

INDIANA MAGAZINE OF HISTORY

VOLUME LXI

MARCH 1965

NUMBER 1

From Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, to Parke County, Indiana: Recollections of Andrew TenBrook, 1786-1823

Edited by Donald F. Carmony

*Contributed by Sam K. Swope**

During the financially-disturbed years following the American Revolution, thousands of settlers left the populated counties of the eastern United States and migrated westward. Many of these immigrants poured through Pennsylvania to Kentucky and later to the Northwest Territory, but a substantial number settled in the central and western sections of the Keystone State. Some of the new Pennsylvanians purchased farms vacated during the Revolution, when Indian raids had frightened earlier inhabitants back to the safer eastern communities; others chose virgin acreage. Whatever the choice, land in Pennsylvania was expensive; but the newly-created commonwealth had abolished quitrents, outlawed slavery, and removed Indian claims from its limits. As a result population in the central and western sections of the state increased approximately 85 percent in the two decades following the Revolution.¹

One participant in this mass exodus from the east was John TenBrook, or TenBroeck, of New Jersey, who, in 1786, moved from his farm near Trenton to a vacated tract of land in north central Pennsylvania, land which, in 1795, became a part of Lycoming County.² The TenBrooks did well in the

* Sam K. Swope of Indianapolis is the great grandson of Andrew TenBrook.

¹ Solon J. and Elizabeth H. Buck, *The Planting of Civilization in Western Pennsylvania* (Pittsburgh, 1939), 135-55.

² Thomas F. Gordon, *A Gazetteer of the State of Pennsylvania* (Philadelphia, 1833), 259.

Keystone State, but the western fever grew stronger in the years immediately preceding the War of 1812. Over the trails from the eastern states came

eager homeseekers with their families, young axmen hunting a homesite for the expectant bride waiting patiently behind, starry-eyed speculators in search of choice lands, shiftless ne'er-do-wells cast out by the older societies of the East, zealous ministers in quest of souls, sharp-tongued young lawyers seeking a more liberal atmosphere to nurture political ambitions, journeymen printers carrying type for a frontier newspaper, merchants, millers, blacksmiths, artisans, rogues, and saints. . . .³

By 1812 Conrad TenBrook, one of John's sons, was ready to accompany these immigrants in their search for "the mecca beyond the mountains."⁴ Financial difficulties, favorable opportunities at home, and the War of 1812 delayed his departure; but four years later Conrad and his family joined the Great Migration (1814-1819) to lands in the Ohio Valley.

During the six years included in this migration the number of settlers pouring west was likened to a flood and the results they produced to a miracle.⁵ Most of the immigration originated in Pennsylvania and the Upland South. A smaller number of settlers came from as far north as New England and New York. Causes of the movement varied. Some came because of dissatisfaction with the plantation system and slavery in the South; others were collecting land bonuses given soldiers after the War of 1812. The war had advertised the West; the Indians had been defeated; thus many immigrants took advantage of the period of readjustment, prosperity, and expansion to seek new homes. Whatever their reasons for migrating the settlers' destination was usually the Ohio Valley, primarily Ohio or Indiana, although significant numbers stopped in Kentucky and Tennessee or proceeded to Illinois.⁶

The Conrad TenBrook family joined this westward flood by a roundabout route. From Lycoming County they traveled one hundred miles southeastward to Reading, Pennsylvania,

³ Ray Allen Billington, *Westward Expansion: A History of the American Frontier* (New York, 1960), 246.

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ Clarence Alvord, *The Illinois Country, 1673-1818* (Springfield, Illinois, 1920), 454.

⁶ John D. Barnhart, *Valley of Democracy: The Frontier versus the Plantation in the Ohio Valley, 1775-1818* (Bloomington, 1953), 14, 201-202.

perhaps there to find more passable roads through the Appalachians, to outfit themselves further for the journey, or for personal reasons. At Reading the TenBrooks turned west, probably along either the Forbes Road or Pennsylvania Road, both of which ran from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh along slightly different routes.⁷ At Laurel Hill in southwestern Pennsylvania they left the "turnpike" on which they were traveling and turned toward Wheeling, Virginia. Here they secured a boat and continued their journey via the Ohio River to Cincinnati.

The Queen City must have impressed the TenBrooks, especially six year old Andrew, who later described it as the largest town with the best brick building he had ever seen. Only a year later "the commodious, well-finished brick houses, the spacious and busy markets, the substantial public buildings, the thousands of prosperous, well-dressed, industrious inhabitants; the numerous waggons [*sic*] and drays, the gay carriages and elegant females . . ." excited a more experienced traveler than the family from Pennsylvania.⁸ Morris Birbeck, on his way from England to a new home in Illinois in 1817, felt tempted to linger in Cincinnati where society was attaining a "truly astonishing maturity." He summarized his feelings about the new frontier town, "It is enchantment, and Liberty is the fair Enchantress."⁹

The TenBrooks settled on a farm in Butler County, sixteen miles north of Cincinnati. They had reached Ohio during the prosperity boom which preceded the Panic of 1819, but by the fall of 1818 economic storm clouds were gathering. Banks had suspended specie payments, and prices on agricultural produce and other commodities had fallen precipitously. The crash came early in 1819 and was the more disastrous because it was the new nation's first major financial and economic depression. The business cycle of boom, crash, depression, and slow recovery was new to the settlers in the Old Northwest, and it hit their region especially hard. Improved land around Cincinnati was quoted at fifty dollars an

⁷ Buck and Buck, *Planting of Civilization in Western Pennsylvania*, 232-33.

⁸ Harlow Lindley (ed.), *Indiana As Seen By Early Travelers: A Collection of Reprints from Books of Travel, Letters and Diaries Prior to 1830* (*Indiana Historical Collections*, Vol. III; Indianapolis, 1916), 172.

⁹ *Ibid.*, 172-73.

acre in 1816-1817; and unimproved acreage was worth approximately thirty dollars. (Conrad TenBrook paid forty dollars per acre for his farm in Butler County.) By 1819-1820 land values had dropped at least half;¹⁰ and newspapers in the Old Northwest were lamenting, "Never within the recollection of our oldest citizens has the aspect of the times, as it respects proverty and money, been so alarming."¹¹ Wheat, which had sold for \$1.00 to \$1.50 per bushel in 1816, was quoted at twenty cents to seventy-five cents in 1819. (The TenBrooks sold theirs for forty to forty-five cents in Cincinnati.) Other prices had dropped proportionately.¹² As one Ohio banker put it, "All things are changed, the rich have become poor, and the poor distrust, one universal state of embarrassment exists; tis want, and fear and prosecution and suspicion and terror and dismay and bankruptcy and pauperism on all sides and on all hands."¹³ With currency depreciated, deflation rampant, credit at low ebb, trade at a standstill, and prices and wages near bottom level, the future must have looked grim to the TenBrook family.

The TenBrooks remained in Ohio during the first few years of the depression, but in the spring of 1822, fortified by payment of an old debt of three hundred thirty dollars in silver, Conrad, with his brother and two neighbors, journeyed to Indiana to find new land on which to settle. At the Treaty of St. Mary's, Ohio, in 1818 the United States had purchased from the Miami, Wea, and Delaware Indians almost all territory in central Indiana south of the Wabash River. Known as the New Purchase, this tract of land was opened for legal settlement in 1821, although numerous families had already squatted in the area.¹⁴ The Crawfordsville land office did not open until May, 1823;¹⁵ thus the TenBrook brothers had to go to Terre Haute to purchase the new farms they had chosen

¹⁰ R. Carlyle Buley, *The Old Northwest: Pioneer Period, 1815-1840* (2 vols., Indianapolis, 1950), I, 123-36, 575-603.

¹¹ Quoted in *ibid.*, 130.

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ Isaac J. Cox (ed.), *Selections from the Torrence Papers (Quarterly Publications of the Historical and Philosophical Society of Ohio, Vol. VI, No. 2; Cincinnati, 1911)*, 32.

¹⁴ John D. Barnhart and Donald F. Carmony, *Indiana: From Frontier to Industrial Commonwealth* (4 vols., New York, 1954), I, 204-205.

¹⁵ Buley, *The Old Northwest*, I, 117.

in the northeastern part of Parke County in the New Purchase. This county had been organized only the year before, with Armiesburg as the county seat.¹⁶ The new land law passed in 1820 allowed settlers to purchase eighty acres at \$1.25 an acre, and it is uncertain whether Jacob and Conrad TenBrook bought the minimum acreage available or whether each purchased one hundred sixty acres.

The transaction completed, the TenBrooks returned to Ohio to prepare for the move to their new home. By the fall of 1823 Conrad and his family were again migrating westward, this time to Indiana. They preceded by five years the mass movement called the Jacksonian Migration of 1828-1837.¹⁷ The family entered Indiana near Brookville in Franklin County; and they probably commenced their Hoosier journey on the Whetzel Trace, which ran from Laurel westward to the West Fork of White River in Morgan County. Marked out in 1818, this trace began at Laurel on the Whitewater River, continued to the Flat Rock River approximately seven miles below Rushville, thence across Blue River to the bluffs of White River near Waverly.¹⁸ Many Ohio immigrants traveling toward Indianapolis followed the Whetzel Trace until it reached the Berry Trace at a point on Flat Rock Creek nine miles north of Columbus. They then turned north on the latter until it junctioned with the Ohio Falls Indian Trail or Three Notch Road, which in turn led them to the capital city.¹⁹ The TenBrooks' trip approximated this route.

Indianapolis impressed young Andrew TenBrook, then thirteen, almost as much as had Cincinnati seven years earlier. The town had been designated the site of Indiana's new capital in 1821; and although the state offices were not

¹⁶ George Pence and Nellie C. Armstrong, *Indiana Boundaries: Territory, State, and County* (Indiana Historical Collections, Vol. XIX; Indianapolis, 1933), 652-53.

¹⁷ Barnhart, *Valley of Democracy*, 14.

¹⁸ Buley, *The Old Northwest*, I, 450; George S. Cottman, "Internal Improvements in Indiana," *Indiana Magazine of History*, III (Mar., 1907), 15; Daniel Wait Howe, *Making a Capital in the Wilderness* (Indiana Historical Society Publications, Vol. IV, No. 4; Indianapolis, 1908), 313.

¹⁹ Berry's Trace ran from Napoleon, Ripley County, in southeastern Indiana to a point on Flat Rock Creek nine miles north of Columbus. The Three Notch Road followed the old Indian trail from the Falls of the Ohio to Indianapolis. Cottman, "Internal Improvements in Indiana," 15; Buley, *The Old Northwest*, I, 450.

transferred there until 1825,²⁰ the town's population was estimated at more than five hundred by 1823.²¹ Inhabitants admitted that malaria, ague, chills, and fever were prevalent in summer and that there were periods when White River flooded its banks and mud was hub-deep and gluey. The trees were still too dense, they admitted, "like frowning green walls round about." Even Andrew thought that at this time "Indianapolis was all in the woods." But citizens remarked about the modernity of the town, the abundant indications of expansion, and the fine atmosphere of friendliness and cooperation. The capital city already boasted two newspapers, a brick yard, and a medical society; and a new courthouse was under construction.²²

From Indianapolis the TenBrooks traveled to Greencastle, then to their new home approximately two miles west of Annapolis and Bloomingdale in Parke County. The trip from Ohio, about one hundred seventy miles, had taken seventeen days.

Almost sixty years later in 1889, Andrew TenBrook, Conrad's son, recalls his family's migration from Pennsylvania to Parke County, Indiana. For an old man his memory of distances, prices, and events are surprisingly accurate; and his descriptions of the TenBrooks' first few years in Indiana are filled with the flavor of early pioneer life in the Hoosier State. Both self-sufficiency and interdependence were elements of the frontier society. Andrew's family made their own butter, cheese, and maple sugar, grew or hunted their own food, and ground their own corn; but neighbors helped clear their land, plant their crops, and split their fence rails. Lack of adequate transportation facilities, so typical of the pioneer period in Indiana, hampered the new settlers from Ohio; for Andrew remembers no scarcity of provisions but some complaining that "there was nobody to whom [sic] supplies could be sold." Other early histories of the state

²⁰ Indiana, *Laws* (1820-1821), 44-45; Indiana, *Revised Laws* (1823-1824), 370-72.

²¹ Jeannette Covert Nolan, *Hoosier City: The Story of Indianapolis* (New York, 1943), 67; Howe, *Making a Capital in the Wilderness*, 327; Berry R. Sulgrove, *History of Indianapolis and Marion County, Indiana* (Philadelphia, 1884), 38.

²² Nolan, *Hoosier City*, 86-82; Howe, *Making of a Capital in the Wilderness*, 303-38; Sulgrove, *History of Indianapolis*, 1-131; John H. B. Nowland, *Early Reminiscences of Indianapolis . . .* (Indianapolis, 1870).

corroborate the TenBrooks' discovery of an abundance of fish in northern and central Indiana streams. Most accounts similarly describe the extent of the forests, the productivity of the land, and the rugged beauty of the Sugar Creek area.²³ The TenBrooks, like most of their neighbors in pioneer Indiana, did not fence pasture for their cattle, allowed their pigs to forage in the surrounding forests, planted their crops according to the signs of the moon if possible, ate their corn bread and maple syrup, celebrated the Fourth of July, and enjoyed themselves as well in their buckskin "organs" as "the people of this day doe [*sic*] in their finest apparel [*sic*]."

Born in Lycoming County, Pennsylvania, on August 8, 1810, Andrew TenBrook lived with his parents in Parke County until he was twenty-five. He then married Rachel Brown and moved to a farm on the Wabash River. On the death of his father eleven years later, Andrew purchased the homestead and lived there until his own death on June 10, 1889. Andrew TenBrook represented Parke County in the state legislature for one term in 1849, was married a second time to his deceased wife's sister on March 2, 1856, and later contributed three sons to the Union Army during the Civil War.²⁴ The account from which the following transcript is taken is not in Andrew's own handwriting; however, according to family tradition, Cora TenBrook, Andrew's daughter, wrote it at her father's dictation.

²³ Ted Gronert (comp. and ed.), *Sugar Creek Saga: A History and Development of Montgomery County* (Crawfordsville, Indiana, 1958); Sandford Cox, *Recollections of the Early Settlement of the Wabash Valley* (Lafayette, Indiana, 1860); John H. Beadle, "History of Parke County"; H. W. Beckwith, *History of Vigo and Parke Counties, together with Historic Notes on the Wabash Valley . . .* (Chicago, 1880).

²⁴ Beckwith, *History of Vigo and Parke Counties*, 295.



ANDREW TENBROOK

Courtesy of Sam K. Swope, Indianapolis, Indiana.
(Picture taken about 1885.)

[Recollections of Andrew TenBrook]¹

Conrad Ten Brook, was born August 20th 1776 in the state of New Jersey where his father John before him lived and died and grandfather [John] the only child was born after his father's death. He inherited a fine farm in the neighborhood of Trenton where he lived in the time of the Revolutionary war. He was a noted rebel and a colonel of militia in many small skirmishes and in one severe battle, the battle of Monmoth [Monmouth].² After the battle of Saratoga a General Redhesel [Riedesel] and lady and her attendant were assigned by Washington to the care of grandfather. He kept a tavern as it was called in those days. He was one of the descendants of the Hollanders of New Netherlands and understood the Hessian language. The general was treated with great respect as recommended by General Washington. General Redhesel was at all times at the head of the table and he became particular friend of all the foremost dutch families in the vicinity.³ The above is as I got it from my father. My grandfather John Ten Brook or Ten Brock as the dutch

¹ This transcription of Andrew TenBrook's autobiography is, with the few exceptions described below, an exact copy of the original document. Paragraphing and punctuation are unchanged, except in doubtful or marginal situations where the original was not clearly legible. In such instances modern practice has determined the paragraph breaks and the choice between commas, periods, and exclamation or question marks. Incorrect spelling have been retained and have not been indicated by either a [*sic*] or a correction except for proper names, which were correctly spelled the first time they appeared in the document, and for words which might otherwise be misunderstood. TenBrook frequently wrote an "m" rather than an "n"; but since his meaning was clear in every instance, words so-spelled were not changed. Obviously unintentional repetitions have been omitted, and superior letters have been brought down to the line. No attempt has been made to identify any of the names or places mentioned in these recollections. The original document is in the John T. Campbell Papers, Indiana Division, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis.

² John TenBroeck was commissioned Captain, Company of Minute Men, Oct. 12, 1775; Captain, Colonel John Mehelm's Fourth Regiment, Hunterdon County Militia; elected First Major, Colonel Mehelm's Fourth Regiment, Hunterdon County Militia, Feb. 1, 1777; elected Lieutenant Colonel, Colonel Taylor's Fourth Regiment, Hunterdon County Militia, May 23, 1777; on New Jersey rolls as late as Aug. 16, 1780. Certified statement, State of New Jersey, Department of Defense, Trenton, New Jersey (document in possession of contributor).

³ TenBrook is referring to General Friedrich Adolf Riedesel, Baron of Eisenbach and his wife, the Baroness Frederika Charlotte Louise von Massow. General von Riedesel was commanding general of the Brunswick troops in the German forces serving with the British army during the Revolutionary War. He and the Baroness, who accompanied her husband during the American campaigns, were captured after the Battle

pronounced it, in trying to sustain the old continental money sold nearly all his personal property and then his farm and took continental currency and in six months after, his fine farm that sold at a high price would not have paid for a good horse. He was left with a wife and seven children, six sons and one daughter almost destitute but he being a man of health and vigor moved to the center of Pennsylvania [Pennsylvania] on a tract of land that had been deserted in the time of the Revolution. It belonged to an old bachelor by the name of William Mackey. Grandfather took a lease of ten years and moved on it in the year 1786. My father was only ten years old at this time. At the expiration [*sic*] of the lease he had a fine farm, it being first and second bottom on the Sesquehanna River in the county that is called Lycoming [Lycoming] near the town of Milton and Williamsport

This brings it to 1796. My father at that date was twenty years old. Grandfather then took a new lease of ten years in which he was to put up a good house and barn which was done in good order. This brings it to 1806. At this date grandfather, father and another brother bought a tract of land in an adjoining valley White Deer was the indian name of the valley. It took its name from a creek running through the valley. This tract was divided into three farms of over one hundred acres each. Here grandfather died some time between 1816 and 1820. I recollect of seeing him in 1816. That was the year that father moved from that part. Grandfather at that time was very old. He was upwards of eighty. I now leave grandfather and return to father.

Conrad Ten Brook was born in the state of New Jersey in the year of our Lord 1776. He moved with his father to Lycoming county Pennsylvania in the year 1786. He lived with his father on a farm till 1808. On January 5th 1808 he married Elizabeth Tate. He moved on his own farm almost in the woods. He cleared out a farm for four years and being young and stout had made considerable of an improvement

of Saratoga, 1777. While the Riedesels awaited exchange, they resided first in Cambridge, Massachusetts, then were moved to Virginia. Although they traveled through Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Maryland, no mention has been found of either Ten-Brook or his tavern in the Baroness' journal or correspondence. Marvin L. Brown, Jr. (trans.), *Baroness von Riedesel and the American Revolution: Journal and Correspondence of a Tour of Duty, 1776-1783* (Chapel Hill, 1965), xxi-xli.

when he sold out with the intention of moving to Ohio. Ohio was the great western country of that time 1812. But being dissatisfied in his money he concluded to stay one year longer in the old country. The owner of the old farm that grandfather cleared after the Revolution came some miles to see if father would take it for a number of years. This was in the year 1812. Father had prepared himself with a strong Pennsylvania wagon and four large horses. He was well prepared for farming. The farm was over two hundred acres of first and second rate land. He did well on the farm and staid four years but he never got over the western fever.

The first recollection that I have of Pennsylvania was on that place. I can look back and see it yet. The house stood on an elevation about one hundred rods wide and forty or fifty feet above the first bottom with a view up and down the river of three or four miles. The river ran at the foot of a mountain six or seven hundred feet high. The mountain was called Muncey [Muncy] Hill. There was a half mile of level second bottom in reach of the house. It appears to me yet after a period of seventy two years that it was a very beautiful place.

I now return to my father. The western fever was still high. Father collected his money and made all preparations to start west in the spring of 1816 but there was another very serious disappointment. After all was ready with four fine horses and a large wagon, one man that had borrowed three hundred [dollars] failed, but he would pay in two weeks sure. The farmer had to have the house and moved in. We lived together two weeks but the money was still unpaid at the end of that time. Father got a house in a village (Summer-set or Pits town) a few miles off and unloaded a few things to make out for a short time. One disappointment after another kept us till the first of August when father left his note with his brother William for collection. It was collected after it had accumulated thirty dollars interest. This turned out to be fortunate rather than a misfortune as it will be seen hereafter.

When we were already for the move we had to wait over another Sunday to go to hear Mr Hood preach. He was the old presbyterian preacher that came once a month to a lonely log meeting house that had been built in the woods almost

three quarters of a mile from the village where we were stying. That neighborhood had worshiped Mr Hood in place of their God for ten years and father and mother still worshiped him for some time after reaching Ohio. On that day Mr Hood gave father a written passport to Heaven (a certificate of membership) also for the four first born children that he had washed from sin, of which I was one. I still hold the paper which is seventy two years old. I expect to hold it as long as I stay as the other three are gone long since to Heaven if there is any such place which I have no doubt but that there is but as for a hell only the grave. I here solmenly affirm that I have no belief.⁴ It is a belief that I have no control over. I believe that God is love as my testament teaches me and love can not cast off forever. Where is the father on earth that could or would torment forever and God who is more tender with his children than any earthly parent is with his. For me to say that I beleaved in such doctrine would be blaspheming the name of the Lord. I know that universalism is a very unpopular belief but it is none the less true. Christ himself that taught it, was very unpopular among the pharisees of that day, and how can I expect not to be equally unpopular among the pharisees of this day. Although there are many even in Rockville that beleive the doctrine that will not acknowledge it for many reasons.

After attending meeting one more night Monday came. There was all bustle. The neighbors and relatives came from every direction. It seems but a short time to look back and see two grandfather's both near eighty years old and one grandmother about the same age. When I look back to that time when I was only six years old on August eight seventy two years seems short. When our start was made in driving in a very bad place we broke the forward axeltree of the wagon on the evening of the same day that we started. It happened in a good place close to the house of a familiar acquaintance that took the family in and appeared as if they could not do enough for us. On the next day about twelve all was ready for a new start. This happened close to a mill where there was a store, smith-shop, and wagon-shop. Nothing more occured of note till we drove into Reading.

⁴ TenBrook identifies himself here as a Universalist and indicates that he believes in Heaven, but not in Hell.

Reading was a considerable town about one hundred miles on this side of the place from which we started. There through carelessness of the driver one of the lead horses was left hitched to the end of the tongue and pulled off sideways broke off the tongue. Workmen were at hand. They brought a trussel and placed under the fore end of the wagon-bed and took out the fore wheel and on the next morning the wagon stood with a new tongue all right. We were then on the turn pike from Pittsburg [Pittsburg] to Philadelphia, where all the goods passed from Philadelphia to the west. We traveled some distance on it and crossed the mountain of the Alghany [Allegheny] called in that place Laural [Laurel] Hill. We turned off and took the rode to Wheeling Virginia, where father bought a boat. He being himself somewhat of a boat-man on the Sesquehanna River. We were joined on the rode by an old acquaintance from the same part from which we started. The horses were taken across to Cincinnatti [Cincinnati] by two yound men. My Uncle James Tate and a Mr Sedam. We were told in sveral places to take all the peaches we wanted. On the Ohio in many places the banks were covered with peaches orchards full of ripe fruit. The owners of the orchards refused to take a cent for the peaches that we took. They were in several places distiling into brandy on a small scale and the fruit was still rotting in the orchards. One man told father that he had more than five thousand bushels and two stills at work and still the peaches were rotting in the orchard.

We arrived at Cincinnatti some time in September. It was at that time the largest town that I had ever seen. It contained sixteen hundred inhabitanc, and I thought the best brick building That I had ever seen.

We arrived at Cincinnatti with our large Pennsylvania wagon, four good dutch horses, family well clad and one thousand one hundred in Philadelphia paper money. The young man with horses beat us to Cincinnatti about three or four days. In paying for goods in Cincinnatti father took out a roll of Philadelphia money "Why mister mister! your money is getting too far from home. The banks might break months before you would know any thing about it. You had better be getting it off for money nearer home." "Why! is it not good" asked my father? "We can use it in payment for

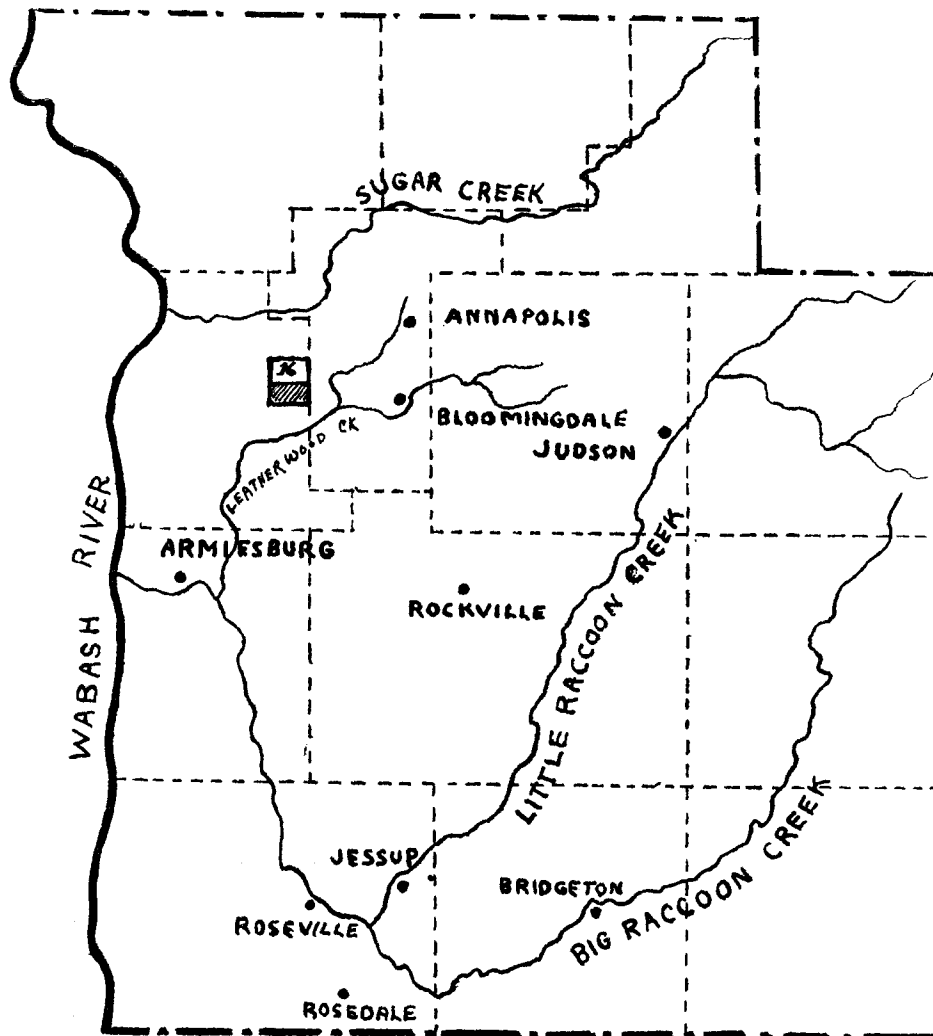
goods in Philadelphia but our own money is very much preferred for all common use through the country" said the merchant. I can use your money to pay for goods and give you other money for it if it would be any accommodation to you. Father thought that all was right as the merchant appeared to be very much of a gentleman and very accommodating so they swoped money. It was all right at the time

Father went out sixteen miles from Cincinnati Every thing was high rite after the war of 1812. Land around Cincinnati sold for forty dollars an acer where father expected to get it for eight or ten dollars an acer. Father bought three milk cows at high prices. He bought gogs [hogs] and corn and rented a farm and concluded to wait the sale of land farther west. In the fall of 1816 father rented a farn. Put in twenty acres of wheat and had a good crop.

Banks began to be doubtful. Finally in 1817 banks went all at once and land fell over half. Father's Ohio money went to almost nothing. In the fall of 1818 father paid twenty dollars in paper money for one single barrel of salt. He had more horses than he wanted to keep. He sold a very valuable horse. The man failed and never paid one dollar. Father had always worked rich bottom land. He rented the second farm on the big Miama [Big Miami] and raised good crops, but the fever and ague was very bad four out of five falls. The loss of time and doctor's bills took all that we could make. Grain was very low. I knew father to hall wheat to Cincinnati and sell it at forty and forty five cents a bushel. Well now came the good fortune that two years before in Pennsylvania we thought to be bad at the time. Uncle William collected the money that was left in Pennsylvania and sent it out to father. \$330 was in silver. As needy as we were that laid in the bottom of an old chest from 1818 till 1822. At this date father, uncle Jacob, Colonel Gargas [Garrigus], and a Mr Catterland [Catterlin] came on horse back and carried their silver in saddle bags. Colonel Jeptha Garigas was the same man that figured largely in this county from 1830 to 1840. Mr Catterland bought land and settled in the neighborhood of Crawfordsville. The rode on which they traveled after they left Brookville to Indianapolis was only a bridle path after leaveing Brookville thirty or forty miles.⁵ The rode from

⁵ Conrad TenBrook, Andrew's father, went to Indiana in the spring of 1822 to look for land on which to settle. It is this journey to which Andrew is referring here.

Indianapolis to Terrehaute [Terre Haute] was in some places hard to find. Uncle Jacob Ten Brook was a hunter and a woodsman, that had laid out many nights in the mountains of Pensylvania. He thought nothing of lying out, which they had to do many times. They looked at land in the neighborhood of Crawfordsville, and were well pleased with it, but they thought that it was too far from navigation. The land office was then at Terrehaute. They took numbers and went to Terrehaute to the land sale. At Terrehaute they fell in with a Mr Gilke and a Mr Pottenger from Hamilton Ohio near the place where father lived. They told father that they could show them land within four miles of the river, that they would undoubtly like. These two young men volintered their services and came up the river thirty miles. They crossed Raccoon [Creek] at the army ford that is mow Armyberg [Armiesburg] and went up through the unsurveyed indian reserve prairie. Father and uncle both expressed themselves in the same language that nothing could be hansomer but there were no settlers. The same winter and the next spring there came a fare swarm. So much so that the next fall 1823 we bought all the corn that we wanted and it was not one fourth of the amount that they had to sell. We bought corn at twenty cents a bushel and pork for two dollars a hundred. On the land that O. P. Brown's father bought in 1824 at the reserve land sale There were sixteen cabins and seventeen families. This is no heresay with me for in the fall of 1823 shortly after our arrival in the woods brother John and I were sent for corn. We found plenty of corn at Yanketown [Yankeetown?] a little village of cabins all in a huddle with little regard to streets or pavements. They were all using the water from a trough that was fed by other troughs that conducted the water from that everlasting spring in the hill fifty feet above O. P. Browns house, which in later days was put in lead pipes. This everlasting spring still ran on fifty years longer and then dried up like the everlasting inheritance of Canaan that has long since passed away. The inhabitance of that town all joined together and fenced a field of one hundred and fifty or one hundred and seventy acres. Each one put in so many rods of fence. Each one made rales of his own choice of length I helped to reset some fence of that field in 1836 and I found rales from eight up to sixteen feet long. Each length of rales were to themselves. Corn was twenty cents and not



SKETCH MAP OF PARKE COUNTY, INDIANA. THE TENBROOK HOMESTEAD IS IN THE SOUTHERN HALF OF TOWNSHIP 16 (SHADED PORTION). (MAP DRAWN BY HERMAN VIOLA.)

all sold. Meat was very plenty that year. Pork sold for \$1.50 to \$2.00 a hundred. Mast was very plenty and hogs were mostly fattened on it. Potatoes were scarce at 25 cts a bushel. Wheat, which there was none on the following fall, came down to 10 cents and was hard to sell at that.

In the fall of 1822 father and uncle Jacob Ten Brook returned to Ohio after securing each one hundred and sixty acers of land in range eight, Township sixteen Section ten The south half of said section is two miles west of Annapolis and the same distance from Bloomingdale. The south east quarter I own at the present time. It has never passed out of the family and has been in the family sixty six years. Provisions had to be made for a final move. We were very much poorer than we were when we landed at Cincinnati seven years before. The failure of the banks in 1817 and 1818 swept from father nearly all that he was worth. Nearly every thing that he had being in Ohio money. It was saved to lay out for land and all swept off in a very short time. Sickness and doctor's bills and very low prices for corn and wheat made it impossible to make more than a poor living.

Father had twenty acres or more of good wheat and he put in seventeen acers of corn on Miami bottom. It was very good and was estimated at sixty five or seventy bushels to the acre. The wheat when harvested and tramped out with horses and then halled to Cincinnati brought at first forty five and then fell to forty cents a bushel. Father's two thirds of the crop was two hundred bushels or nearly so. He tried for some time to sell the corn in the field but he could not get any offer in money. After some time a man offered him one good cow, and to send a team of two yoke of oxen and a strong wagon to hawl a load. A man that wanted to see the country offered to drive the team for twenty five cents a day. Nineteen hogs waying over one hundred each sold for twenty dollars. About the twenty fifth of August all was ready for a start. We started about ten o'clock. The second day we got near Brookville where we fell in with uncle Jacob's family at a widow Ten Brooks where our arrangements were to meet. The second day from that time we were overtaken by two teams with three stout men. The family of John Jessup. We were all together at the last house on the rode close to Flatrock [Flat Rock] creek. Number in each

family, Conrad Ten Brook's self, wife, and six children. The oldest was 15 and the youngest two years old.	8
Jacob Ten Brooks family consisting of his wife and two sons. The oldest was fifteen and the youngest thirteen	4
John Jessup's family consisting of his wife, two daughters and six sons. The oldest daughter was seventeen and the oldest son fifteen graded [graded?] down to the baby.	10
Stout men besides was Jessup's two teamsters and a young man who came out to work.	5

In all 27.

Our stock was. Father had three horses. Two were the same that were brought from Pensylvania seven years before. Uncle Jacob had two. Jessup's had two and each of the three teamsters had two. There were in all thirteen. Our cattle. Father had six milk cows, two three year old heifers and one two year old steer. There were nine in all. Uncle Jacob had nine head of cattle five of which were milk cows. Jessups had three milk cows. In all there were twenty one. Horses and cattle in all 34. Here we were camped out for the first time all together close to a Mr Reeds. The last house before taking the big woods west of Flat creek Men, wimen and children 27. Horses and cattle 34. There were still two yoke of large oxen and four dogs lived to enter the woods.

I will here relate that Mr Reed told us to be careful that we did not get turned around and come back there that evening. He said that about one month before a single team drove in in the morning. It was a very cloudy day and late in the evening he drove out of the woods inquiring for the same place that he had inquired for in the morning. He could hardly be convinced that he had been there before.

The road was in places fully one half mile wide. The rode turned around old logs and trees in every direction, and the progress was slow. In one place after examining. The forward team drove in. In a very short time the wagon not fairly in the forward sank. The horses plunged in around their sides in water and stiff mud. Finally one fell and the other fell on him. Then all hands as soon as they could get to them unhitched all the four horses and got the two out. Forward horses on not sollid but muddy ground. They examined both ways but could not tell which was up or down.

Well! What was to be done. Father told them that they had to take one out of two ways. Stay there across the slew or turnabout. They went back a few rods where there was plenty of long limbed beech. The ox team having come up the brush was hauled and laid under the tongue and across the slew. In the center it was two feet thick and weighted on the sides with heavy poles. In three or four hours the ox team was put to the forward wagon and went right through and swore that it was the best road that he had had that day.

The next thing was to find a good camping place. Uncle Jacob went ahead and found a very nice camping ground on a high place. He got to tramping down the weeds which were waist high. All at once a rattle snake forbid his intrusion. The wagons came up one after another. When the wimen heard of the snake they could not stay nearer than one mile of that place. Uncle Jacob put out ahead and could not find a place to suit in less than two miles. He found a place where there was a nice little stream with plenty of fish in it. It was a nice camping place with grass and peavines waist high. It was late and fully dark when the ox team came up. He said that he would have turned out the oxen and went in the wagon to bed had it not been for our yelling and halooing and blowing three tin horns, and fireing off guns. After he got within one half mile he gave his team a good rest and drove very slowly for a while not giving any alarm of his meanness till he drove into camp. He was not very well pleased. The next morning he told the company that he forgave that time but that they had better not leave him in good roads or he would let them help themselves in the next swamp.

Our cattle with all the feed that they could eat and slow driving gave more milk than we all could make use of. There were in all fourteen milk cows.

The date of days I can not recollect. In the date of the year I am correct 1823. I know that we started between the twenty fift of August and the first of September. After a long and fatiguing journey we got through about the first frost and the last of papaw time.

Well! to return. We started the next morning with some better roads and drove some distance when Mr Pine who was driving the forward team came to a halt. He went forward and then halooed back that he had come to the last jumping off place. All hands went forward. There was the bank of a small stream thirty or forty feet high and so steep that it

seemed impossible to get down. When finally the ox team drove up Mr Pote, the teamster went forward and looked at it. After examining it he told Mr Pine to take off the lead horse and drive his tongue horses. Then he brought one yoke of his oxen. He drove up behind turned the chain forward and fastened it to the hind axel and then told the teamster to drive ahead. He held a gad in front of the oxen and they laid back and fairly plowed the ground behind the wagon. He drove up. Took the other yoke and let the second wagon down still changing teams. He finally let all down. He then put one yoke to the stern of his own wagon and let himself down.

We traveled on for days not seeing a house. At night we ate our mush and warm rich milk. We all came through fat. When coming down a bank to the bottom of a small stream called Sugar-creek [Sugar Creek] the fore axel of uncle Jacob's wagon broke. Well there we were. There was neither wagon maker nor smith within fifty miles that we knew of. The young man that was coming out to work said if they would furnish the tools and help he would insure an axel that would stand the trip. No iron was broken or bent. The axel broke in the center where the king bolt went through. A strate young burdock⁶ about a foot through was cut down and shaped. This happened about twelve

We camped on the bank of the creek at a very shallow ripple with a gravel bottom. Right above was a long strate sheet of water from three to six feet deep. There was not a snag in sight. It was fully forty rods long and full of fish. My brother John and I had been at what they call brush dragging for fish in the Big Miama. I recollect of once seigning over four hundred. There were fifty men in that drag. My brother John proposed making a brush drag at the upper end of the pond. The drag was made by first getting long grape vines and stretching them clear across the creek, and then laying vines crowsways every ten or twelve feet and then cut long brush and carefully lay it to lap over and tie the vines so as to hold the brush together. When all was ready

⁶ It seems doubtful that the TenBrooks could have made an axle from burdock. Although the coarse, hairy weed can grow from four to nine feet high, the stalk of the plant is generally pithy. TenBrook may have been referring to bur oak, or his reference to burdock may have been a corruption of the French *bois d'arc*, another name for osage orange. See Charles C. Deam, *Trees of Indiana* (Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1921), 115, 116, 155, 156.

it was found to be too heavy for the number of hands. The ox driver Mr Pope said that the oxen must be put to one end. The oxen were in the range not far off. Soon the oxen were brought. It was a tall yoke. He took the gad, rode the nye ox, and took the dep side. In several places the oxen nearly swam. It did not take long to draw the drag to the lower end of the pond. The result was very nearly one hundred good suckers and red horse. There were several pike in but they all leaped over as soon as it became as they thought dangerous. The oxen were turned with their heads up stream and with our assistance we managed to get the drag back to the head once more. The second draw we got upwards of forty. When we had all that we could make use of we cleaned and salted and the wimen fried bountifully. That night and the next morning we had a regular fish feast and plenty of fish for several days. The next morning when all was ready we took the woods and some time within two or three days we came to a little improvement of Blue River and some time later we came to Indianapolis

At this time Indianapolis was all in the woods. There was one two story house. That was some where on Washington Street. The two story building was called Hawkin's tavern. (There were no hotels in those days) At this tavern we fell in with two Coutuckiens [Kentuckians] that had come to see the country and had a two horse wagon and a barrel of whiskey to sell out to pay their expenses. In our crowd each family had a keg and had laid in a supply, but some of them thought that their stock was running low so they bought several gallons. Our cag which held eight gallons was filled on the Miami at eight cents a gallon. After our company got their supply we moved on. We camped that night on Eagle Creek. I can not tell how long it took us to go from here to Greencastle, but I think it took two days. At Greencastle we bought some new corn. It was the first chance that we had had after leaving Flatrock.

The night that we lay at Greencastle there was the first frost that we had seen. In the morning after we left two men on horseback stoped at our camp-fire to warm. They found two large rattle snakes that had crawled out from under the log to warm. That was fearful news when the men came up. That night we got to Colonel Bells near wher Bridgeton now is. The next day we got to John Sunderlands and camped near where Alexanger's house now stands. The next day at

about eleven A. M. we got to Perley Mitchells. Father and uncle knew Mr Mitchell. They had staid with him one year before when hunting for land. Mr. Mitchell took his ax and pilloted us through about one mile due north. As this was Saturday we fixed to camp. In the first place a brush shed was made till we could look out a building place which was soon done.

I must here tell you how our first Sunday was spent. On Sunday morning there was a little frost. It was a calm day in indian summer weather. After breakfast uncle Jacob, Mr Lingo (the man that came out to work) and three of us boys took a path that led to a fish-trap that had been built that fall on Sugar Creek about one mile morth west. The water was very low and clear. The fish dam was across at a ripple twenty or thirty feet below the swallow rock. The swallow rock was so called from the high rocks that were all along the shore, and thousands of swallows under the ledge of rocks that stood over the water in places ten or twenty feet with tem feet of water under them. We worked along to a level bend some ten feet above the water. Here there was room for a dozen persons to stand. The brush dam that had been thrown across a short time before kept the fish from getting down. To stand on this bend and look up and down such a sight of fish I had never seen before. Uncle Jacob said that there were ten barrels of fish in sight all the time. The fish seemed tame. Some one in the crowd had a cake in his pocket. He threw in bits and the fish would jump at it three or four at a time. The black bass were the most active. My brother John had slipped a hook in his pocket. He slipped out and cut a pole and turned over chunks and found plenty of black crickets. As he came forward uncle Jacob said, "Give it to me. Give it to me." Uncle Jacob got hold of the pole and in less than one half minute he drewed out twelve. They were all of the largest size. The twelve waid fully fifty pounds. The thirteenth, a very large salmon broke the hook. We came home with with twelve. It was a great surprise to mother and aunt Rachel. The two wimen were sisters and very strict Sunday presbyterians. They hardly knew whether it would be right to eat them or not. They finally concluded that as we were meedy and right in the woods it might be considered a mecessity. Father said. "I will risk it any how." From that time us four boys made a regular business of fishing every Sunday till after the rains swelled the creek and let the fish down.

Fish were unusally plenty both in the Wabash river and Sugar creek. It is almost too strong for the people of this day to beleave, but it is mone the less true. Even on the riffles of Big Leatherwood in the spring fish could be taken by the thousand.

Sugar creek is a rapid stream of one hundred miles in length, running from Crawfordsville down a distance of thirty miles. It runs through one of the deepest chasems of any stream in western Indiana. There are nearly all the way high rocks on one or the other side and sometimes on both sides as it is at the narrows and Rockpoart [Rockport] where there are rocks on both sides. The broken land on each side of the creek is narrow. It is from three quarters to a mile wide and the scenery in many places is far ahead of any that is seen along the creek such as Turkeyrun [Turkey Run] and the Shades of Death.⁷ The bottom land of Sugar creek in Parke and Montgomery counties will not compare with Big Raccoon more than one third. Still there is some fine bottom land. The land is mostly hemmed in by high rocky blufs. Us four boys J. R. and Andrew and William and John of the other family 2, 15 and 2, 13 years old⁸ took the greatest delight in examining these rocks. We would start after breakfast on Sunday and sometimes spend the entire day.

Our trip from Ohio was in time seventeen days. In all that time there was not a drop of rain and for two weeks after we arrived there was fine indian summer weather.

We were here late in the fall very much poorer than when we landed at Cincinnati seven years before. Then father had eleven hundred dollars (\$1100) with four good horses well harnessed, a good wagon and the family were all well clad. That was in 1816. We had \$1100 with \$330 still behind. After our arrival here we had three horses two of which were the same that we had brought from Pennsylvania only seven years older and the same wagon with seven years of wear in Ohio. We brought here nine head of cattle that were worth at the most \$90. We had \$70 left in Ohio of which only \$20 was ever paid. Would a family now turned in the woods in the beginning of winter live through? We had one good old Pensylvania horse that left us in a few days after our

⁷ Turkey Run (1916) and Shades (1947) later became Indiana state parks. John D. Barnhart and Donald F. Carmony, *Indiana: From Frontier to Industrial Commonwealth* (4 vols., New York, 1954), II, 287.

⁸ TenBrook means two boys fifteen years old and two boys thirteen years old.

arrival and we never got him. Each family had two horses. One horse belonging to each family wore a bell, and a clog on its foot. They made their living in the woods. We could not afford corn for them for that would have taken the bread from the family. There was one hundred bushels carefully stored over head in our cabin. That had to last till ground could be cleared and a crop raised. Corn could be bought for twenty cents a bushel but we had little money. Pork was \$2.00 a hundred. When our pork and corn was laid in and our cabin was in order the next thing was to go to work and prepare land for the next year's farming.

Our cattle and horses gave us some trouble. They would stroll off through the woods and not return. Father told me to take care of the cattle and not let them get out of hearing of the bell. I was only thirteen years old and no woodsman. Mother was very much afraid that I would get lost and have to lie out. I was some of the same opinion but pretended to be under no fear and that was strengthened by some remark of my having Sugar creek to the north west and Leatherwood all around us. I was told if I got lost to follow any of the branches down and it would bring me out at Mr Mitchels one mile south of our house. I had an ax and I thought if I would blaze the trees in a strate line north west, and another north east it might save me at some time. Once in a while I put a notch on the side next to home.

Our nearest neighbor on the east was Mr Buchanan. He lived ten miles north east where Judson now stands. Our nearest neighbor north lived where Covington now stands. Crawfordsville was twenty miles north east up Sugar creek. Mr Mitchell lived one mile south. Section sixteen had five settlers and four miles still farther west was the squatter sovereignty heretofore described as Yankey-town from which we drew all of our supplies

There were no mills nearer than Roseville. At Roseville the mill was so crowded with customers that there could not be a grist ground in less than a week at any time that winter. They would swop a bushel of meal for a bushel of corn. They took more than one third for grinding. The corn wayed fifty six pounds and the meal thirty six. Father said that we must make some other arraignment to grind our corn. He talked of a hand mill but there were no burs in the country and if there had been we had no money with which to buy. We came to the conclusion to try the homeny block. Nearly every squatter in Yanketown had his own mill. We sawed off a

had no money with which to buy. We came to the conclusion to try the hominy block. Nearly every squatter in Chanketown had his own mill. We sawed off a good sized hard sugar block. We set it up on the end and bored in the middle with a two inch auger to the depth that we wanted the bowl. Then five or six holes were bored not quite so deep with the same auger. Then holes were made with a one inch auger as close as they could be bored. After this a fire and dry chips were applied. We put ashes on the sides to keep it from burning. After it had some time and became hot, a portion of wood was laid on and a rock rock was put on the top. Then all was covered and left to fume in coal pit fashion. The men had a mortar. When they was set in a suitable place with a pectel hung to the end of a pole the mill was finished. Father told me to take charge of the mill and see to the stock and Johnny and himself would stick to the clearing. Father never



PAGE FROM THE TENBROOK RECOLLECTIONS, SHOWING ANDREW TENBROOK'S SKETCH OF A HOMINY BLOCK. FOR PRINTED VERSION SEE PP. 24, 26.

good sized hard sugar block. We sat it up on one end and boared in the middle with a two inch auger to the debth that we wanted the bowl. Then five or six holes were boared not quite so deep with the same auger. Then holes were made with a one inch auger as close as they could be boared. After this a fire and dry chips were applied. We put ashes on the rim to keep it from burning. After it fed some time and became hot a portion of wood was laid on and a rock was put on the top. Then all was covered and left to fume in coal pit fashion. We soon had a mortar. When this was set in a sutable place with a pestel hung to the end of a pole the mill was finished. Father told me to take charge of the mill and see to the stock, and John and himself would stick to the clearing. Father never got discouraged. He said that it was the best one hundred sixty acres of land that was in all that part of the country and if we only made a living for a year or two we would have in a very short time one of the best farms in the neighborhood which was the case.

The cattle got more rambling as pasture got scarce. They rambled along the bottoms of Leatherwood and sometimes Sugar creek which I always dreaded its big hills. As my business was pounding the corn and minding the cattle; I would commence early in the morning and pound the corn which I could always have done by nine A. M. As the cattle were pounded at night, after being milked in the morning and let out, they would take a strate line and hardly stop till they went one or two miles. After the corn was pounded and enough meal sifted to make a cake I would start with a rifle on my shoulder to see to the cattle. I usually went out one mile east to a rise on the bank of Leatherwood where Kersey Newlins house now stands. There I would sit on a log and listen for the bell. After a time I would make a start in some other direction and if the cattle were found feeding quietly I would start home and if the weather was good would not start out again till about three o'clock. I would not drive the cows in till sun down. As a great portion of our living was from the milk of the cows, it was necessary that they should pasture late. After hard freezing weather which there was a very long spell of in the first of winter the cattle fed on a kind of winter grass that was very abundant in wet places. All through the woods there were fields of it. When it was

raised up it would be all perfectly green and knee high. In February and March of 1824 there was considerable snow. There was so much that the cattle could not get grass. Then we had to chop down sugar, beech, elm and lin and the cattle would eat of the tops and small limbs. They would chew off limbs of elm and lin as thick as ones finger. The horses would gnaw off the bark of slippery elm till they had the bodies of the trees entirely peeled.

In April 1824 the cattle were all in tolerably good order. We had seven calves. The trouble was all over for as the calves were kept in a yard the cows came up regularly at night. Our living depended very much on the milk. That summer we made forty cheeses of the milk of seven cows. The average weight of the cheeses was about twelve pounds. I was market=boy and sold the most of the cheese at Rockville and Armeysberg. Armeysberg or Stringtown was at that time county seat. The first celebration of the fourth of July was held at Armeysberg in the year 1824.

Butter and cheese was eight and a third cents a pound and eggs were four cents a dozen. In the summer corn got up to twenty five cents when sold by the small lots and carried in sacks. Salt was one dollar a bushel. Coffee was from twenty five to thirty cents. Tea was one dollar and fifty to two dollars a pound. Common shirting sold at twenty five or thirty cents a yard. Cambric sold at fifty and sixty cents a yard. Leather was too high for any common people to wear more than one pair of shoes in a year.

We were all common folks and enjoyed ourselves as well in our buckskins as the people of this day doe [*sic*] in their finest apperel. I recollect of wearing one pair of buckskins winter and summer Sundays and all times for two years. I first learned to dance in those old organs. Organs was the common name of buck skin pants.

This was in squatter times. Squatters never got to be old settlers. They followed the indians and lived on locusts and wild honey like Eligah [Elijah] the Tishbite did eighteen hundred years ago.

Father bought a few pigs in February and kept them a few weeks but had to turn them out on account of the scarcity of feed. The shotes ran off in the woods and were not seen for months. At last they came by the house with a neighbor's

hogs. It was a fine mast year. About Christmas the hogs came through the lane and we got them fine and fat at a small cost.

I now turn back to the fall before. Father, brother John, and a hand that worked week about for father and uncle Jacob at eight dollars a month lost no time during the fall and winter that was fit for them to work out. In the spring they had fifteen acres cleared of all the smaller timber and they had two hundred rales scattered all over the clearing. Then came the heavy work of rolling and burning logs and halling rails and making fences. That could have been done in time for a good crop if it had not been for the wet weather. They would roll logs in the mud and fire up and the rain would put them out before the next morning. On the 12th of June we commenced planting by plowing one furrow every four feet and then step drop every three or four feet. We finished planting corn on the 18th of June. We then went through the rows and broke the ground. After that was done we plowed and planted one acre of potatoes. After that was done we cleared one acre and sowed turnips. The result of all was a fine crop of soft corn.

The corn was gathered and sorted into three sorts. The best was for bread. The second was for horses. The third which was soft corn that had been injured by the frost was for the cows. All the corn was put in cribs two feet wide.

Potatoes and turnips were both good. The potatoes yielded two hundred and fifty or three hundred bushels to the acre. There were two or three hundred bushels of turnips and there was no sale for either potatoes or turnips. There were no new settlers till the fall of 1826.

Potatoes and turnips are both good feed for milk cows. We milked four in the winter of 1824 and 1825. They were fed almost altogether on potatoes and turnips and the result was that we had all the milk and butter that the family could use and some for sale. The cows came out fat in the spring.

Sugar was made by all the farmers. There was not a single eighty acre lot that lacked in sugartrees that were sufficient for one or two camps. The first season we made three hundred and fifty pounds of sugar and ten gallons of molasses on the same ground that we were clearing for corn.

We made sugar for sale every year for a number of years. It was only worth from eight to ten cents a pound.

After the first year I never saw any scarcity of provisions. The only complaint was that there was nobody to whom the supplies could be sold.

Continuation of the narrative of Andrew Ten Brook on the early settlement of Parke county or Reserve township. 1826 was about the time that the first settlers commenced coming in north and east of us. At that time we had little to sell and in almost all cases the settlers had only money enough to merely buy their land. They depended on getting their meat out of the woods and the only bread that they had was made of corn. Father got a good deal of work done in the clearing and rail making for two bushels of corn for a days work

In about 1827 after the corn was planted we had a potato patch to clear. Near the first of June two men came from Sandcreek [Sand Creek] with their axes on their shoulders and wanted to work for potatoes. We set in five hands in a deadning of as good land as we had. It was then the first of June and in the right time in the moon and the seign was right on Friday and Saturday. When we came in to dinner on the second day after commencing the clearing mother said that we must try hard to get the potatoes planted that week; for it was new moon on Sunday and potatoes never did any good that were planted in the new moon. I recollect that father's answer was "I never plant potatoes in the moon or in the seighns. It is impossible to get the logs rolled and burned and the ground plowed and in good order in less than two weeks." Mother said "Well? we will have no potatoes" Uncle Jacob Ten Brook's farm joined ours. The two men were brothers and the wimen were sisters. Uncle was in the same fix that year that we were. A potato patch was to be cleared after corn was planted, but uncles situation was very different from ours in one respect. He started a small tanyard and all the neighbors were owing him for leather. They sent around and got a number of hands and their potatoes were planted in the right time of the moon. We worked and two weeks later our patch was planted in good order but exactly in the wrong time of the moon. It was very dry in August and uncle's potatoes were in blossom. Ours were still small. After

their potatoes were far spent rain came in time to make ours. At digging time both crops were measured. Theirs that were planted in the moon turned out three hundred bushels to the acre and ours that were planted in the ground averaged three hundred and fifty bushels to the acre.

We still worked on improving and clearing land and raising crops and selling what we could to new settlers and taking work for what we sold. We gave two bushels of corn or potatoes for a days work and boarded the hand. We also raised and prepared flax for the spinning wheel. At this time was the expression first used "Root pig or die." We rooted and lived and father said if we could only make a little and lay it out in land while land was only \$1.25 an acre we would be making money fast. In ten years we bought two eighty acre lots. One of them has sold since for \$4500 in cash.

Settlers came in fast and we had no trouble in selling our wheat at fifty cents a bushel. We sold thirty bushels to Greenbury Ward's father. He paid \$15 in silver. That was the largest sum that we had received after we came to the country. We did not want much money. I have in my possession a tax receipt of that day for one hundred and sixty acres of land, seventeen head of cattle and some hogs and sheep \$2,60 in full and seighned A. M. Puett.