

city of Cleveland. The large trade which had heretofore been diverted to Richmond from southern points was thereby absorbed by the larger city. In a certain fashion, however, its old-time standing has been revived through the interests of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, which are so largely centered at this point. Through the immense elevator of this corporation nearly 200,000 bushels of grain pass every year, and in its gigantic warehouses are stored more than 110,000 tons of merchandise, consisting largely of shipments from Baltimore and from the ports of the Great Lakes. Important items in the receipts from southern territory are sugar, and canned goods. As stated, this immense amount of traffic of the south which comes over the Baltimore & Ohio road has partially replaced Richmond in its former position of importance as a commercial center.

THOMAS RICHMOND.

The village, which is considered a suburb of Painesville, derives its name from its founder, Thomas Richmond, a Vermonter, who in his early manhood was engaged in the salt trade with Canada. He was then located at Syracuse, New York. In the spring of 1832, having occasion to visit northern Ohio on business connected with this trade, he stopped at a tavern in the township of Perry, then in Geauga county, and learning that a likely piece of property was for sale up the river from Fairport, he traveled to Warren and purchased it, afterwards returning to investigate the land which he had bought. He was so pleased with the location that he decided to settle at that point and soon afterward established himself in the forwarding and commission business, dealing largely in country produce. His eastern partner in this enterprise resided in New York city, and together they built several vessels to promote their business. Among their other investments was a small interest in the steamer "Rochester," which was built at Richmond. The founder

of the town also owned stock in the bank of Geauga and was at one time a director of the same. The owners of the steamer "Rochester" having failed during the financial panic of 1837, Mr. Richmond was obliged to shoulder a debt of \$35,000, all of which he paid, with interest, within the succeeding three years. In the fall of that year he was elected to the state legislature, was appointed a member of the committee on banking and currency, and accomplished much to place the finances of Ohio upon a firm basis and allay the unrest and suffering caused by the hard times. But the general depression in the business which settled upon the country had the effect upon the village of Richmond of diverting many of its citizens and most of its business to the village of Painesville, or more distant towns in the state. Many wooden houses were taken down and rebuilt at other points, some being loaded on schooners and taken to Wisconsin. The Presbyterian church, which was mainly built through private funds contributed by Mr. Richmond, was removed to Painesville and occupied by the Methodists until the building of their brick edifice on the public park in 1875. This old Richmond church, which has certainly had its ups and downs, is now occupied as a commodious flat on Liberty street.

In 1840 Mr. Richmond himself abandoned his home town and removed to the city of Cleveland, where, with his son, he again embarked in the vessel and commission business. It is said that the younger Mr. Richmond, under his father's instructions, took the small schooner "Swallow," which they had previously purchased, up the Mississippi river, and finally launched her on Lake Superior—the first modern vessel to appear on the waters of that region of great copper mines. In 1847 the senior Mr. Richmond engaged in the forwarding and commission business in Chicago, afterward serving in the Illinois state legislature and building that historic vessel, the "Dean Richmond," which he loaded with

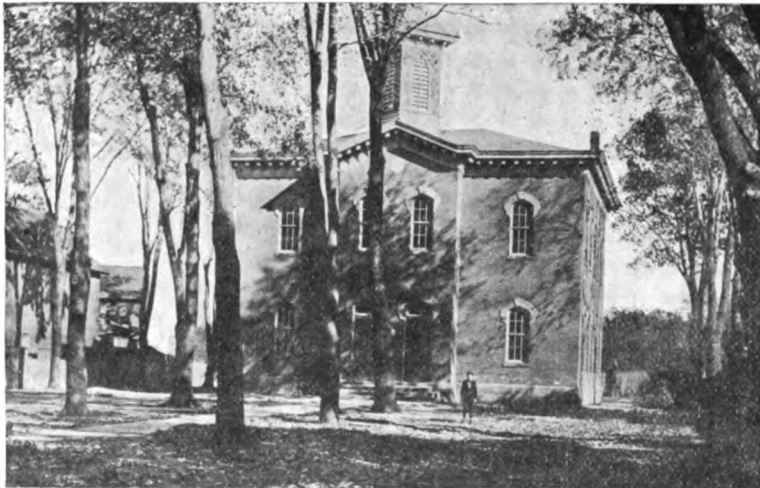
wheat in 1856 and dispatched to Liverpool by way of the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence river. This was the first voyage ever made by vessel between Chicago and that great English port. Mr. Richmond in later years becoming a close friend and confidential adviser of President Lincoln and died at an advanced age during the Civil war, being both universally respected and beloved.

THE VILLAGE OF WILLOUGHBY.

Willoughby, which is situated on the Chagrin river, eleven miles southwest of Painesville, is a village of about 2,000 people, the

a bear with an axe and salted that meat, too. This resourceful, industrious woman lived to see this pioneer son an old man. She herself was over one hundred when she died.

Nancy Hall was another widow who did double duty. Left with a farm unpaid for, she met her indebtedness and educated her family. She was a very strong character, and early saw from her experience the injustice to women. Later, when women began the agitation which led to change of laws, she said: "Let them agitate. They will never get anything too good for women." Years afterward Martha H. Elwell, president of the Ohio



UNION SCHOOL, WILLOUGHBY.

second place in importance in Lake county. It was first called Charlton, then Chagrin for the river, and then Willoughby for Professor Willoughby, of New York, who was professor in Willoughby Medical College.

TWO FINE WIDOWS.

Among the early settlers of Willoughby were John and Catharine Miller, and their son, Samuel, was the first white child of the town. He was but a few months old when his father was killed, and his mother raised corn, trapped raccoons and salted the meat, and kept herself alive. She one day killed

Woman Suffrage Association, was a resident of this village.

Willoughby is stationed on both the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern and the New York, Chicago and St. Louis railroads. It presents the appearance of a prosperous community, with well built stores, school houses and churches. Its only industry of importance is the American Clay Machinery Company, devoted to the manufacture of all kinds of machinery employed in the turning out of pottery and other clay wares. A branch of the Cleveland Trust Company affords its merchants and citizens with good banking facili-