

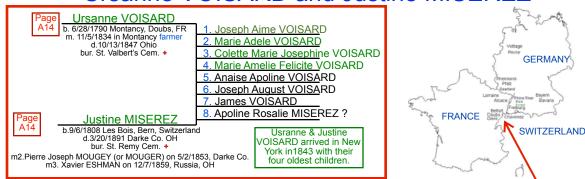
The Family of

Ursanne VOISARD and Justine MISEREZ

Germain VOISARD

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m. Anne DUBAIL
     - Jean VOISARD
     m. Germaine PELLETIER
             - Ursanne VOISARD
             m. Anna Marie RIAT
                    - Georges VOISARD
                    m. Marie Catherine SAULNIER
                           - Ursanne VOISARD
                           m. Marie Jeanne BRISECHOUX
                                  - Ursanne VOISARD
                                  m. Justine MISEREZ
                                         - James VOISARD
                                         m. Adelaide GROGEAN
                                                - Esther M. VOISARD
                                                m. Urban Carl SCHNEIDER
                                                       - Urban E. SCHNEIDER
                                                       m. Sylvia A. STEINKE
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Ursanne VOISARD and Justine MISEREZ



rsanneVOISARD was born on June 28, 1790, in Montancy, Doubs, Franche Comté, France. He was the third of six children born to Ursanne and Marie Jeanne (BRISECHOUX) VOISARD.

Ursanne VOISARD married Justine MISEREZ on November 5, 1834 in Montancy. Justine MISEREZ was born on September 6, 1808 in les Bois, Bern, Switzerland. She was the daughter of a clockmaker, Louis MISEREZ, and Marie Anne MERAT.

From: A Pioneer History of Wayne

Township, Darke County, Ohio, by Samuel

Long, 1901: "Voisard was near or in the

southeast corner of the township. He was

a French immigrant and owned one half of

family were August, James, Adaline, Mary,

a guarter section out of which he made a

farm. He died many years ago. Of the

and Malinda, well known, and a few

descendants following.

Ursanne and Justine (MISEREZ) VOISARD immigrated with four children to America, probably in 1843. Ursanne's brother, Francois Xavier VOISARD, immigrated a year before with his wife and children. Ursanne, Justine (MISEREZ) VOISARD, and their children probably arrived in New York, and then traveled to Versailles, Mercer County, Ohio to meet with family members already established there.

Ursanne VOISARD was a farmer in France, and he immediately built a log cabin, and began clearing land here near Versailles, Ohio to farm. However, after just a few years

in St. Remy Cemetery, Russia, Ohio.

in Ohio, Ursanne VOISARD died on October 13, 1847. He is buried at St. Valbert's Cemetery, Versailles, Ohio.

Justine (MISEREZ) VOISARD continued on the farm, and raised her children. In 1843, she married Pierre Joseph MOUGEY (MOUGER?), who died in 1853. In 1858, she married Xavier ESHMAN, who died in 1892. Justine (MISEREZ-VOISARD-MOUGEY) ESHMAN died on March 20, 1891, and is buried

Ursanne and Justine (MISEREZ) VOISARD had seven children between 1835 and 1845. Justine MISEREZ had another child on April 14, 1849, over a year-and-a-half after her husband's death, and the child was given the last name of MISEREZ. I have found no information on this child's father.

The Wayne Township, Darke County, Ohio 1870 Census shows Justine (MISEREZ-VOISARD) (age 60) married to Exavier ESHMAN (age 62). Living with them are three of her children: Marie Adel (Adeline) (age 31), August (age 24), and James (age 23), along with James 'LEHMAN' (should be LEMOINE)(age 16), and Josephine YERTY (age 5). James LEMOINE and Josephine YERTY are children of Marie Adel (Adeline) VOISARD, from her two marriages.

The 1880 Census (Wayne Twp.) shows X (Xavier) & Christine (Justine) ESHMAN, both age 73, living in the same dwelling (#138) as Justine's son, James VOISARD, his wife Adeline (GROJEAN), and their first four children. Also living with them was James' first cousin, Achille FILIPPOT (PHILIPOT).

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Walnus 00 7 10 May be fouse	1) Christine	N 7 73 ·	Wife 1	Horsekeeker
- Pho 21 7 maint mathe	" 146 Moisard James	2 /4 33	Husband 1	Harmer
Marias III - Aginar M. Lary Del J	u Adplane	8 Z	MSW 1	Homekeeken
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aux son from resourt	" Henry	W/2 3	Son	
Caman fames to the morages on farms	Rose	W F & for	Dansto	
Serger gosaphan 5 to 18	Helphot Schil	W 1623.	servant !	Sporborer



M. Justine VOISARD St. Remy Cemetery



Ursanne VOISARD St. Valbert's Cemetery, Versailles

The stone is VERY hard to read, but it clearly shows "URS--- VOISARD" and 1847, the year of his death.

this from: Families of Darke County, Ohio

"Malinda YERTY...was the daughter of Ursanne and Justine VOISARD....

In the year 1843, her parents, together with their six children, left their native land, embarked upon a sailing vessel of that age, and started across the Atlantic Ocean for America. This voyage was a perilous trip, accompanied by storms, sickness, and death. One of the children died on the boat, was buried at sea. After many weeks, they finally landed at New York, and from there came to Darke County, settling about twoand-a-half miles east of Webster on a farm. Being of a sturdy and industrious type of people, they began the establishment of a home by cutting away the timber and building a log cabin. After a brief period of a few years, the father was stricken with death and left his widow and five small children to battle the hardships of life in what was then almost a wilderness. The mother continued to live on the farm and by the practice of economy and hard labor, retained the home and reared her children to manhood and womanhood, who afterwards became leading citizens of the community."

from: "Families of Darke County, Ohio", by Darke County Genealogy Society, page 722.
For the full text of this document, go to this site:
http://contentdm.lib.byu.edu/cdm4/document.php?
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the VOISARD name

The French pronunciation of the family name would be "Vwahzahr". It was usually spelled VOISARD in French records, and sometimes VOIZARD. However, once our immigrant ancestors arrived in America, the name was mis-spelled often.

VOISARD could be a variant of 'VEZARD', which comes from the French word 'vezant', and means 'joyful', or 'happy'.

Typical of the French language, the last syllable was emphasized, and the 'D' on the end of the name was silent. This led to many mistakes in spelling by census takers, court clerks, and other public record keepers, especially in areas where there were not a lot of French immigrants.

I have found the following variations of VOISARD on public records, though there are probably more that I have not found: VOISARD, VOIZARD, VWASAR, WARSARD, WARSAW.

Children of Ursanne VOISARD and Justine MISEREZ - Joseph Aime VOISARD

Joseph Aime VOISARD b.5/01/1835 Montacy FR d.1843 buried at Sea died at sea on route to America

Joseph Aime VOISARD was born on May 1, 1835, in Montancy, Doubs, Franche Comté, France. He was the oldest of seven children born to Ursanne and Justine (MISEREZ) VOISARD.

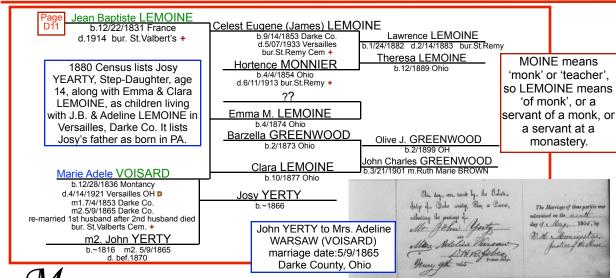
Joseph Aime VOISARD died at sea in 1843, en route to America, as he was immigrating with his parents and (at least three other) siblings. Joseph Aime VOISARD was buried at sea in 1843. He was eight years old.

Burial at Sea

"If a passenger died the funeral was usually conducted the same day. Wrapped and weighted in a canvas cover the body was held on a plank over the side of the ship. A minister of religion or the captain conducted a brief funeral service and the plank was tipped as relatives and friends watched. The ship sailed on."

http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/
~nzlscant/strathallanmck2.htm

The obituary of his sister, Marie Amelie (Melinda) YERTY, states that one of her siblings died en route to America, and was buried at sea. Though ship logs have not been found yet, one internet source names Joseph Aime VOISARD as the sibling that died at sea.



Larie Adele VOISARD was born on December 28, 1836 in Montancy, Doubs, Franche Comté, France. She was the second of seven children born to Ursanne and Justine (MISEREZ) VOISARD.

Marie Adele VOISARD immigrated to America with her parents and siblings in 1843. She married Jean Baptiste LEMOINE on July 4, 1853 in Darke County, Ohio. Jean Baptiste LEMOINE was born on December 22, 1831 in France, one of seven children of Christophe LEMOINE & Marie Rose SAUNIER.

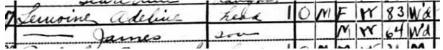
Jean Baptiste and Marie Adele (VOISARD) LEMOINE had their first son on September 14, 1853 in Darke County. Shortly after that, Jean Baptiste

St. Valbert's Cemetery LEMOINE seems to have left them, as Marie Adele (VOISARD) LEMOINE married John YERTY in 1865. There appears to have been one daughter from this marriage. I have no record of John YERTY's death. John Lemoine left to work as a ship's carpenter for the California gold rush and wasn't heard from for years. Adeline had him declared dead and married John Yerty. Sometime later John Yerty died, and John Lemoine returned from California.] Jean Baptiste and Marie Adele (VOISARD) LEMOINE had two more children, after she re-married him.

Jean Baptiste LEMOINE died in 1914. Marie Adele (VOISARD) LEMOINE died of a kidney disorder, on April 14, 1921 in Versailles, Ohio. They are buried together in St. Valbert's Cemetery, (also called the Versailles Catholic Cemetery, or the Old Catholic Cemetery), in Russia, Ohio. At the time of her death,

oldest son, James (who was widowed also), was living with her and farming the family farm.

Marie Adele LEMOINE's The 1920 Census from Wayne Township, Darke County, Ohio shows Adeline LEMOINE (age 83) and her son James (age 64), both widowed (W'd), James' occupation was listed as a laborer on the farm, which was owned by Adeline, but still had a mortgage.



Adeline VOISARD-LEMOINE-YERTY-LEMOINE

This is from Marie Adele (VOISARD) LEMOINE's great niece, Agnes (BRUEY) DANIELS:

"Dad had an Aunt Adeline Lemoine, who was a very interesting person. She did interesting things; she dabbled in real estate and was a very popular lady. She married her first husband twice. He had disappeared for 20 years. During this time she had married and buried her second husband. She lived in Versailles, which was about 20 miles from our home, and visited us at least once a month. She would come on the train. She owned the only theatre around Versailles, also owned a milk cow and sold it to the folks. We thought she was great, as she always had us laughing."

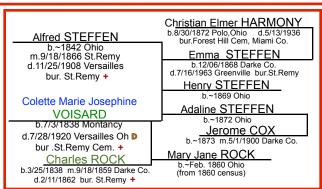
this from: The Bruey Family of Darke County, Ohio

by Bridget Ann Bruey Anthony, December 2000

For the full text of this document, go to this site:

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John & Mary LeMoine



STEFFEN is a form of the personal name 'Steven'.

ROCK, in English would refer to one who lived near a noticable outcrop, or crag. In French, it could refer to one who is a tailor.

CHIBLES
J. ROCK
DÉCÉDÉ LE
11 FÉVRIER
1862
L L'IGE
DE 24 INS
P. P. L.

The tomb stone of Charles ROCK at St. Remy Cemetery, Russia, OH, written in French. One can only guess about the use of the letter B instead of R, and the backward S's.

Colette Marie Josephine VOISARD was born on July 3, 1838 in Montancy, Doubs, Franche Comté, France. She was the third of seven children born to Ursanne and Justine (MISEREZ) VOISARD.

Colette Marie VOISARD immigrated to America with her parents and siblings in 1843. She married Charles ROCK on September 18, 1859 in Darke County, Ohio. Charles ROCK was born on March 25, 1838 in France. Charles and Colette Marie (VOISARD) ROCK had one known child before Charles died on February 11, 1862. Charles ROCK is buried at St. Remy's Cemetery, Russia, Ohio.

Colette Marie (VOISARD) ROCK married Alfred STEFFEN on September 18, 1866 at St. Remy Church, Russia, Ohio. Alfred STEFFEN was born in January of 1842, in Ohio. He died on November 25, 1908, and is buried at St. Remy's Cemetery, Russia, Ohio.

Colette Marie (VOISARD-ROCK) STEFFEN died of a kidney disorder, on July 28, 1920 in Versailles. She is buried at St. Remy's Cemetery, Russia, Ohio.

Alfred and Colette Marie (VOISARD-ROCK) STEFFEN had three children between 1868 and 1872.



The tomb stone of Alfred & Colette STEFFEN at St. Remy Cemetery is VERY worn, but I think both names are on it.

Why They Came to America

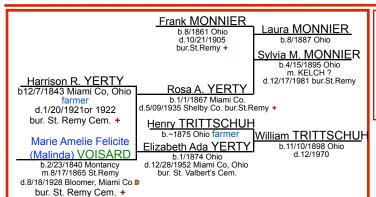
Our French ancestors, probably immigrated for the same reasons as many European immigrants in the 1840's, as noted in this exert from "The Bruey Family of Darke County, Ohio":

"Poor harvests and unrest were the primary causes of European immigration. Specifically, in France, the excessive division of land led many people to leave. "When a landowner died, his property was divided among his legal heirs, and each one received a portion of each plot of land in the inheritance. As families grew larger, the problem increased with each generation." (French Ancestors, Vol. VDI No. 6) These small tracts of land might be scattered over a large area making farming them too difficult. Landowners did not have the time or energy to travel long distances to work the fields and oversee their crops. Another primary reason for French immigration was the forest code of 1827. "Villagers had long depended on the nearby communal woods for everyday necessities. They collected fire wood for cooking and heating. They supplemented their meager diets with wild berries, mushrooms,fruits,and nuts." (French Ancestors Vol. VHI No. 6) They also used the forests for grazing livestock. The code of 1827 severely deprived poor farmers of a necessary resource. They were not even permitted to gather dry leaves to use as stable bedding. Our French ancestors faced poverty, over population, limited opportunity, high prices and various other reasons for emigrating. The promise of a chance for a better life caused them to leave their native country and not look back."

this from: The Bruey Family of Darke County, Ohio

by Bridget Ann Bruey Anthony, December 2000

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The YERTY surname could be a reference to descendants of the tenants of the English land of Yarde, in Ilfracombe, Devon. The Baldwin sheriff of Devon was listed as owner of the lands of Yarde in the 'Doomsday Book', a book recorded by Duke William in 1086, listing the holders of land and indicating that they would hold the land until "the end of times".



Harrison & Melinda YERTY St. Remy Cemetery

Alinda Amelie Felicite VOISARD was born on February 23, 1840 in Montancy, Doubs, Franche Comté, France. She was the fourth of seven children born to Ursanne and Justine (MISEREZ) VOISARD.

Malinda Amelie Felicite VOISARD immigrated to America with her parents and siblings in 1843. She married Harrison R. YERTY on August 17, 1865 at St. Remy Church in Russia, Ohio. Harrison R. YERTY was born on Secember 7, 1843, in Miami County, Ohio, the son of John and Sallie (HARRIS) YERTY.

Harrison and Malinda Amelie Felicite (VOISARD) YERTY were living at the home of their daughter and son-in-law, Elizabeth and Henry TRITTSCHUH, at the time of the 1910 and 1920 Census.

Harrison R. YERTY died on January 20, 1921 and is buried at St. Remy Cemetery, Russia, Ohio. Malinda Amelie Felicite (VOISARD) YERTY died of chronic myocarditis, on August 18, 1928 in Bloomer, Newberry Township, Miami County, Ohio. She is buried at St. Remy Cemetery, Russia, Ohio.

Harrison and Malinda Amelie Felicite (VOISARD) YERTY had two children.

The 1920 Census from West Newberry Twp, Miami Co, Ohio shows Harrison (age 75) and Melinda YERTY (age 78), living with the TRITTSCHUH family. Malinda has a blank in columns asking if she can read, write, or speak English.

Kel T. Haaluh Heuret	Hoad R	MMASM	y o year
- Liebith	mixe.	Ex 146 M	ayelys
- William	Jon	Marss S	lyto year
Merty Harrison	Fatherilau	W 47 25 919	yelyo
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From France to America:

This account is about a distant relative, Celestin Bruey, who left France in 1846. It is probably very similar to the journey taken by many French citizens in the 1840's, including our VOISARD ancestors:

"The first leg of Celestin's journey was to travel east from his village to the harbor of Le Havre, a distance of over several hundred miles. Rural villagers could walk or travel in a convoy of farm wagons. ... Upon arriving in Le Havre, if he were lucky, there would be several ships ready to depart for New York, New Orleans, or Baltimore. These American ships brought cotton, tobacco, grain, and timber to Europe. On the return trip the cabins and steerage compartments would be filled with emigrants. If the Le Havre docks were empty, the emigrants might have to wait several weeks. They were then forced to set up temporary camps in nearby villages where they were often not welcome. If the wait was short, emigrants sought cheap lodging in the city. ... [Most ships] had cabins and steerage compartments, where most immigrants... traveled. Steerage passengers had to provide their own food. They brought hams, cheeses, dried fish, and fruits and vegetables. Sometimes they were able to purchase, before sailing, a special "Provision Box" which was resistant to rodents. It contained plates, cups, spoons, a tea kettle and hooks for hanging food and clothing. Passengers had to sleep on small two tiered wooden berths. There was little privacy. Washing was done with a bucket of ocean water. Clothing dried slowly so most people just wore the same apparel for the entire trip. Open hatches provided the only natural light in steerage and these were kept closed during bad weather. Celestin's journey took seven weeks and two days. One can assume his ship was indeed a sailing vessel due to the amount of time for the crossing. Steamships did not make regular crossings until the 1850's and the fare was much higher. We can also assume the voyage was normal and uneventful since the crossing took less than the typical eight week period. Ships facing adverse conditions could take as long as 12 weeks to cross. ..."

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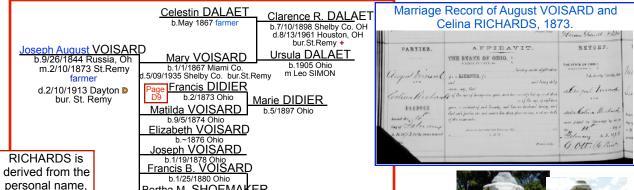
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Anise Apoline VOISARD b.3/10/1842 Montacy FR

f Lnaise Apolinef VOISARD was born on March 10, 1842 in Montancy, Doubs, Franche Comté, France. She was the fifth of seven children born to Ursanne and Justine (MISEREZ) VOISARD.

It is unclear if she immigrated to America, or if she died young. I have found no records other than her birth.

Children of Ursanne VOISARD and Justine MISEREZ - Joseph August VOISARD



Emma Celesta VOISARD Celina Lucy RICHARDS b.12/12/1848 Ohio d.5/25/1884 bur. St. Remy +

first child born in America.

'Richard'.

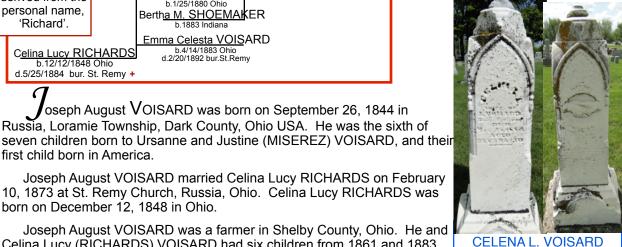
b.4/14/1883 Ohio d.2/20/1892 bur.St.Remy oseph August V OISARD was born on September 26, 1844 in Russia, Loramie Township, Dark County, Ohio USA. He was the sixth of

Joseph August VOISARD married Celina Lucy RICHARDS on February 10, 1873 at St. Remy Church, Russia, Ohio. Celina Lucy RICHARDS was born on December 12, 1848 in Ohio.

Bertha M. SHOEMAKER

Joseph August VOISARD was a farmer in Shelby County, Ohio. He and Celina Lucy (RICHARDS) VOISARD had six children from 1861 and 1883.

St. Remy Cem. Russia, OH Celina Lucy (RICHARDS) VOISARD died on May 25, 1884 and is buried at St. Remy Cemetery, Russia, Ohio. Joseph August VOISARD died of myocardial insufficiency, on February 10, 1913 at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Dayton, and is buried at St. Remy Cemetery, Russia, Ohio.



From New York to Frenchtown, Ohio:

More about the trip of a distant relative, Celestin Bruey, who left France for Frenchtown, Ohio in 1846:

"The ship's manifest indicated Celestin's destination was Pennsylvania but it was probably merely a stopping point before further travel westward. Many French immigrants who disembarked in New York followed the Erie Canal to Buffalo. From there they traveled across Lake Erie to Toledo and then took the Miami and Erie Canal, which was completed in 1845, to Berlin (Fort Loramie). A ride in an ox cart from Berlin to Wayne Township (Frenchtown) completed the lengthy journey from France to Darke County, Ohio. Others may have come through Pennsylvania by wagon, to Pittsburgh, where they boarded flatboats on the Ohio River. The river took them to Cincinnati where they took a canal boat north on the Miami and Erie Canal as far as Pigua or Minster."

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Children of Ursanne VOISARD and Justine MISEREZ - James VOISARD

James Eugene Celestin VOISARD b.7/4/1845 Ohio m.10/17/1871 Shelby Co. Farmer d.6/14/1917 Shelby Co D	Flora VOISARD Charles VOISARD Henry VOISARD	
m.10/17/1871 Shelby Co. Farmer d.6/14/1917 Shelby Co D bur. St. Remy cem. + Adelaide (Adaline) GROGEAN	Charles VOISARD	Page A12
b.11/10/1852 Shelby Co d.4/26/1940 Loramie Twp. D o bur. St. Remy cem Russia,OH +		

More information on this family is in the next Chapter:

"James VOISARD and Adelaide GROGEAN".

GROGEAN, or GROSJEAN, is French or Swiss from gros 'big', 'large', plus the personal name Jean. It may have distinguished between two bearers of the same name, or referred to an exceptionally large man. GROSJEAN is also used in French as a nickname for a stupid fellow.

James Eugene Celestin VOISARD was born on July 4, 1845 in Russia, Loramie Township, Dark County, Ohio USA. He was the seventh of seven children born to Ursanne and Justine (MISEREZ) VOISARD, and their second child born in America.

James Eugene VOISARD married Adelaide GROGEAN on October 17, 1871 in Shelby County, Ohio. Adelaide GROGEAN was born on November 10, 1852 in Shelby County, the fourth of five children born to Etienne and Victorie (MOINE) GROGEAN.

James Eugene VOISARD was a farmer, near Russia, Ohio. He died on June 14, 1917, and is buried in St. Remy Cemetery, Russia, Ohio. Adelaide (GROGEAN) VOISARD died on April 26, 1940, and is buried in St. Remy Cemetery, Russia, Ohio.

Children of

and Justine MISEREZ - Apoline Rosalie MISEREZ

Apoline Rosalie MISEREZ b.4/14/1849 Darke Co. Oh.

poline Rosalie MISEREZ was born on April 14, 1849 in Dark County, Ohio USA. She was the last of eight children born to Marie Jeanne (BRISECHOUX) VOISARD.

Apoline Rosalie MISEREZ was born over a year-and-a-half after Ursanne VOISARD's death, and the child was given the last name of MISEREZ (possibly spelled MISERE'), her mother's maiden name.

Nothing else is known about Apoline Rosalie MISEREZ, or who her father may have been.

Early Frenchtown, Ohio:

"[T]he Frenchtown area (of Ohio) in 1846 or 1847 ... was still rugged compared to the little French villages where people lived close together. Land had to be cleared and people built log homes some distance from their neighbors. In his Historical Collections of Ohio, written in 1847, Henry Howe describes the Darke County countryside with solemn, imposing words: "It was a new land opening to the sun. Its habitations were largely of logs, many of them standing in the margins of deep forests, amid the girdled monsters that reared their somber skeleton forms over a soil for the first time brought under the benign influence of human cultivation."

"Travel during this period was difficult, "A wagon journey in winter from Greenville to Fort Recovery and back frequently took three weeks. Much of this section of Darke County was still swamp, the famous Black Swamp. Rattlesnakes, wolves and other wild animals were here in abundance, especially in the Stillwater meadows. There were few roads, and the ones in existence were very bad at best. A good strong axe to remove trees that had fallen across the roads was one essential tool for every traveler," (The History of Holy Family Church, Frenchtown, Ohio, page 6.) As late as 1866, Bishop Purcell of the Cincinnati Archdiocese, wrote these words describing travel in the Darke County area: "The roads of this portion of the state are abominable. After the risk of breaking the horses' legs, the vehicle, or our own bones, we were glad to walk for a time on the railroad track and accept the offer of a hand car late in the evening of Sunday to reach our resting place for the night." (Catholic Telegraph November 28, 1866, reprinted in the History of the Holy Family Church)"

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