

latitude the townships. (For explanation of this see map page 15.) The southeast corner of what is now Ashtabula County is thirty-five miles distant from the southeast corner of the Reserve, and the southeast township of the Reserve, and the southeast township of the Reserve (Williamsfield) lies in range No. 1 in township Andover next north in the same range, and in township Richmond in township No. 10, same range, etc.

When the surveyors reached the Chagrin River they mistook it for the Cuyahoga, and some time elapsed before the mistake was discovered.

October 2, Holly, one of the surveyors, took his old line at the Chagrin River and ran it west between towns No. 9 and No. 10, and then north to the lake. The distance from the Pennsylvania line was there found to be forty-nine miles, thirty-seven chains and five links. The survey of the Reserve east of the Cuyahoga was completed in 1796.

#### THE APPOINTMENT OF AN EQUALIZING COMMITTEE.

After this survey was completed, the Land Company in order that the shareholders might share equitably as nearly as possible the lands of the Reserve, or to avoid the likelihood of a part of the shareholders drawing the best, and others the medium, and others again the poorest of the land, appointed an equalizing committee whose duties were as follows:

The amount of the purchase money, \$1,200,000, was divided into four hundred shares, each share value being \$3,000. The holder of one share, therefore, had one-four hundredth undivided interest in the whole tract, and he who held four or five shares had four or five times as much interest undivided in the whole Reserve as he who held but one. As some townships would be more valuable than others, the Company adopted at a meeting of shareholders at Hartford, Connecticut, in April, 1796, a mode of making partitions, and appointed a committee of equalization to divide the Reserve according to the Company's plans. The committee appointed were Daniel Holbrook, William Shepard, Jr., Moses Warren, Jr., Seth Pease and Amos Spafford, and the committee who made their report at Canandaigua, New York, December 13, 1797, were William Shepard, Jr., Moses Warren, Jr., Seth Pease and Amos Spafford. The directors of the Company selected six townships to be offered for sale to actual settlers alone, and in which the first improvements were designed to be made. The townships thus selected were eleven in the sixth range, ten in the ninth range, nine in the tenth range, eight in the eleventh range, seven in the twelfth range and two in the second range.

These townships are now known as Madison, Mentor and Willoughby in Lake County; Euclid and Newburgh in Cuyahoga County, and Youngstown in Mahoning County. Number three in the third range or Weathersfield, in Trumbull County, was omitted from the first draft made by the Company, owing to the uncertainty of the boundaries of Mr. Parson's claim. This township has sometimes been called the Salt Spring Township. The six townships above named were offered for sale before partition was made, and parts of them were sold, excepting the Parson's claim and the seven townships above named. The remainder of the Reserve east of the Cuyahoga was divided among the members of the company as follows:

#### MODE OF PARTITION.

The four best townships in eastern part of the Reserve were selected and surveyed into lots, an average of one hundred lots to the township. As there were four hundred acres, the four townships would yield one lot for every acre. When these lots were drawn, each holder or holders one or more shares participated in the draft. The committee selected township eleven in range seven, and townships five, six and seven in range eleven for the four best townships. These are Perry in Lake County, Northfield in Summit County, Bedford and Warrensville in Cuyahoga County. Then the committee proceeded to select from the remaining townships certain other townships that should be in value to the four already selected which were to be for equalizing purposes. The tracts thus selected, being the townships and parts of townships, were twenty-four in number as follows: The six, seven, eight, nine and ten, in the eighth range; six, seven, eight and nine in the ninth range; five, six, seven and eight in the tenth range, and sundry irregular tracts as follows: Number fourteen in the first range, number thirteen in the third range, number ten in the fourth range, number twelve in the fifth range, number twelve in the sixth range, number eleven in the seventh range, number ten in the tenth range, number six in the eleventh range, and numbers one and two in the twelfth range. These tracts are now known as Auburn, Newbury, Chardon, Bainbridge, Russell and Chester townships in Lake County; Concord and Kirtland in Lake County;

Springfield and Twinsburg in Summit County; Solon, Orange and Mayfield in Cuyahoga County. The fractional townships are Conneaut gore, Ashtabula gore, Saybrook gore, Geneva, Madison gore, Painesville, Willoughby gore, Independence, Coventry and Portage. After this selection had been made, they selected the average townships to the value of each of which each of the others should be brought by the equalizing process of annexation. The eight best of the remaining townships were taken, and were numbers one, five, eleven, twelve and thirteen in the first range, twelve in the fourth range, eleven in the fifth range and six in the sixth range. They are now known as Poland in Mahoning County, Hartford in Trumbull County, Pierpont, Monroe, Conneaut, Saybrook and Harpersfield in Ashtabula County and Parkman in Geauga County. These were the standard townships and all the other townships of inferior value to these eight, which would include all the others not mentioned above, were to be raised to the value of the average townships by annexations from the equalizing townships. These last named were cut up into parcels of various sizes and values, and annexed to the inferior townships in such a way as to make them all of equal value (in the opinion of the committee).

When the committee had performed this task it was found that, with the exception of the four townships first selected, the Parson's tract and the townships that had been previously set aside to be sold, the whole tract would amount to an equivalent of ninety-three shares. There were, therefore, ninety-three equalized townships or parcels to be drawn for east of the Cuyahoga River.

#### THE DRAFT.

To entitle a shareholder to the ownership of an equalized township it was necessary for him to be the proprietor of \$12,903.23 of the original purchase of the Company, or three and three-tenths shares of the original purchase.

The division by draft took place on the 29th of January, 1798. The townships were numbered from one to ninety-three and numbers from 1 to 93 inclusive were marked on slips of paper and placed in a box. The names of shareholders were arranged in alphabetical order, and in those instances in which an original investment was insufficient to entitle such investor to an equalized township, he formed a combination with others in like situation, and the name of that person of this combination that had alphabetic precedence was used in this draft. If the small proprietors were, from disagreement among themselves, unable to unite, a committee was appointed to select and classify them, and those selected were compelled to submit to this arrangement. If after they had drawn a township they could not agree in dividing it between them, this committee or one appointed for the purpose, divided for them. That township which the first number drawn designated belonged to the first man on the list, and the second drawn to the second man, and so on until all were drawn. Thus was the ownership in common severed, and each individual secured his interest in severalty. John Morgan, John Cadwell and Jonathan Brace, the trustees, as rapidly as partition was effected, conveyed by deed to the several purchasers the lands they had drawn.

The following is an abstract of the drawing of lands lying within Lake County. It will be borne in mind that it required \$12,903.23 to entitle a shareholder to one of the equalized townships or an average township. It frequently happened that a number of persons united and drew several townships together. As, for example, in draft number sixty-one, Gideon Granger, Oliver Phelps, and Phelps and Granger united, their joint money being \$90,322.61 or seven times \$12,903.23 which entitled them to seven townships.

In Lake County, Perry Township was one of the four best townships selected by the committee of equalization, divided into one hundred lots and distributed among the shareholders. LeRoy was drawn by Benjamin Bates, Moses Kingsley, Amasa Clapp, Samuel and James Hamilton, Benjamin Parsons and Nathaniel Edwards, whose share in the draft was represented by \$6,000.00; Ezekiel Williams, Jr., whose share was represented by \$3,903.23, and Ebenezer Parsons, whose share was represented by \$3,000.00. To LeRoy was annexed lot 14, in tract one of the eleventh range, containing 1,796 acres. Mentor was surveyed into sixteen tracts by John Milton Holley and these became the property, one of them, of Caleb Atwater, another of Pierpont Edwards, another of George Blake, another of Samuel Fowler.

Willoughby, Madison and Mentor were three of the six townships selected by the equalizing committee to be offered to actual settlers alone, in which the first improvements were to be made. They were surveyed into lots which became the property of various individuals. Painesville was an equalizing township and William Eldridge and Simon Griswold became owners of one tract, Samuel Fowler of another, Gideon Granger and Oliver Phelps of another and Henry Champion (second) of another. Concord, an equaliz-

ing township, one of them was annexed to township nine of the fourth range, and became the property of Henry Champion (second) and others; another was annexed to township seven of the sixth range, and became the property of Penuel Cheney and others; another part was annexed to township three of the second range, and became the property of Moses Cleaveland and others; and another part was annexed to township ten of the first range, and was drawn by Andrews, Atwater and others.

Kirtland (number nine of the ninth range) was divided into three tracts; one of which was annexed to township three of the tenth range, of which Henry Champion (second) and others became owners; another of which was annexed to township seven of the seventh range, and became the property of Benjamin Doolittle and others; and the third parcel was annexed to township two of the eighth range, drawn by Ephraim Root and others.

#### OTHER DRAFTS.

The second draft was made in 1802, and was for such portions of the seven townships omitted in the first draft as remained at that time unsold. This draft was divided into ninety shares, representing \$13,333.33 of the purchase money. The third draft was made in 1807, and was for the lands of the Company lying west of the Cuyahoga and was divided into forty-six parts, each representing \$26,687. A fourth draft was made in 1809, at which time the surplus land, so called, was divided, including sundry notes and claims arising from sales that had been effected of the seven townships omitted in the first drawing.

#### QUANTITY OF LAND IN THE CONNECTICUT WESTERN RESERVE ACCORDING TO THE SURVEY.

Land east of the Cuyahoga mainland exclusive of the Parson's tract in acres	2,002,970
Land west of the Cuyahoga, exclusive of surplus land, islands and Sufferers' Lands	827,291
Surplus land so called	5,256

#### ISLANDS.

Cunningham or Kelley's	2,749
Bass or Bay, No. 1	1,322
" " " " 2	709
" " " " 3	709
" " " " 4	403
" " " " 5	32
Parson's or "Salt Spring Tract"	25,450
Sufferers' or Fire Lands	500,000

Total Amount of Acres in the Connecticut Western Reserve.....3,366,921

#### CIVIL ORGANIZATION.

On the 10th day of July, 1800, the general government having ceded to Connecticut her claim to the soil of the Reserve, and Connecticut on her part having transferred to the general government all right of jurisdiction within the limits of New Connecticut, the Western Reserve was made into a single county and called Trumbull in honor of Jonathan Trumbull, then governor of Connecticut. This was effected by proclamation of the governor and judges of the Northwestern Territory. The county seat was Warren. The people of the Reserve now had a government to which they gladly acknowledged allegiance. The first court of this large county convened in Warren on Monday, August 25, 1800.

The court appointed a committee to divide the county into eight townships; these eight districts or townships constituted the original subdivision of the Western Reserve into townships as shown on the map of Western Reserve (see page 13). The townships were Cleveland, Hudson, Middlefield, Painesville, Richfield, Warren, Youngstown and Vernon. (By reference to the map the distribution of the present townships in the original subdivision will be noticed.) On December 31, 1805, an act was passed forming the original County of Geauga which at that time included the territory now embraced in Lake County, all of Ashtabula County and a portion of Cuyahoga County. On January 16, 1810, all that part of Geauga County of the 9th Range was organized as Cuyahoga County. On January 22, 1810, that portion of Geauga lying east of the sixth range of townships was organized as Ashtabula County. This left Geauga County in possession of its present territory; also all that is now included in Lake County and it so remained until 1840.

March the 20th, 1840, the seven townships of Madison, Perry, Painesville, Mentor, Kirtland, Concord and Le Roy of Geauga County, and Willoughby township of Cuyahoga County were erected into a county and called Lake.