

William Van Slyke came from Genesee Co., N. Y., in 1837, having originally entered land in Richfield, which he exchanged for 80 acres on section 35, entered by William Stanard. Mr. Van Slyke brought with him a superior span of horses, but as it was almost impossible to obtain grain for them, and oxen were better adapted to the wants of that early period, he disposed of them in Pontiac, at a considerable sacrifice. Mrs. Van Slyke, who still resides in the township, has a keen memory of facts pertaining to her first residence in Michigan. The snakes were so numerous that they almost drove her family from the first log house occupied by them. It seemed impossible to build a house so securely as to make it impregnable to these marauders.