THE HOOSIER PACKET - AUGUST 2015

FRANCIS "FRANK" REDFORD

And His Wabash & Erie Canal Connections

By Charles Davis

Frank Redford was born in Terre Haute, Vigo county, Indiana on May 1, 1830 to Henry and Elizabeth Redford. Henry's father John, his mother Sarah, along with Henry and siblings joined a New York Colony and left that state for Indiana. They boarded Daniel Stringham's boat on the Wabash River. (Daniel was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, who settled in Parke county along Coxville Road and is buried there.) Henry's father died en route and was buried. Their boat landed at Fort Harrison north of Terre Haute in 1815.



Henry D. A. Redford in back row.

A town company formed by articles on September 19, 1816 called for land to be purchased and the town of Terre Haute platted. Henry Daniel Attwood Redford was a real pioneer and one of the first settlers of Terre Haute in 1816. At that time his and Charles B. Modesitts' properties and one of two other cabins stood there. In 1817 Henry erected a building on the southeast corner of First and Wabash streets. It became famous as the "Eagle and Lion" tavern since its hanging sign consisted of an eagle perched on

the back of a lion. It is described as "having a front porch extending the entire length of the building. It was a two-story hewn log house; afterward a frame addition was made, when the old part was weather-boarded. This tavern was an imposing affair and a place of great resort." The first 4th of July celebrated in Terre Haute was held in this building in 1817. The first court convened in Vigo county, Harrison township, was held in the bar-room. It was before a full bench court on July 14, 1818. Hon Thomas H. Blake, who later was a Wabash & Erie Canal trustee, was the presiding judge. All kinds of political, social and religious gatherings were held there. The tavern stood as late as 1860.

Frank Redford, the subject of this sketch, purchased land in Annapolis, Parke county, Indiana on August 1, 1864. He bought and sold several properties in Annapolis and some farm land west of it near Foundry Hollow making it difficult to pinpoint the location of his permanent home. His occupation was a hack driver and then a mail carrier of

that area.

There was murder in section nine in the southeast quarter of Howard township, Parke county that in an indirect way would affect Frank Redford. On February 18, 1865 Milton Wineland killed his father, Fred Wineland, and his cousin, Benjamin Vancleve. He shot them with a double barreled shotgun while they were engaged in gathering corn in a field. The reason for the killings was thought to be that Milton Wineland, who should have been the only heir to his father's estate worth about \$20,000, had been under the impression for three or four years that his father had willed his estate to his cousin Benjamin Vancleve. It seemed that Milton had acted on the assumption that this was true and had at three or four different occasions attempted violence on his father.

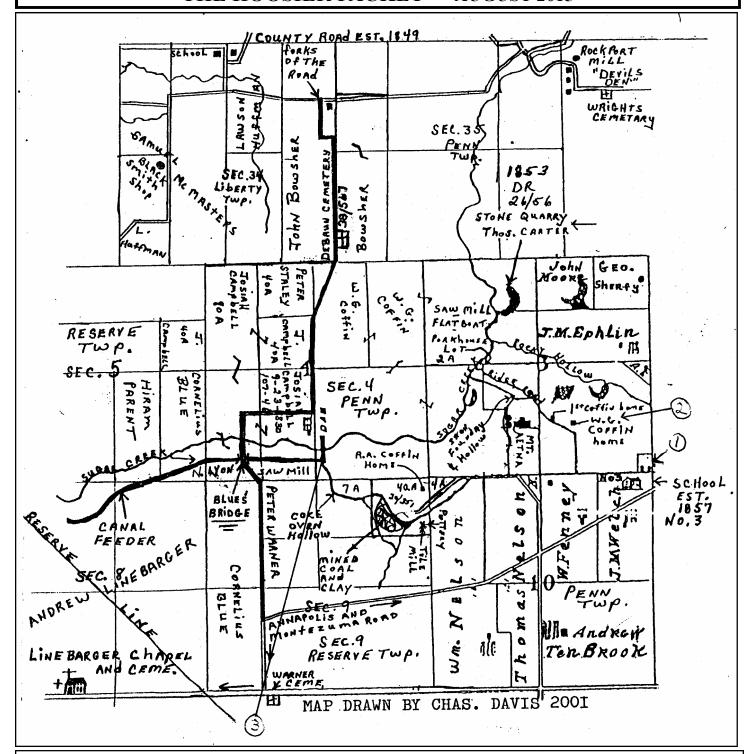
After the murders, Milton's mother offered a \$1,000 reward for his capture, dead or alive. Milton was 33 years of age, stood six feet two inches tall and weighed 200 pounds. It had been known for some days that Milton was skulking in the neighborhood of Montezuma and on August 29, 1865, a skiff was found during the day that was used by him in crossing the Wabash River. A party of men secreted themselves nearby to await his return. During the night he returned to his craft, boarded it and started on his voyage across the river. At this juncture he was ordered by "Col." Jonathan P. Curtis, one of the party, to halt. When he refused to obey the command, Curtis shot him. Milton Wineland lived about an hour during which time he admitted his guilt. Later it was said that "Curtis," who had Wineland "covered with a double barrel shotgun fired and killed Wineland as he was rowing to the bank to surrender."

On November 13, 1869, Jonathan P. Curtis, who had a blacksmith shop in Mecca and was feared as a "Bad Man," was shot and killed by Frank Redford. Curtis had come out of his shop to kill Redford with a hammer. Frank Redford, who drove the Annapolis Hack, was never prosecuted for the "Justifiable Homicide."

Samuel Jordan bought the Wm. G. Coffin home property on January 9, 1865 after Mr. Coffin moved to Kansas. Deed Record 22/315 Jordan started a pottery in the southeast corner of the southeast quarter of section 3. Later Frank Redford, Alexander H. Lee, and Ransom Gilmore Atcheson bought out Jordan's intest and operated the pottery shop under the name of Stumptown Shop. This area was known as "Stumptown" due to the fact that numerous stumps were left behind after the trees were felled.

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A PARTIAL MAP OF PARKE COUNTY, INDIANA

- 1. Stumptown Pottery Shop
- 2. Coffin Mansion 1830s sold to Samuel Jordan 1865
- 3. Feeder Dam on Sugar Creek point of entry to ship pottery on the Wabash & Erie Canal

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,		FRANK REDFORD'S FAMILY	D'S FAMILY		ā	:	ï
Redford John Sr	1750	Tace	Death 1816	сешетегу	Place	Marriage	Place
			2 1				
m. Goodwin, Sarah	1765		1805				
Redford, Henry Daniel Attwood	1782 PA		1850		Terre Haute IN		
Ë							
Redford, Frank	5-01-1830 Terre Haute IN	re Haute IN	7-04-1899 Bloomingdale	omingdale	Parke Co IN	6-11-1861	6-11-1861 Terre Haute IN
m Snyder, Cornelia	1840 PA		8-17-1882 Bloomingdale	omingdale	Parke Co IN	6-11-1861	6-11-1861 Terre Haute IN
Redford, infant			4-30-1862 Woodlawn	odlawn	Terre Haute IN		
Redford, Charles			2-23-1864 Bloomingdale	omingdale	Parke Co IN		
Reeford, Mary Jane "Mamie"	1864		2-??-1886 Bloomingdale	omingdale	Parke Co IN		
Redford, Laura E.twin	12-13-1868 Annapolis IN	napolis IN	6-04-1934 Bethany	hany	El Reno OK	5-25-1898 Parke Co IN	Parke Co IN
m. Dunlap, James H	7-07-1860 Marion IA	rion IA	1-26-1942		Houston TX	5-25-1898	5-25-1898 Parke Co IN
Dunlap, Sheldon Edward	1900		1985		SA		
Dunlap, Roland	1903		1979		CA		
Redford, Edward Doxey twin	12-13-1868 Annapolis IN	napolis IN	3-28-1952 Cypress Lawn	oress Lawn	San Francsco CA 6-11-1893 Parke Co IN	6-11-1893	Parke Co IN
m. Huff, Leona	12-23-1869 Palestine IL	estine IL	1-14-1901 Bloomingdale	omingdale	Parke Co IN	6-11-1893 Parke Co IN	Parke Co IN
Redford, infant	1-30-1873		Blo	Bloomingdale	Parke Co IN		
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In a short time Frank Redford sold his interest in the shop to Mr. Atcheson. There were many potteries in the area from Annapolis to Coke Oven Hollow, see my, Charles Davis, article in *The Hoosier Packet*, December, 2014, "The Annapolis Pottery and Its Wabash & Erie Canal Connections." Like the other potteries, Stumptown wagoned their wares from town to town and used the Wabash and Erie Canal to transport them up to its closure here in 1875. The Stumptown Shop only lasted about fifteen years and closed around 1880.

When Frank Redford's wife died in 1882, he moved to Montezuma to be near his daughter Laura Dunlap. He died in Montezuma at the age of sixty-nine years. His funeral service was held at the Dunlap residence. He was laid to rest beside his wife in the Bloomingdale cemetery, Parke county, Indiana.

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July 12, 1899, Obituary of Frank Redford

Rockville Republican

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U.S. Federal Census, Parke county, 1870 — Frank Redford