

HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

...OF...

OHIO

IN TWO VOLUMES.

AN ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE STATE:

HISTORY BOTH GENERAL AND LOCAL, GEOGRAPHY WITH DESCRIPTIONS OF ITS COUNTIES, CITIES AND VILLAGES, ITS AGRICULTURAL, MANUFACTURING, MINING AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, SKETCHES OF EMINENT AND INTERESTING CHARACTERS, ETC., WITH NOTES OF A TOUR OVER IT IN 1886.

ILLUSTRATED BY ABOUT 700 ENGRAVINGS.

CONTRASTING THE OHIO OF 1846 WITH 1886-90.

FROM DRAWINGS BY THE AUTHOR IN 1846 AND PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN SOLELY FOR IT IN 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, AND 1890, OF CITIES AND CHIEF TOWNS, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, HISTORIC LOCALITIES, MONUMENTS, CURIOSITIES, ANTIQUITIES, PORTRAITS, MAPS, ETC.

THE OHIO CENTENNIAL EDITION.

By HENRY HOWE, LL. D.

AUTHOR "HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS OF VIRGINIA" AND OTHER WORKS

Volume I.

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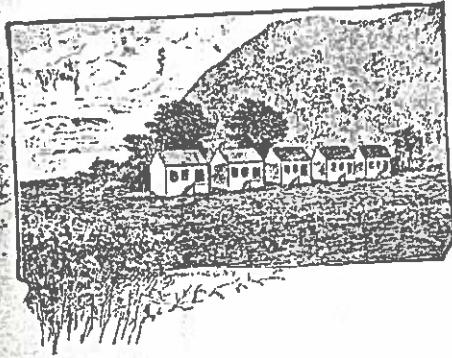
1907

*Time changes us all and happy that change where Justice Truth and Love
which can know no change grow in beauty with the passing years*

*Henry Howe
Columbus O
1888.*

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the table-lands by a rapid descent, when we stopped a few moments at a mining point—Captina Station Bridge. It was just long enough for me to sketch from the car windows a row of miners' cottages, and from



Drawn by Henry Howe, 1886.

MINERS' COTTAGES.

which the inmates go forth every morning to their work, descending a perpendicular hole in the ground seventy-three feet. To strike the same vein, "The Pittsburg vein," at Steubenville, in the county north, they de-

BELLAIRE, 120 miles east of Columbus and 5 miles below Wheeling, on the Ohio river, is on the B. & O., B. Z. & C., and C. & P. Railroads. It is an important manufacturing town; its manufactories are supplied with natural gas, and it has ten coal mines, water works, paved streets and street railway.

Newspapers: *Herald*, Democratic, E. M. Lockwood, editor; *Independent*, Republican, J. F. Anderson, editor; *Tribune*, Republican, C. L. Poorman & Co., editors. Churches: 2 Methodist Episcopal, 1 Colored Methodist Episcopal, 2 Presbyterian, 1 United Presbyterian, 1 Disciples, 1 Episcopal, 1 German Reformed, 1 Church of God and 1 Catholic. Bank: First National, J. T. Mercer, president, A. P. Tallman, cashier.

Manufactures and Employees.—Lantern Globe Co., 95 hands; Crystal Window Glass Co., 61; Bellaire Steel and Nail Works, 650; Union Window Glass Works, 63; DuBois & McCoy, doors, sash, etc., 27; Bellaire Bottle Co., 130; Belmont Glass Works, 240; Bellaire Barrel Works, 16; James Fitton, gas fitting, 13; Ohio Lantern Co., 83; Bellaire Stamping Co., metal specialties, 210; Bellaire Goblet Co., 285; Enterprise Window Glass Co., 59; Bellaire Window Glass Works, 106; Ohio Valley Foundry Co., stoves, etc., 45; Rodefer Bros., lamp globes, 125; Aetna Foundry & Machine Shop, repair shop, etc., 13; Aetna Glass Manufacturing Co., 245.—*State Report 1887.* Population in 1880, 8,205; school census in 1886, 5,381; Benj. T. Jones, superintendent.

The river plateau at Bellaire is about a third of a mile wide; upon it are the industries and most of the residences. The streets are broad and airy. The ascent of the river hills is easy, with the homes of the working people pleasantly perched thereon. The Baltimore and Ohio railroad follows the valley of McMahon's creek, a stream about six rods wide and entering the Ohio in the southern part of the town. The road crosses the Ohio by an iron bridge and across the town by a stone bridge of forty-three arches, rising and passing over several of the main streets at the height of thirty-five feet; it is a very picturesque feature of the city. The two (when we had seen) in any; it is said, are about a mile long and cost over a million and wago.

scend from 225 to 261 feet, being about the deepest shafts in the State.

A mining experience was mine on the 13th day of July, 1843. On that day I got into a basket suspended over the Midlothian coal mine near Richmond, Va., and descended perpendicularly, by steam, 625 feet. Then, being put in charge of the overseer, I went down ladders and slopes so that I attained a depth of about 1,000 feet from the surface. The overseer took me everywhere, exploring, as he said, about four miles. It was noon when I entered the pit, and when I came out above ground and got out of the basket what was my astonishment to find the twilight of a summer evening pervading the landscape. I found the owner had never ventured into his own mine, and I learn it is often the same with owners in Ohio. I am glad I ventured, yet it was not an experience that I care to repeat; but the music of the sweet singers that evening, at the mansion of the gentleman, the owner, whose guest I was, rested me after my toil, and lingers in memory.

From Captina we soon descended into a narrow valley, passing by some small, neat, white cottages with long porches, and poultry trotting around in side yards, and then suddenly burst into view the broad valley of the Ohio and, following the river banks, were soon in that hive of industry and glass—Bellaire.

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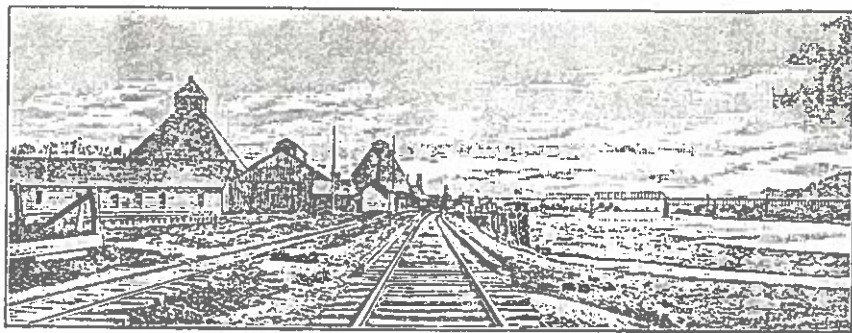
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The town of the Ohio, taking both sides for seven miles, is a great manufacturing town and owes its prosperity primarily to the inexhaustible beds of coal in the Allegheny hills, with limestone, building stone and fire-clay. On the West Virginia side is the city of Wheeling, with its 35,000 people, and suburb of Bennington directly opposite Bellaire. On the Ohio side is a line of towns for seven miles beginning with Bellaire and continuing with Bridgeport and Martin's Ferry, bringing up the total population to 60,000 souls. So near are they that one may in a certain sense call it a single city with the Ohio dividing it.

In the hills at Bellaire ten large coal mines are worked. On the Ohio side the dip of the coal is towards the mouth of the mines, thus giving the advantage of a natural drainage. At Bellaire the vein, "The Pittsburg," is 125 feet above the river at low stage and is worked from the surface. The inclination of the vein is twenty-two feet to the mile. The coal is discharged over screens into railroad cars drawn by mules. The dumping places are termed "tipples." The mines have two tipples each, one at the mouth of the mine and the other at the river bank; so called because the coal cars are there tipped and emptied.

Lombardy poplars are a feature in the river towns of the upper Ohio, for which the soil and climate appear to be well adapted. Mingled with the rounding forms



T. S. Tappan, Photo., Bellaire, 1887.

BELLAIRE.

The view is looking up the Ohio, showing in front "the coal tipple" on the river bank; on the left the houses and in the distance the bridge of the B. & O. Railroad.

of the other trees and projects against the soft curves of distant hills, or standing on their slopes and summits; they dignify and greatly enhance the charms of a landscape. Their towering spires affect one with the same sombre emotion as the spires and pinnacles of Gothic architecture. The tree grows with great rapidity; its entire life only about forty years. The poplar trees shown in the picture of "The House that Jack Built" were one in number, were slender saplings about fifteen feet long when set out by the veteran miner; now are all of sixty or seventy feet. The voracious woodpeckers commit depredations upon them, when they look as scragged and distorted of feathers. The selfish reason given for not planting trees, that one may not live to see them grow, does not apply to this tree. Such is the demand hereabouts for poplars that at Moundsville, on the opposite side of the river, the nursery of Mr. Harris makes a specialty of them.

TRAVELLING NOTES.

Decoration Day.—Bellaire has much to interest me. Saturday, May 29th, was a day of beauty. It was Decoration Day, and the people turned out in force; the veterans of the Grand Army, the children, boys and girls in white, with music, wound up a long

procession Cemetery hill, overlooking the city, bearing flags and flowers. Beautiful is young life, and never may there be wanting everywhere memorial days of some sort to feed the fires of patriotism in youthful hearts.

A Talk with a Veteran Riverman.—Capt.