantities of which are mined and shipped cast. Chesinut Ridge, extending from Westmoreland county into the eastern portion of this Township, is cut at this point by the Concenaugh River, which separates Indiana and Westmoreland counties, leaving "Pack Saddle" upon the left bank, and "Oakos Point," which is an elevation of about 1,200 feet above the river, upon the right bank. This eminence affords one of the finest views in all the country around, and well repays the visitor for the fatigue sustained in reaching its lofty summit. The bank of the river about half a mik above Bhairwille, is very high and precipitous, and is known as the "Alum Bank." There is bere an upright wall of nature's own masonry, in some places fifty or sixty feet high, and below this, an abrupt descent of about one hundred feet, to the waters edge, covered with forest trees. This cliff is a mile or more in length. Several voins of irro ore, and coal have been opened upon its face. There is also an extensive vein of fire-clay, and as alum denosit.

vein of fire-clay, and an slum deposit.

Blairsville is the principal town in the township. The first Inid out road across this Township was the Huntingdon, Cambrie and Indiana Turngdon, John Cunninghum and Bakrettie in 1819. Samuel McAnulty, Samuel Eckels, John Cunninghum and Bakrettie in 1819. Samuel McAnulty, Samuel Eckels, John Cunninghum and Bakrettie in 1819. Samuel McAnulty, Samuel Eckels, John Cunninghum and Bakrettie in 1819. Samuel McAnulty, Samuel Eckels, Brown, on the Robert Bmith farm, from 1817 to 1823, when he suspended and moved into Blairsville. George Mulholland kept a store near said Tavern, which was the first store in this vicinity for evently years. James Campbell originally owned the present-site of Blairsville. In the winter of 1815-19 he sold originally owned the present-site of Blairsville. In the winter of 1815-19 he sold originally owned the present-site of Blairsville. In the winter of 1815-19 he sold originally owned the present-site of Blairsville. In the winter of 1815-19 he sold originally owned the present-site of Blairsville. In the winter of 1815-19 he sold originally owned the present-site of Blairsville. In the winter of 1815-19 he sold originally owned the present site of 1815-19 he sold originally owned the present site of 1815-19 he sold on the principal original orig

gerected on what is now known as the "West Union." Rev. James Davis was the regular minister. As a portion of the West Union congregation were residing in Bhiravile, the Bev. Mr. Davis occasionally preached in what was then the public school-house in Brainville, is now the "African Zion" Church. About 1830 or "31 the present church building was created in Bhiraville, and the Society have met here since them. The old meeting-house was taken down by the Rev. Mr. Davis, and from the material be erected a dwelling in Bhairaville. Rev. Mr. Davis continued pastor until 1841, when the present pastor, Rev.

The U. P. Church was built in 1840, Rev. Jonathan Fulton was their first paster. The date of organization of this speicty is unknown. The Methodist Society was organized at Baireville in 1822, and a Church was built. The second Church was boilt in 1847, and the third, the present one, in 1850, upon the same site of the two preceding ones. D. B. D.resy, apd T. M. Hudson organized the Society, consisting of seven members. The Lutheran Society was organized in 1825, and built a Church the same year, and rebuilt in 1835. Rev. N. Sharets was their first postor. The Episcopal Society was organized in 1825. St. Peter's Church was erected in 1830. William Page was the first Pastor. The Catholic Church is S. Simon and Jude's Church was built upon the site of the first, in 1842, and dedicated on the 2d of October, of the same year, by the Very Rev. Michael O'Connor, D. D. V. G., afterward Bishop of Pitteburg.

The first paper published in Biansville was "The Biansville Record and Communic Reporter," Democratic, established in October, 1827 by Thon. McFariand and John Murray. About the year 1833, it changed its name to "The Record," and was carried on by McFariand and Matthias, who were succeeded by Mathias and Brown. Matthias and Brown sold out to John McFuire, who published the paper under the usus of "The Citizen" for about three months. It was suspended pror to 1846. In this year "The Apalachian," Democratic, was started by R. B. McCabe and R. B. Woodward. In 1848, upon the communication of Martin Van Buren by the Free Soil party, its political character was changed, and it became the advocate of Mr. Van Buren for the Frendency. In 1848 it was disposed of to A. Matthias as an Independent Journal, with a decaded leaning toward Free Foil and Whig principles. This paper was suspended in 1856, the office being sold in that year to S. S. Reid, who published a paper with the title of "The True American and Apalachian," Republican. This paper was suspended probably in 1858. In 1857, "The Bairsville Record" was revived as a Democratic paper, and published by Harper and Loughry, who, in a few months, sold out to James F. Campbell. Campbell published it until 1802; late in that year it was sold to James Steele, and some time in 1853 it died a second death. About 1869 Dr. G. W. Gettyn began the publication of a Republican spaper called "The Blairsville Journal," which had an existence of about two of the "New Era," meutral in politics until the 28th of July, 1866, when it decided in favor of the Republicans. Said paper is said to have had the greatest circulation of any paper published at Blairsville. The next and last paper at Blairsville was "The Blairsville Prees," Republican, which was issued in January, 1867, by R. M. Burkman, and continued until the agents, which it citil austains.

In 1823, Hastaville was incorporated as a corough, and two years atterwant the population was ascertained to be 500. In 1823, the western division of the Canal was completed to thus pl.ce, and the castern division was advancing toward the mountains; the intermediate sections of Canal and Rasfroad over the mountains were in progress, but still unlinished. This gave greater importance to Blairwille, as a depot, and the place was full of bustle and prosperity. Long strings of wagons laden with goods of various kinds were daily arriving and departing. Immense hotels and warehouses were exceeded, and four