

This was the Northwest Territory to these Vermonter's especially Rev. Mr. Sylvester Cochran who led his little band to find land like there was in Vermont. Rev. Cochran came in 1835, found the settlers too scattered for school or church. At home in Vermont he found signers for Rules and Regulations for a Union Colony. Scouts with the signers money in a cow-hide valise came by the Erie Canal to Battle Creek, Mich., from there to the Land Office at Kalamazoo and Ionia. Searching, they found the land with only one parcel of 80 acres had been purchased in the Township by Reuben Sanford and his wife Susannah and daughter Mary. Their son Henry was the first born in the colony in the house of I. C. Culver and one of the first to give his life in the Civil War.

36 names are on the rules and regulations of this Union Colony, this document is unique, and is on file in the office of the Register of Deeds of Eaton County.

A committee of two was set up to pass on the worthiness of the applicants for membership. To be accepted, one had to be definitely and thoroughly opposed to the use of liquor in any form.

A committee of three was named to journey to Michigan to explore and purchase land for the Colony. They were to buy three square miles of land, or 5760 acres, and as much more as they may have funds to purchase.

No individual member was allowed to take more than one farm lot of 160 acres, and one village lot of ten acres, within the limits of the settlement. They may take a 5 acre lot in the village and a 80 acre farm. These farms are to be located around the village. They allowed the village lots taken as the settlers came, but the farm lots were to be the first Monday in October, 1836. With the drawing of these, each was to give a note of \$25.00 due in two years for defraying the expenses of building a meeting-house and eighty acres be reserved for a parsonage.

36 persons names were on this document and more added later. Only a few stayed to build their homes here, others went to other parts of Michigan.

S.S. Church, William G. Henry and J.B. Scovill were members for the scouting and buying of the land. This was March 27, 1836. After purchasing the land, they returned to the site and laid out the village according to plans drawn up in Vermont. One mile, 40 rods long East and West, and one-half mile North and South.