

limits of the village of Eden. Later, when it was becoming somewhat dilapidated, it came into the possession of William K. Thrall, who repaired it and also built a grist-mill to run in connection with it. The mill was operated by different owners until about 1888 or later, when it was destroyed by fire.

The first sawmill in Trenton Township was built in 1835, by Middleton Perfect and Hazard Adams. The same year, John VanSickle built the first grist-mill in the township. It was located on the Big Walnut, about half a mile northeast of Sunbury.

The "Old Stone Mill," as it has long been known, located on the west side of the Olenfanty, about a mile north of Delaware, was built by Fred Decker and H.J.L. Brown, at an early day, probably during the '30's. Many men identified with the early milling interests of the county were at one time or another owners or part owners of this mill. Among them we may name Reuben SZeigler, James Slough, Charles Wottring and Anthony Smith. The latter was the last one who operated the mill, which was abandoned about 1878.

About 1873, G. W. Brown and G. W. Hughes bought what had been a carding-mill in Galena, and began the manufacture of corn-planters and hay-rakes in a small way. A few years later, James R. Smythe bought Brown's interest, and the firm name of Hughes & Smythe was adopted. The factory was destroyed by fire in 1896, and was at once replaced by a two-story frame building. The business employed about fourteen people, who annually turned out about 1200 hay rakes, 8,000 to 10,000 corn-planters, and 15,000 to 20,000 animal-pokes. The firm of Wheaton & Cummings of Sunbury also manufactured from 8,000 to 10,000 pokes annually. A rake factory was started in 1853 in what is now the village of Ashley, but was operated only about a year when the property was sold to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

INCORPORATION

Delaware was first incorporated in 1816, a special act for that purpose having been passed by the Legislature. The powers granted to the village do not seem to have been very extensive and many of the various functions necessary for its government were still performed by the township officers. The general management of the affairs of the village was placed in the hands of a Board of Trustees, elected by the people. This form of government continued until 1849, when, through M. D. Pettibone, who was the member of the Legislature from the county at the time, another act was secured from the Legislature providing for a Town Council consisting of eight members, with powers considerably greater than those which had heretofore been given to the Board of Trustees. This new Council chose from their number a mayor, recorder, treasurer and assessor. They also elected a marshal, though from outside of their number, together with a street committee of three men, two of whom were not members of the council. In 1841, the people again sought a change in their government, and again an act was passed conferring still larger powers upon the Council.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS

For a number of years the government of the village and city was administered from the old building on West Winter Street, erected in 1824, for use as a Methodist Church. Later it had done service as a school building; and when the corporation came into possession of it in 1869, it was fitted up as a market-house, council-room and lock-up. Court was, for a time, held in the council chamber, and the lower part of the building was used as an engine house. Its usefulness, however, was inevitably bound to diminish sooner or later, as the constantly enlarging city required more extensive and commodious quarters for the maintenance and government of its various interests, and for which the facilities afforded by the old church building were wholly inadequate. Consequently, in the latter part of the seventies, there began to be an agitation looking towards the erection of a building which should meet the needs of the city. In March of the year 1879, a committee which had been appointed by the Council for that purpose, reported favorably on a project to erect an engine-house, council-room, mayor's office, etc., calling attention to the fact that the time was especially opportune, inasmuch as the entire indebtedness of the city, \$16,000, would be cancelled within the next two years, and recommending that the Legislature be asked to authorize a bond issue of \$6,000. Later the plans seem to have undergone an enlargement in the public mind and in the spring election of the year 1879, the people voted, by a majority of 449, to build a City Hall. The Council, soon after, took steps to secure a bond issue of \$35,000, advertised for plans for the construction of the building and appointed a building committee, consisting of C. B. Adams, W. T. Watson, and F. Bonneman, members of the Council. The plan submitted by Mr. F. F. Schnitzer was accepted and the Shoub property at the southeast corner of William and Sandusky Streets was chosen as the site for the new building, and purchased at a cost of \$10,000. The work on