

"I located the line of this canal, laid it off and superintended the construction. I surveyed the line from Wabashtown to Martinsville. It went through a rather rough country. I camped out for six months, but came into town for Christmas. Many a morning we had to shake the snow off ourselves when we got up.

"There were forests and thickets and a great deal of swampy ground. There was a big swamp a mile or so south of Broad Ripple which contained water nearly all the year, and was a great feeding place for wild ducks. There was another big swamp southeast of this, near Hiram Bacon's place on the Noblesville road, west to the river. Remains of the former swamp still exist. I have had some good sport shooting snipes and ducks there.

"North of Indianapolis, along Fall creek, was a swampy place with a greater or less depth of water. It was at one time noted for its big pickerel. I have also shot snipes there. The place is now built up, and is called Lincoln Park."

The General said that in Madison and Grant counties the surveyor's work was especially hard because of the swampy nature of much of the ground, and that the surveyor had to be an expert in jumping, as he made his way by springing from hummock to hummock. There was one place in Madison county where the engineers desired to unite two streams. They anticipated some difficulty in doing this, but when they came to the spot agreed on for the dam, they found that the beavers had long before built a dam at that very spot and accomplished the purpose the engineers had in view, so they simply laid their lines across the dam made by the beavers.

FIRST OLD SETTLERS' MEETING.

In a previous issue [Vol. II, No. 1] we noticed what we then thought the first old settlers' meeting ever held in Indiana. This was in Wayne county, in 1854. In the *Madison Daily Banner* of January 29, 1852, we find an account of the organization of the first settlers of the city of Madison, to be composed of those who were residing in the county since 1820.