

it, they made him a present of a pair of boots.

In the summer of '97, Mr. Sawyer, having found out his mistake, and fearing he might not get his charter if he did not locate in the proper township, built a log house in Sawyerville. In the summer he, in company with Mr. Samuel Heyes, Mr. Israel Bailey and Abner Power, brought their families into town, and they were the four first families that ever wintered in the township. I will mention a little incident which is characteristic of the pioneers of Eaton, and is proof that their wives were the first women in the townships. Mr. Powers had just married his second wife, and when they were coming in they stayed over night where Mr. Powers knew the landlord, so he introduced his wife. She was a very plain looking woman. He looked at her a moment and said, "where did you get that homely thing?" And just before they got to the Eaton line it seems the women had a race to see which would be the first woman in the township. Mrs. Powers, being a little the smarter, got in ahead, and sent back word to the landlord that she was once the handsomest woman in the town of Eaton.

Now, as we have it that these four families were the first settlers, we will try to give what we can of their histories.

We will start with Josiah Sawyer. He married Nancy Rice, daughter of Calvin Rice. Mr. Sawyer always lived on the place where he first located, where his grandson William now lives. He had four sons and three daughters. His sons were Peter Green, Josiah, Rufus and John, all of whom settled in the township. John had two sons, William and John. William married Julia Smith. They have no children. He owns the mill located where his grandfather built the first mills in town, called Sawyer's mills. He has always been a thorough business man, as were his forefathers before him. He was elected to the provincial legislature four times, once by acclamation, and has also held offices of trust in the township, and is ever ready to help in any good cause.

John, when young, showed signs of being a thorough business man and looked forward to the future with a joyous heart, when his hopes were blighted by the sudden death of Maria French, as fine a flower as ever graced a home in the township of Eaton, who was soon expected to share life's joys as well as its sorrows

with him. It cast a cloud over his life, which it was hard for him to remove. He had but little relish for business, and he understood he fitted himself for the ministry, and shortly after went west as a newspaper editor and proprietor of a denotation paper published at Cherry Valley, N. Y.

I will here relate a little incident which goes to show the make up of the first settlers. Mr. Josiah met with an accident when young, which turned his nose round on one side. As he was going round the house to house on horse back, as they had no roads, nothing but bridle paths, when they came to a house they had to enquire the way to the next one. He went up to a house to make enquiry and a woman within asked where he wanted to go to? He said, follow my nose. It is used to tell you then, you will be back at the house before you are half way to the woods.

Rufus Sawyer married Ruth Alger August, 1823. In 1841 he removed to Austinburg, Ohio. They had six children. Rufus Felton, born July 28th, 1824. He died in his senior year at Western Reserve College, Hudson, Ohio, in March, 1880. "He was," said the President in a funeral address, "a matchless scholar and a model man."

Martin Alger died in infancy.

Robert Hurd received a legal education and engaged in business in Stratford, H. He was elected to the legislature and was a ruling elder in the Presbyterian church and was a high officer among the Free Masons. He died in 1876.

Robbin Augustus, born July 13th, 1828, graduated at Western Reserve College, Hudson, Ohio, and at the Union Theological Seminary, New York City. He entered the ministry of the Presbyterian church in 1858. As late as 1876 he was pastor of the Presbyterian church at Irvington, N. Y. In 1872 he received the honorary degree of D. D. from W. V. college.

Ruth, born November 4th, 1837, married E. C. Miller, June 14th, 1865. She was liberally educated, and for two years was principal of a seminary.

Mary Ella, born Aug. 4th, 1843, married Edward C. Wade, of Jefferson, Ohio, June 22nd, 1864. Died March, 1867.

Israel Bailey was one of the four first settlers that wintered in the township '97 and '98. He was brother to Orsamus. He wintered at Sawyerville the first