

A PIONEER PHILANTHROPIST

JOHNNY APPELSEED OF OHIO.

Who Supplied All the Early Apple Orchards of the State.

Of all the quaint characters, one of the most remarkable, and at the same time most lovable was "Johnny Appleseed," by which name wonderful old John Chapman was known throughout the state years ago.

How well he is loved by the pioneers of the state is shown by the handsome monument to his memory that was unveiled at Mansfield last Thursday.

Cleveland had a share in his penniless benevolence, for here and there about the city, notably in Newburg, are orchards, which are pointed out by old residents as having been planted with trees that were once sprouts from John Appleseed.

Mansfield seems to be the only city of the state that has recognized "Johnny Appleseed," and what he did for the state in its youth, for nowhere else, not even at his nearest grave out in Indiana is there a monument to him.

He began his apple tree missionary work as early as 1802 or 1803. He was less than thirty years old then, and strong in limb, but far from good looking.

His death was as quietly pathetic as his life. He loved the trees he planted as he might have loved children of his own.

Johnny Appleseed might very properly be called an apple missionary. He believed that apples were good for people, and he undertook to supply apples to the pioneers.

From the older portions of the older state of Pennsylvania he would bring back to Ohio bags filled with apple seeds.

When he got to a part of the state where there were no apple trees, he would plant the seeds he had brought.

When he found the right spot, he would clear away the trees and shrubs that were in the way.

QUEER JOHNNY APPELSEED.

A MONUMENT TO THE MEMORY OF A PENNILESS PHILANTHROPIST.

The Father of Orchards in the State of Ohio—The Work of an Eccentric Man Who Was Widely Known and Thought Well of by All.

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ready to be transplanted into the orchards of the pioneers. Some times "Johnny" sold the young trees for clothes, old shoes or something else he could wear or use.

He carried on the work for years, and there are still many thousands of apple trees in the state that grew either from little trees raised by "Johnny Appleseed," or else from older trees that he raised.

It is said of him that he lived a life of almost inconceivable simplicity and gentleness. Innumerable anecdotes of him are told. One chilly night in the woods, when he was huddled over a little fire he had built to keep himself warm, he noticed that insects were being attracted to the fire by the light and were falling into it.

Living in the woods as he did when he was making his trips to and from Pennsylvania, he came to be an adept in woodcraft, and this may have had something to do with the high esteem in which he was held by the Indians.

He began his apple tree missionary work as early as 1802 or 1803. He was less than thirty years old then, and strong in limb, but far from good looking.

Johnny Appleseed was tall and his black beard and hair were long and unkempt. His eyes were small, piercing and clear to the latest days he was remembered.

He was almost as fond of children as he was of apples, and although his nervous, jerky way of talking amused them very much, they were too much awed by his odd appearance to let him see them long when he was in the woods.

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After going further west, he came back to portions of this state from time to time to call on his old friends and his apple trees.

It was during the war of 1812 that "Johnny" showed, more pronounced than ever before, perhaps, that there was the heart of a hero under his ragged shirt, a shirt which was never fastened at the throat, no matter how intense the cold.

When he got to a part of the state where there were no apple trees he would plant the seeds he had brought.

When volunteers to go to Mount Vernon were called for, "Johnny" stepped forward and said he would go. He did go, made the journey in safety, and brought back the troops with him in the morning, saving the settlement from whatever threatened it.

His death was as quietly pathetic as his life. He loved the trees he planted as he might have loved children of his own.

All the score of miles to where his trees were he tramped. He worked for hours repairing the fence about the trees, so that it should not be broken down again by cattle, and then started for home.

But if it were left to him to choose there is little doubt that "Johnny Appleseed" would have said that he wanted no better monument than the thousands of apple trees all over the state of Ohio that have sprung from the seeds he planted.

"I've given a little attention to that new clerk of yours," remarked the man who wanted to do the clerk a favor, "and I want to say that I consider him a youth who will succeed. I notice he is the kind who puts something aside for a rainy day."

"Dear me! And I've missed two umbrellas already," returned the merchant, "much obliged for your tip. I'll watch him."—Chicago Evening Post.

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THE DESSAUER-TROOSTWYK SCHOOL OF MUSIC, 705 Chapel Street, will reopen on THURSDAY, September 7th, and continue daily from 12 to 1 and 4 to 6 p. m.

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