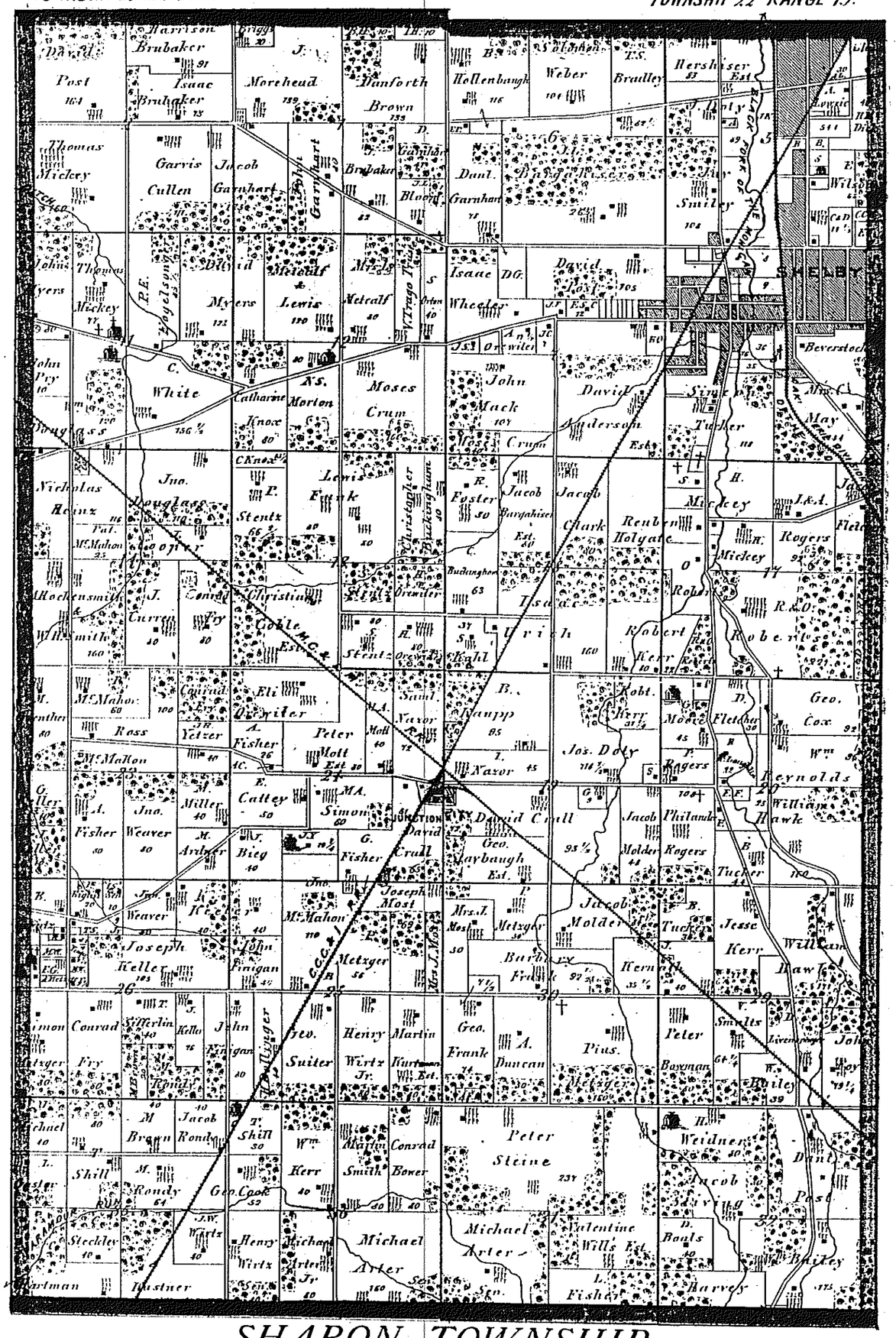
MAP OF SHARON TOWNSHIP

TOWNSHIP 21 RANGE 20. TOWNSHIP 22 RANGE 19.



SHARON TOWNSHIP.

The present town of Sharon, the town of Jackson, and Vernon township, Crawford county, were originally under one organization, and called Blooming Grove, and Matthew and Joseph Curran, who came about 1815, were the first settlers. After them came Robert Henry, Giles Swan, Adam Swan, Joseph Rockwell, and Henry and John B. Taylor. The first white men who ever struck a blow in this town are said to have been Eben Bolt and ——— Brown. They built a cabin and felled some timber, but soon moved away, and were not connected like the others named with the improvement of the town. Gen. Eli Wilson, Stephen Marvin and Henry Whitney were the first who came into the present limits of Sharon, in 1818. They entered a quarter section of land, and the part belonging to Gen. Wilson was afterwards purchased by James Gamble, upon which he laid out the the town of Shelby, in 1824. The first name of this settlement was Gamble's Mills Post Office, and John Gamble was the first post master. The first election was held April 7th, 1819, at the house of Mrs. Rockwell, now in Jackson township, and Giles Swan, John B. Taylor and James Rockwell were elected trustees; Almon Hayes, Clerk, and Giles Swan, Justice of the Peace. In 1820 a school house was built at the forks of the road, one mile and a half east of Shelby; but the first within the present limits of Sharon, was built later, on the corner in Shelby since occupied by J. F. Saiger & Co., and by Mr. Lybarger. The first marriage was that of Giles Swan to Miss Jane Rockwell, September, 1817. The first death was Joseph Rockwell, in the spring of 1818. The first birth was a child of Robert Henry, in 1816. The first church was a log building, built on section 5, near Mr. Jay Smiley's, in 1820, and supplied first by the Rev. Russel Bigelow, a Methodist. Previous to this there had been preaching by a Rev. Mr. Matthews, a Presbyterian. When the first settlers came in here, several tribes of Indians occupied the country west. They were Wyandottes, Delawares, Senecas, and some Mohicans, and very friendly towards the whites. The only road was a trail leading from an Indian Village called Pipetown, on the lower Black Fork, to Lower Sandusky. Sharon is now a populous township, and Shelby a growing young city, furnishing a proof of the energy of its founders, and the enterprise of their descendants.