

An affectionate veneration should be manifested for the pioneer woman, who shrank from no dangers, shunned no hardships, endured great privations, and in their homes cultivated social and domestic virtues. These strong and brave mothers, who toiled by their husbands' sides in life's hot noon, and went hand in hand with them down the dusky slope of the evening of an eventful, busy life, have like their companions, folded their arms to rest.

A just need of praise should be given the pioneer preachers, who amid all difficulties, dangers and hardships, ministered to the early settlers of the county, and materially aided in laying the moral sentiment, which has broadened and deepened with the advancing years. It was a labor of love to them and they endured privations that few of today know anything about. The oratory and eloquence of these preachers made many converts, and much could be written favorably about them, many of whom were scholarly men. They appealed to the holiest and most sacred impulses of the heart, and wove the loveliness of their teachings into the lives of their hearers.

In the long ago, places for religious worship were few, and camp-meetings were frequently held, and were very popular. At these meetings, hymns of sincere praise were sung, and never could they have sounded more expressive and sacred than upon these open-air occasions.

And mention of the singing schools of that period must not be omitted, as they were important factors in the musical education and social enjoyment of the people. Singing schools were held at intervals in every school house, and the "singing master" was a weighty personage in a community.

The first school house built in Mansfield was a frame building, paid for by subscription, and cost two hundred dollars. It was situate on East Fourth street near the big spring. This was in 1818. What a change between then and now. Mansfield now has ten school buildings, containing two hundred and ten rooms, with a valuation of \$449,310.

Life was all real to the people of the backwoods one hundred years ago. The world moved slowly then and the people were not made world weary by the rush of affairs and the killing pace for supremacy in the race for wealth. But the ring of the woodman's axe in time gave place to the hum of machinery. The log cabins of our forefathers have vanished into the storied years, and stately mansions have risen in their places. The log school houses only remain as a memory, and have been replaced by fine temples of learning.

Richland County has achieved much, accomplished much. In times of peace she has contributed her share of the honored statesmen of the country; in times of war, her sons have shown their patriotism and valor upon many a hard-fought field of battle. In the professions, in the arts and in the sciences, many Richland County boys have attained distinction and honor.

CLOVER HILL—Residence of Gen. R. Brinkerhoff, Park Ave. West, Mansfield, Ohio.

