THE COUNTY OF LAKE.

AN ACT TO ORGANIZE THE COUNTY.

Passed March 6, 1840.

(7916-220.) Sec. 1. (Lake County organized.) Be it enacted, etc., That the County of Lake is hereby organized into a separate and distinct county.

(7916-221.) Sec. 2. (Pending suits and prosecutions not affected.) That all suits and prosecutions heretofore commenced within said County of Lake shall be prosecuted to final judgment and execution within the Counties of Geauga and Cuyahoga, in the same manner they would have been had not the County of Lake been erected; and the sheriffs, constables and coroners of the Counties of Geauga and Cuyahoga, respectively, shall execute all such process as shall be necessary to carry into effect all such suits, prosecutions and judgments; and all justices of the peace within those parts of the Counties of Geauga and Cuyahoga which have been erected into the County of Lake, shall continue to exercise the duties of their respective offices until their terms of office shall expire.

(7916-222.) Sec. 3. (When county officers first be chosen.) That on the first Monday of April next, the legal voters of the County of Lake shall assemble within their respective townships, at the place of holding elections, and elect their county officers, who shall hold their offices until the next annual election, and until their successor shall be elected and qualified.

(7916-224.) Sec. 4. (Where the Courts to be held.) That until a permanent court house shall be erected, the Courts of Common Pleas and the Supreme Courts within and for said County of Lake, shall be held in the town house in the town of Painesville.

(7916-224.) Sec. 5. (Shall be attached to the fourteenth judicial district; when court to be held.) That the County of Lake for judicial purposes is hereby attached to the fourteenth judicial Circuit, and the Courts of Common Pleas in said county for the year, A. D. 1840, shall be holden as follows: On the fifth day of May, on the thirteenth day of July and the sixth day of October.

(7916-217.) Sec. 1. (Boundaries of Lake County.) Be it enacted, etc., That such parts of the Counties of Geauga and Cuyahoga as are embraced by the boundaries hereinafter described, be, and the same are hereby erected into a separate and distinct county, which shall be known by the name of Lake, and the seat of justice in and for sain county, shall be, and is hereby fixed and established at Painesville, to-wit: beginning at the southwest corner of Willoughby Township, in Cuyahoga County; thence east, to the southwest corner of Kirtland Township, in Geauga County; thence north, to the southwest corner of Concord Township; thence east, to the southwest corner of Thompson Township; thence north, to the line between townships ten and eleven, in Thompson Township; thence east, to the county line of Geauga County; thence north, to the Canada line; thence west, along said Canada line, to a point directly opposite to the west line of the township of Willoughby, in Cuyahoga County; thence south, to the place of the beginning.

(7916-218.) Sec. 2. (To remain attached to the counties from which it is taken.) That said County of Lake be, and remain attached to the counties from which it is taken, until the same shall be organized by the legislature.

(7916-219.) Sec. 3. (Seat of justice shall be at Painesville.) The seat of justice for said county shall be and is hereby fixed at the town of Painesville: provided, the whole expense of erecting public buildings shall be raised by voluntary subscription, and no tax shall in anywise be levied for that purpose.

7916-225.) Sec. 6. (When process shall be styled Lake County.) That all writs and process issuing after the first Monday of April next, shall be styled of Lake County, instead of Geauga or Cuyahoga County.

(7916-226.) Sec. 7. (Auditor of state's duties in reappointment of surplus revenue.) That the auditor of state in the reapportionment of the surplus revenue received from the general government, according to the enumeration of the year 1839, shall apportion to the County of Lake the amount to which said county is entitled, according to the population of the townships taken from the Counties of Cuyahoga and Geauga, which amount shall be paid under the direction of the auditor of state to the fund commissioners of said county, on the first day of January, 1841, by the fund commissioners of the Counties of Geauga and Cuyahoga, transferring such amount of stocks and bonds taken for the investment of said fund to the fund commissioners of the County of Lake as will meet the proportions due from said counties to the County of Lake.

(7916-227.) Sec. 8. (Attached to the sixteenth congressional district.) That in all elections for members of congress the County of Lake shall be attached to the sixteenth congressional district.

(7916-228.) Sec. 9. (Duties of the commissioners of Lake County as to paupers, etc.) That it shall be the duty of the commissioners of said County of Lake, on or before the first Monday of June next, to take charge of all paupers, idiots and insane persons belonging to either of the townships included in the said County of Lake, and now supported by either of the counties of Geauga or Cuyahoga, and the same to maintain thereafter at the proper expense of said County of Lake.

LAKE COUNTY INFIRMARY.

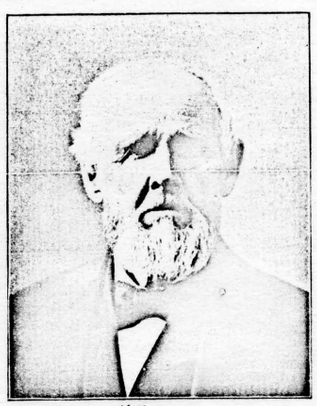
On March, the 2d, 1852, the commissioners of Lake County, Selic Warren, John McMurphy and Solomon D. Williams purchased of William Pettingill, about 122 acres of land lying on the east side of Grand River about one and one-half miles east of Painesville, for which the County paid ($4,000) dollars and fitted up the buildings, besides building new ones, and opened the Infirmary for the care of inmates on the 2d day of July, same year. The commissioners appointed as Infirmary Directors Collins Morse, Harvey Woodworth and John T. Doolittle with Richard Squires as superintendent. Additional lands have been purchased until now the farm contains about 160 acres. In 1876 the commissioners caused new buildings to be erected at a cost of $30,000. The commissioners at that time were Abner M. Parmalee, Z. P. Bennett and Simon C. Hickok; the latter acted as superintendent. Other improvements have been made on the farm, in the way of under draining, etc., and it is now considered one of the finest and most productive farms in Lake County.

VOTE OF LAKE COUNTY FROM 1840 TO 1897.

1840	Not obtainable.	1855	2193	1870	2621	1885	3735
1841	Not obtainable.	1856	2547	1871	3041	1886	2973
1842	2170	1857	2491	1872	2644	1887	3615
1843	Not obtainable.	1858	2206	1873	2670	1888	4373
1844	Not obtainable.	1859	2345	1874	3168	1889	3696
1845	1645	1860	2852	1875	3834	1890	2952
1846	1645	1861	2198	1876	4021	1891	4155
1847	1152	1862	2027	1877	3156	1892	4099
1848	2321	1863	3276	1878	3501	1893	4133
1849	2025	1864	2831	1879	3891	1894	2619
1850	2152	1865	2730	1880	4096	1895	3830
1851	2091	1866	2959	1881	3154	1896	5528
1852	2562	1867	3222	1882	3023	1897	4247
1853	1915	1868	3723	1883	3771		
1854	1654	1869	3242	1884	4107		

S. C. Hickok of Painesville, whose portrait accompanies this sketch, the compiler for the publishers of the Historical and Statistical information contained in this work, was born at Poultney, Rutland County, Vermont, the 9th day of August, 1817. He came to Ohio with his father's family in 1828, landing at Fairport on July 5, and proceeded to Thompson, now Madison Township, near the southwest corner of same, now included in Lake County, but at that time known as Geauga County. The family remained there about nine months and moved to Perry Township in the spring of 1829, and located on the south ridge road near the Burridge tavern now known as the Axtell place. In the spring of 1832, the family moved to the Narrows road on lot now occupied by the Perry Town Hall and M. E. Church and parsonage, where the family resided until S. C. Hickok attained his majority. In 1838 he cast his first ballot at the state elections of that year, and in the sixty years that have intervened, Mr. Hickok has voted at every state and presidential election, always voting the Whig and Republican tickets, casting his first presidential vote for Wm. Henry Harrison in 1840, his last one for Wm. McKinley. He has lived to see his old comrades in politics as well as those that were opposed to him politically in 1840, drop by the wayside until to-day he is the only remaining voter in Painesville that voted at the presidential election of that year.

His occupation before he became of age was somewhat varied; part of his time being spent on the farm, and part at mechanical work. From 1832 to 1837 most of his time was given to the manufacturing of charcoal for the furnaces in this section of the state. His first mechanical work was that of a cooper in the making of pails, churns, tubs, etc., being of the kind called set work; so called from the fact that each stave was set in place separately and afterwards dressed on the outside to allow of the wooden hoops, there being no such a thing as iron hoops in this country at that time.



S. C. Hickok

Mr. Hickok commenced his apprenticeship at the above business the winter after he came to this county in 1828, and was a mere boy, being only eleven years old. Before he became of age, he spent some of his time at house painting with his father at Painesville and Fairport as a jour painter and received twenty dollars per month and board, and was called the boy painter or jour. He also worked some at the carpenter's trade while still with his father. In April, 1839, Mr. Hickok came to Painesville where he has since resided. He has been a faithful servant to the people of this county in many offices of trust, having been six years a member of Council for the village of Painesville and serving nine years as County Commissioner of Lake County. After coming to Painesville, for first two years he worked for Timothy Brooks at house painting, and next three years he carried on this business with David Perry. In 1844 he adopted as his trade the carpenter and building business which has been his occupation ever since. We name a few of the most prominent of the many different business blocks and other buildings, which he has erected during his active business life: The block on the southwest corner of Main and State Streets, the Childs Block, the D. B. Clayton block and the Root block on Main Street, the Engine house and Smith block on St. Clair Street, the Pease house on Mentor Avenue, Jas. Parmly's house on Erie Street, the Episcopal Church on State Street, Geo. Stone's residence on Casement Avenue, the County Infirmary buildings at Infirmary farm and many other buildings in Painesville. These marks of his handiwork, of his energy as a business man and his skill as a builder, will most of them endure as a fitting monument many centuries after Mr. Hickok has gone from this earth.

Mr. Hickok was married on the 10th day of February, 1841, to Miss Eunice French of Perry, a daughter of Nathaniel and Abigail (Vesey) French. Eunice (Hickok) French was born on June 1, 1822, and is still living, (November 10, 1898). Mr. and Mrs. Hickok celebrated their fifty-seventh anniversary last January. They now live on the same lot in Painesville where they have resided since December, 1841.

The publishers wish to express their appreciation for the efforts of Mr. Hickok in compiling the Historical and Statistical information for the Lake County Atlas and feel assured that the patrons of this publication and others will find the information very reliable and accurate. It has taken many weeks of careful and diligent search from old and incomplete records to compile some of the information contained herein, and when we consider Mr. Hickok's age, we think he is deserving of very great credit.