

History of Cadiz

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Cadiz is the southwestern township of the county. It is met on the west by Lafayette County and on the south by Stephenson County, IL. In its early day it had the finest timber in all the county. It is very well watered, the Pecatonica flowing nearly across the western portion, and Skinner creek flowing over a large part. Honey Creek meanders in and out on its crooked way to join the Pecatonica. The fabulous reports of the lead mines brought the first white men to "Onisconsin" The larger number came from IL. The first actual settler in Cadiz was George **LOT**, in 1834. History does not say that he had a wife. In 1836 he sold his claim to Jesse **SHULL** and moved to IL and later hanged himself. Jesse **SHULL** was born in Philadelphia in 1784. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, and also served in the Black Hawk war with much valor. He was among the earliest pioneer in "Onisconsin (as it was called on a map printed in 1830). He opened several Indian trading posts at Dubuque and Prairie du Chen. In 1826 he started one at a place now called Shullsburg. In 1836 he brought his family to Cadiz and took possession of the little log house, and became a prominent resident of the township, always active in the best interests of the town where he lived and died.

In the year that **LOT** came, several ex-miners came, among them William **BOYLES** and Stephen and Nicholas **HALE**. These all lived in the log house of Andrew **CLARNO**, with his family just across the line in Clarno.

In 1840 Mordecia **KELLEY** came and built his home and lived in Cadiz until he died. In 1836 came William **BRIDGE** and he too lived in Cadiz until he died. A **BRIDGET** built the first cabin with a floor in it. In 1840 Martin **BURT** and Felix **O'FLING** came and built the first mill located on Skinner creek. This mill had several owners and later was owned by Arabut **LUDLOW**. The second mill was built by **VANSANT** and **DEMISTER** on Honey Creek in 1843 as a saw mill but in the year following they added one run of burrs and ground corn and feed. VanSant named the township and plotted out a village near his mill but his hopes were not realized. He died in two years after the mill was built.

The first man to come with a family was David **CLINE**. The next was John **LANCERMAN**, whose family lived in a tent of pole covered with bark until his cabin was built. Wolves were plenty and babies had to be watched.

Joseph **PAIN** built the first hotel. It was on the direct road from New Mexico (Monroe) to Wiota. It was built in real pioneer grandeur, a two story hewn log affair, with a ladder stairway.

The first regular school was a log building built in 1840. The first term of school was taught there in 1841 by Miss **CHURCHILL** of Monroe. The first marriage in the town and the second in the county was in 1836, when James **HAWTHORNE** and Mary **BOYLES** were married. Mr. **HAWTHORNE** had to go to Mineral Point for the license. This took several days and then the document was lost. Finally the bridal party went to Mineral Point to await the license.

The first child born in Cadiz was a daughter to Jesse and Melessa **SHULL**, in 1838. She was named Marriette and died at the age of 22 years. The first death in the town was Christopher **CURDNER** who died in 1857 at the home of Jesse **SHULL** and was buried on the farm of Mr. **SHULL** where several others had been buried. These were the first graves in Cadiz.

One of the pioneers of Cadiz was in the Mexican War with Zachary **TAYLOR**. Of the boys of Cadiz who went at our call in the war of '61-65, and who never came back, we find the following names, most of them sons of the pioneers:

Wis 3d, Joseph **BEMIS**, ent April '61 died at Richmond VA Dec '61.
16th Reg Walter **DIVANS** ent Dec '63 killed at Lovejoy, Georgia Sept 3, '64;
22d REg Gideon **ALLEN** ent Aug '62, and died at Danville Ky Jan 3, '63
Richard **MANLEY** ent Aug '62 and died at Mureisture, Dec 19, '63
Casper **KELUBLE** ent Aug 6 '62 and died in New York, Nov 25th 1865
5th Bat James **HEWART** ent. Sep '61 died at Annapolis July 9'63
John **THOMAS** ent Sept '61 died at Mureisture Jan 29, '63
Calvin A **WEBSTER** ent Jan 1 '64 died at Chattanooga July 2, '64
David **SHULTZ** ent Sept 1, '61 died Feb 6, '63 of wounds received at Stony River