

Chapter II

In 1835, Elijah M. Haines, then a young boy, was brought to Joliet with his brother John Charles. Elijah Haines was a native of Oneida County, New York. He was born and raised in Marcy. The first Haines of this family in this country had been a John Haines, who emigrated with the Rev. Edward Hooker from Essex, England in 1633. He later became Governor of Massachusetts Bay Colony. Three years later this man went to Connecticut and was chosen first Governor of that colony each alternate year until his death in 1664.

Elijah's father died when he was quite young, 1837. His mother Charlotte, later remarried. Her name then became Bowen. After living in Joliet, the family then moved to Chicago.

The next year in May, they settled in the area of present day Hainesville in Avon Township. His step-father died. Elijah then studied privately each day after the duties of the farms were finished, until in 1841-42 he became master of the first school in Little Fort, present day Waukegan. Elijah had turned his attention to land surveying and in this capacity his service proved of great value in opening roads and establishing lines.

On June 1, 1842, Charlotte Bowen entered or purchased the east half of the south east quarter of section 28, Township 45 North, Range 10, East, containing 80 acres from the Federal Government. (This property is presently owned by the Gelatin Company.)

On November 16, 1842, after a period of almost unseasonably warm

weather, there came a violent snow storm. This followed by rain which, turning into sleet, covered the surface with a strong crust which prevented drifting. Other storms came at intervals, making traveling outside the beaten tracks extremely difficult.

For five months, except for a short time during the "January Thaw" there was no spot uncovered. Trips to Chicago were made with sleighs, as late as April. Thermometers were few and far between, for which to measure the temperature, but from stories told by those living here at the time, there were many days of below zero weather. Cattle and horses were driven to shelter from the extreme cold. The prairies from which they were able to secure a part of their living each winter was covered with an icy crust. The supply of hay and grain which the settlers stored for their animals was exhausted before the end of February. Some settlers even stripped their sheds, which had coverings of straw and grass for which to feed their stock. In some extreme cases, the bed ticks were taken from the houses and emptied, so that the animals might be kept alive.

Along some of the rivers, basswood trees had fallen, and as a last resort, cattle and horses were driven to browse on the limbs. It was with great difficulty to accomplish the task of the spring plowing and seeding, because of the fact the oxen and horses were so weak. Many animals died, and even the fish lay dead, from the unusual depth of freezing of the lakes and rivers. When spring came the story was told.

The prairie chickens and quail, which had wonderfully multiplied with

the increase of grain raising, perished by the thousands. Deers would often come and mingle with the cattle in the barnyard, in search for food. They also fell easy victims to the gun of the hunter or the dog. One hunter reported having killed a full hundred during the severe winter. Many birds and wild animals had perished in the woods, and the long bitter period was always one that was remembered by those who went through it, as one of horror.

On May 14, 1844, Elijah M. Haines, entered or purchased the east half of the south west quarter and the west half of the south east quarter of Section 28, in Township 45 North, Range 10, containing 160 acres.

On September 6, 1844, John C. Haines, brother of Elijah Haines, entered or purchased the south west quarter of the north west quarter of Section 27, Township 45 North, Range 10, East of the Third Principal Meridian, in Lake County.

Elijah Haines mentioned in his book of 1852, that in Avon Township a man by the name of Taylor built a cabin on the north bank of Taylor Lake, which is named after that pioneer and which presently is called Highland Lake. This cabin was built in 1835 and was the only house in Avon Township at that time. The first census was also taken the same year. This was not an easy task to make a complete or accurate account or to separate them from those who came a year or two later. To state also where they settled in what locality is somewhat difficult. A few

remains a short time, while others made Avon Township their permanent home.

A few to mention were: Harley Hendee, Levi Marble, Thomas Renehan, Lawrence Forvor, Churchill Edwards, William Gray, Noer Potter and his sons, Ira and Tingley Potter.

There are three lakes in the immediate vicinity of Hainesville. They are, Grayslake, Highland Lake, (formerly Taylor Lake) and Round Lake. Grayslake takes its name from William Gray, who lived for several years upon its borders, and was one of the early settlers of Avon Township. Round Lake is so named from its round and regular form. This lake is about three-fourths of a mile across it, and is one of the most beautiful lakes in the county, as noted in Elijah Haines' book of 1852.

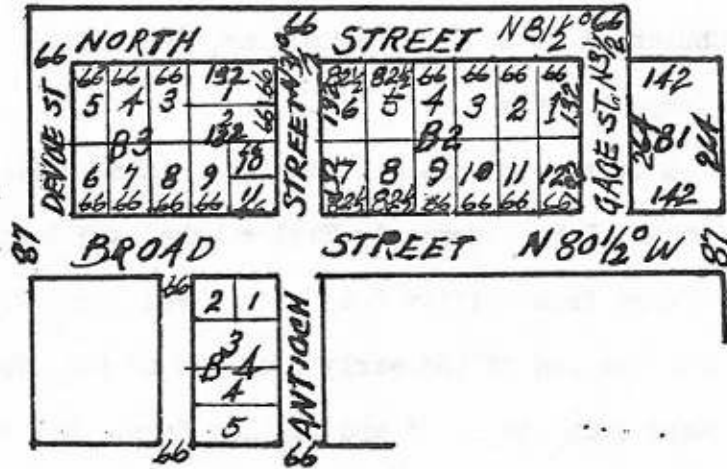
Within Hainesville's village is a small lake upon the north-east quarter of Section 28. This lake is called Cranberry Lake and is nearly surrounded by a marsh.

In 1850, this marsh was in possession of Samuel Garwood, and it is said he yielded 200 bushels of cranberries from this marsh annually.

On September 10, 1839, the first marriage license was granted by the county of Lake, issued out of the Commissioner's Court. The license was issued to Elbert Howard and Rachel Burlingham. Samuel Hurlbutt "Minister of the Gospel" vouched for their marriage on the seventeenth.

On August 18, 1845, Elijah Haines married Melinda Griswold, daughter of Amos Wright. She had been born in Herkimer County, New York, February 18, 1827.

Mr. Haines' knowledge of surveying enabled him to lay out and plot the Village of Hainesville. Through his influence he secured a special type of village incorporation.



The above is a correct plat of Hainesville, as surveyed in July A.D. 1846. The course of Broad Street is $80 \frac{1}{2}$ degrees west. Distances are given in feet and fractions of feet, upon the map, N. stands for North, S. stands for South, E. stands for East, W. stands for West. The northwest corner of Block 3 is a stoned marked thus X for a point which to make future surveys. That point upon the N. line of Block 3, which is one chain and forty seven links west of the northeast corner, is one chain and 52 links south of the centre of the S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 28, in Town 45 and Range 10 East.

George Gage, County Surveyor for
Lake County.

George Gage

The Village of Hainesville is in Avon Township, about a mile and a half south from the center, on the Lake and McHenry Plank Road. The first house which was built upon the ground of our present village, was built in 1838 by Axel Miller. It was one of the largest and pretentious residence buildings in Lake County. In 1844 it was converted into a tavern house.

Among the first inhabitants of this village were: Elijah Haines, Jacob DeVoe, Benjamin Welch, Dr. P. Dickinson, Isaac DeVoe, Harvey Whitney, Abner Fox, Daniel Ingalls, Robert Gordon and Alvin Truesdell. There were many independent farmers in this village, who had turned their attention to stock raising and fruit growing. The most extensive farm was that of John Gage, which was situated on the south-east part of town. The most extensive stock dealers were Leonard Gage and Churchill Edwards. The large fruit nursery of Levi Marble was a matter worthy of notice. It contained about 50,000 trees of various kinds and of choice varieties.

The assessed valuation of property in the Town of Hainesville for 1850, including both real and personal, was \$80,266.00. The amount of tax on the same was \$1,037.23.

Hainesville had five entire school districts, and five fractional districts. The amount of the Township School Fund was \$1,614.75 which was loaned at ten per cent.

As early as April 7, 1846, the Porcupine newspaper had said: "Hainesville has sprung up like magic. Late last fall a commencement was made in building, and now they have a tavern, a store, blacksmith shops, wagon

makers, and tailor shops, a school house, a post office and about fifty inhabitants."

Even earlier, in February, a post office was established, with Elijah M. Haines appointed postmaster.

On February 2, 1847, the Little Fort Porcupine noted, "A bill has been introduced by Ela to incorporate the Town of Hainesville in this county."

In Section One of an Act to Incorporate the Town of Hainesville, on February 26, 1847, it states, "Be it enacted by the people of the State of Illinois represented in the General Assembly, That the inhabitants and residents of the Town of Hainesville, in Lake County, are hereby made a body corporate, in law and in fact, by the name and style of "The President and Board of Trustees of the Town of Hainesville; and by that name shall have perpetual succession." This statement that Hainesville as a corporate unit did not have to be active at all times, but that it could lie dormant for a time and revive as the inhabitants so desired, was noted in the February 24, 1940, Waukegan Post.

AN ACT to vacate a part of the town plat of the eastern addition to the town of Macomb; also, the entire town plat of the town of Sewardsville, in the county of McDonough. In force, February 26, 1847.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly,* That all that part of Madison street, lying between blocks forty and forty-one; all of Mechanic street, lying between blocks forty-two and forty-three; all of Pearl street, lying between blocks forty-four and forty-five; all of Monroe street, lying between blocks forty-five and forty-six; all of Madison street, lying between blocks twenty-four and twenty-five; all of Mechanic street, lying between blocks ten and eleven; all of Mechanic street, lying between blocks four and five; all of White street, lying between blocks one and two, and all of White street, lying between blocks thirty and thirty-one; all alleys in blocks nine and ten, and all alleys in blocks four and five, in the eastern addition to the town of Macomb, in the county of McDonough, be, and the same is hereby, vacated. Streets vacated.

SEC. 2. That the entire town plat of the town of Sewardsville, in the county of McDonough, as laid off and recorded in said county, is hereby declared vacated: *Provided,* this act shall not impair the rights of persons interested in said towns. Sewardsville vacated.

SEC. 3. This act to take effect from and after its passage.
APPROVED, February 26, 1847.

AN ACT vacating a portion of the town plat of Woodburn, in the county of Macoupin. In force, February 26, 1847.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly,* That all that part of the plat of Moore and Killian's addition to the town of Woodburn, known as lots one, two, three, four, five, six, and seven, in block twenty-three; also, the whole of blocks thirty-nine and forty, in said Moore and Killian's addition to said town, is, and the same is declared vacated: *Provided,* that this act shall not affect the rights of any person who may own any of the above mentioned lots, and who shall not wish to have such lots vacated. Exception.

APPROVED, February 26, 1847.

AN ACT to incorporate the town of Hainesville, and for other purposes.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly,* That the inhabitants and residents of the town of Hainesville, in Lake county, are hereby made a body corporate and politic, in law and in fact, by the name and style of "The President and Board of Trustees of the town of Hainesville." Town incorporated.

- ville;" and by that name shall have perpetual *succession* and may have a common seal, which they may alter at pleasure, and in whom the government of the corporation shall be vested, and by whom its affairs shall be managed; they shall have power to erect public buildings, and be capable of purchasing, holding and conveying real estate, for the benefit of said corporation.
- Powers.**
- Boundaries.** **SEC. 2.** That all those tracts or lots of land, described as follows, to wit: The south-east quarter, the east half of the south-west quarter, and the east half of the north-east quarter of section twenty-eight, the east half of the north-east quarter of section thirty-three, and the west half of the south-west quarter of section twenty-seven, all in township forty-five north, range ten, east of the third principal meridian, be, and the same is hereby, declared to be within the limits and boundaries of the town of Hainesville, with power in the trustees to extend the limits of the corporation, at any time: *Provided*, the area shall not exceed one and a half square mile.
- Election.** **SEC. 3.** The legal voters of said town shall, at any time, within six months after the passage of this act, meet, upon some day, to be fixed by themselves, and elect one president and four trustees, to serve for one year, and until their successors are legally qualified; they shall be at least twenty-one years old, residents of said town, and citizens of the United States. Those persons, only, shall be
- Qualification of voters.** qualified to vote for president and trustees, and at other town meetings, who have resided within said corporation three months previous to said election or town meeting.
- Clerk, assessor, treasurer, street commissioner, constable and surveyor.** **SEC. 4.** The officers of said town, in addition to the president and trustees, shall be a clerk, one assessor and treasurer, one street commissioner, a town constable, and town surveyor, who shall be elected by the people of the town, at the time of electing trustees, and their term of office shall be the same. The trustees shall have power to appoint such other as they shall deem necessary for the benefit of said town, and to carry into effect the provisions of this act.
- Surveys.** **SEC. 5.** All surveys made by the town surveyor, within the limits of the corporation, shall be as legal as if done by the county surveyor.
- Streets, alleys, roads.** **SEC. 6.** It shall be the duty, and the board of trustees are hereby authorized to cause all the streets and alleys within said town, and all public roads passing through said town, for one mile from the centre thereof, to be kept clear from incumbrances and in good repair, the south-east corner of block number one, of the town plat of said town, being regarded as the centre of the corporation; and, to this end, they are hereby authorized to require every male resident of said town, over the age of twenty-one years, to labor not less than one nor more than five days in said streets, alleys and roads; and it shall be the duty of the trustees of said town, and they are hereby
- Road labor.** authorized, to cause all obstructions which may have been placed, and now remain, or may hereafter be placed, in any of said streets and alleys, or roads aforesaid, being within the limits of one mile from the centre of the corporation, the same being known in law as public highways, to be removed; and any person who shall be guilty of
- Trustees' duty.** obstructing any of said streets and alleys, or roads aforesaid, being within the limits of one mile from the centre of the said corporation, who shall neglect or refuse to remove the same, after having been
- Penalty for obstructing roads.**

notified so to do, by the president of the board of trustees or street commissioners of said town, shall forfeit and pay a sum, not exceeding five dollars, for the offence, and three dollars per day for every day he shall allow the same to remain.

SEC. 7. The president of the board of trustees shall have power ^{Special meetings} to call special meetings of the board, whenever, in his opinion, the public good requires it; he shall have concurrent jurisdiction with ^{Jurisdiction and} justices of the peace, in all civil and criminal cases arising under ^{fees.} the provisions of this act, and receive the same fees and compensation for his services.

SEC. 8. That no public highway shall be established within the ^{Highway.} limits of said corporation, without the approval of the board of trustees of said town.

SEC. 9. The seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, twelfth, thirteenth, ^{Sections incor-}fourteenth, eighteenth and nineteenth sections of an act entitled "An ^{porated into this} act to incorporate the town of Lacon, in Marshall county," approved December tenth, one thousand eight hundred and thirty-nine, are hereby declared applicable, in every respect, to the president and trustees of the town of Hainesville, and all the powers, duties, privileges and restrictions, therein mentioned, shall be applied to the said president and trustees, and town officers, as fully as if the same were herein set forth; and the said sections, above enumerated, shall form, and in all cases be considered, as a portion of this act, the same as if it were herein expressed in detail; but no appeal shall be allowed, according to the seventh section, unless the judgment shall exceed five dollars.

SEC. 10. At the first election for trustees, the qualified voters ^{This act to be} within the said town may vote for or against becoming incorporated ^{submitted to vo-} under the provisions of this act; and if a majority of all the votes cast be against incorporating, then this act, so much of it as relates to the incorporating of said town, shall be null and void; otherwise, to remain in full force.

SEC. 11. That one additional justice of the peace and constable, ^{Additional jus-} to what is now allowed by law, shall be elected in the precinct in ^{tice.} which the town of Hainesville is situated, to reside in said town. The said justice of the peace and constable shall be elected on the first Monday of April next, if the county commissioners' court shall so order, and at every general election for justices and constables thereafter; and, when so elected, shall be commissioned and sworn into office as other justices and constables are, and shall hold their office until their successors are legally qualified, as in other cases; shall have the same jurisdiction, and be governed, in all respects, by the same regulations as other justices of the peace and constables in this State.

SEC. 12. That the county commissioners' court of Lake county ^{Additional judg-} shall, at their next June term, appoint an additional set of judges of ^{es.} election, for the precinct in which the town of Hainesville is situated, to conduct elections and receive votes at said town: *Provided*, that the citizens thereof will secure the county against any additional expense to be incurred thereby.

APPROVED, February 26, 1847.

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Early newspapers in our county were short-lived. The "Porcupine" ran from March 4, 1845 to April 8, 1847. The "Herald" ran from October 9, 1845 to October, 1846. The "Visitor" ran from April 20, 1847 to October 16th of the same year. The "Chronicle" which began in October, 1847, had a longer life.

John Gentzel had started the "Freeman's Advocate" in February, 1854, and early in 1855, S.I. Bradbury and E.S. Ingalls bought both it and the Chronicle. On February 14, 1855, continued a single publication as the "Chronicle and Advocate".

The name was soon changed to the "Independent Democrat." The paper ended its career early in 1857.

Paper, Ink & Genius *Printing:*



It is recorded that E. M. Haines met Abraham Lincoln in 1847 at the Great River and Harbor Convention in Chicago.



Mr. Haines was the delegate from Lake County and Mr. Lincoln the delegate from Sangamon County. Mr. Haines was introduced to Mr. Lincoln by the Honorable George Ela, who was at that time representative from Lake County in the State Legislature. Mr. Lincoln also was a member of Congress from the Springfield District. The two men met frequently to become well acquainted.