

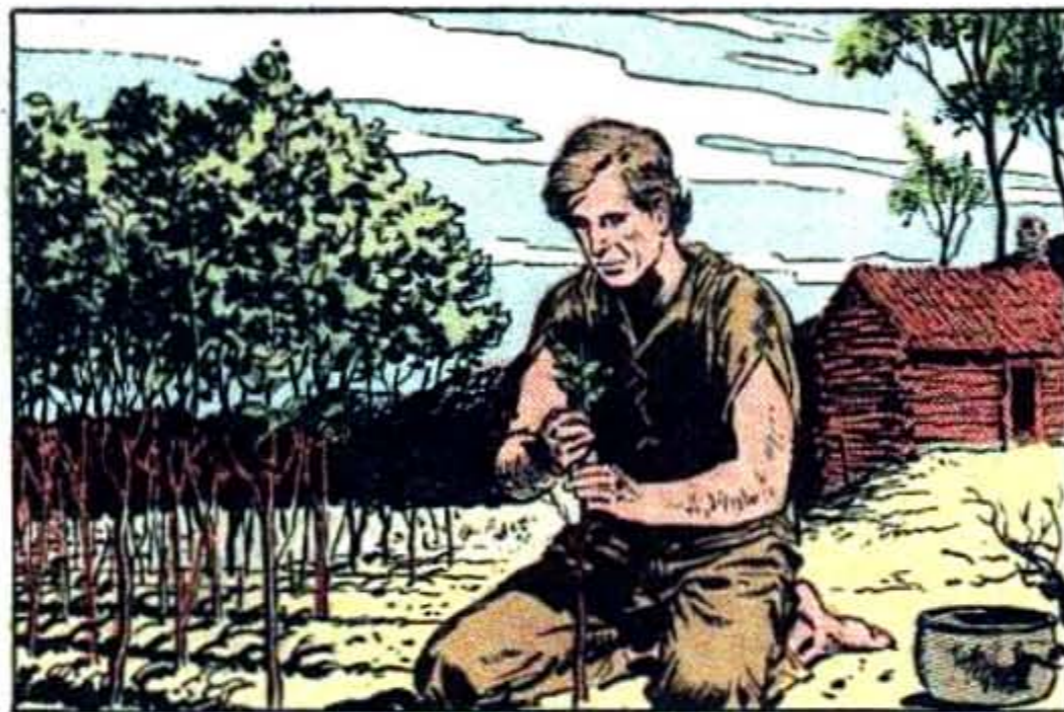


Johnny Appleseed

(1775 ? - 1847)

THE STORY OF A DEDICATED MAN WHO
BEAUTIFIED THE WILDERNESS FOR THE
BENEFIT OF ALL MANKIND.

BY HENRY SHARP



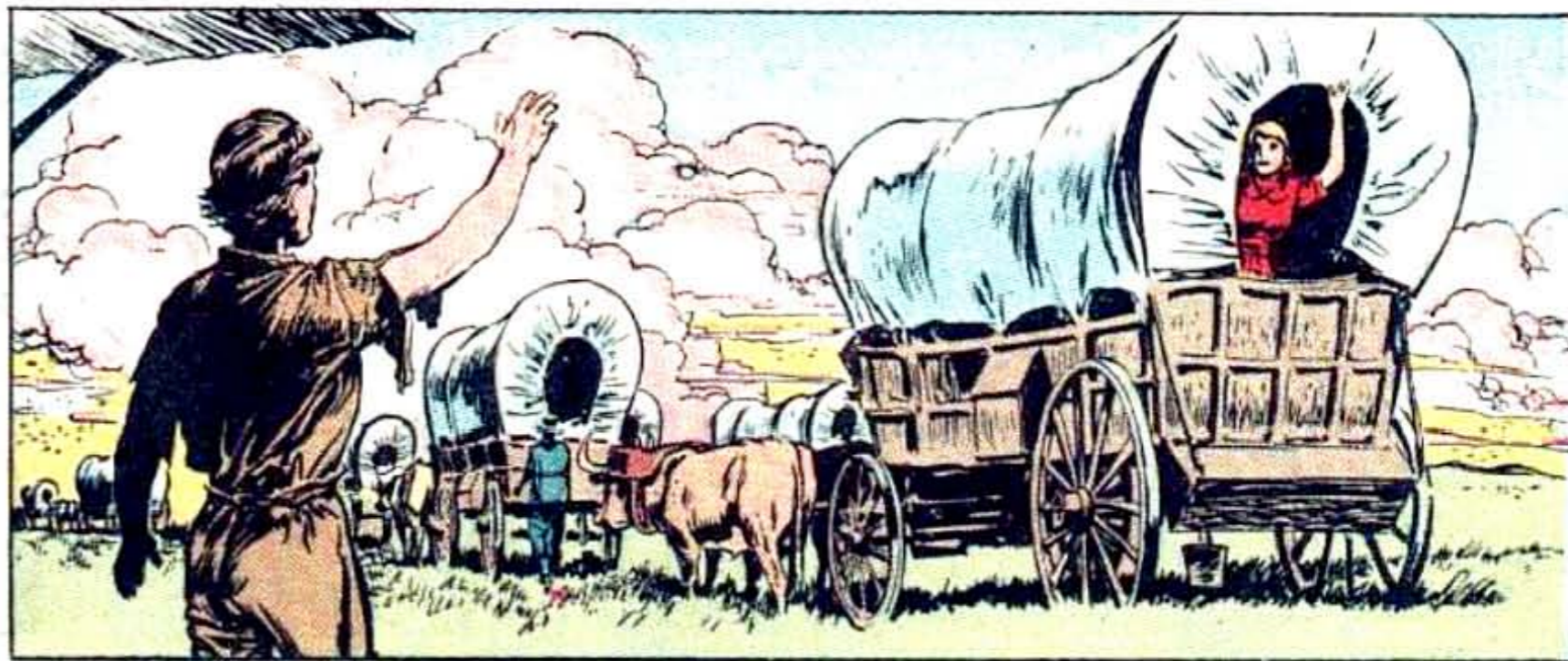
JONATHAN CHAPMAN WAS HIS REAL NAME. HE
LIVED ON GRANT'S HILL IN THE BUSTLING FRONTIER
TOWN OF PITTSBURGH WHERE HE RAISED APPLE TREES
TO SELL TO THE PIONEERS.



MOST YOUNG APPLE TREES WOULD DIE
ON THE LONG, SLOW JOURNEY INTO THE NORTH-
WEST TERRITORY. SO JONATHAN OFFERED
SMALL BAGS OF APPLE SEEDS INSTEAD.



BUT FEW PIONEERS TOOK THE SEEDS...THEY WERE TOO BUSY
KEEPING BODY AND SOUL ALIVE IN THE WILDERNESS...
THEY HAD NO TIME FOR TENDING APPLE ORCHARDS.



JONATHAN LOVED PEOPLE AND HE LOVED APPLE TREES. IT MADE HIM SAD TO SEE THESE
PIONEERS STARTING WESTWARD, NEVER TO KNOW AGAIN THE BEAUTY OF APPLE
BLOSSOMS IN THE SPRING, NOR TO ENJOY EATING APPLES...APPLE PIES...APPLE SAUCE
APPLE CIDER...APPLE BUTTER.



SO JONATHAN DECIDED TO GO INTO THE WILDERNESS
AND, WITH GOD'S HELP, PLANT HIS BELOVED APPLE
TREES FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY.



HE TOOK A LARGE SACK TO THE CIDER MILL AND
PATIENTLY PICKED APPLE SEEDS OUT OF THE MASH.
THE TOWNSPEOPLE LAUGHED AT HIM AND CALLED
HIM 'JOHNNY APPLESEED'.



BUT JOHNNY APPLESEED DIDN'T
MIND...AND OFF HE STARTED WITH HIS
BIBLE, HIS FEW POSSESSIONS AND
HIS SACK OF APPLESEEDS.



JOHNNY FOLLOWED THE SUN WESTWARD WITH HIS GUNNY SACK OF APPLE SEEDS ON HIS BACK. AT EACH CLEARING HE STOPPED AND CAREFULLY PLANTED THE SEEDS. FOR EVERY HUNDRED HE PLANTED HE KNEW ONLY ONE APPLE TREE WOULD SURVIVE TO BEAR FRUIT. BUT IT WAS ENOUGH. HE HAD THOUSANDS OF SEEDS WITH HIM.



THROUGH THE UNTAMED WILDERNESS HE WENT, COMING NOW AND THEN TO LONELY SETTLERS' CABINS WHERE HE ALWAYS FOUND A GLAD WELCOME. EVEN THE WILD ANIMALS SEEMED TO KNOW HE WAS A FRIEND TO THEM AS WELL AS TO ALL MEN.



HE BROUGHT YOUNG APPLE TREES FROM HIS ORCHARD AT CHILlicothe, CARRYING THEM BY CANOE TO TRANSPLANT IN THE RICH SOIL ALONG THE RIVER BOTTOMS.



FOUR YEARS WENT QUICKLY BY AS JOHNNY TRAMPED UP AND DOWN THE HILLS AND VALLEYS OF OHIO, PLANTING HIS SEEDS AND REPLENISHING HIS SUPPLY FROM THE CIDER MILLS. ALREADY HE WAS BECOMING A LEGEND AND WAS A WELCOME GUEST AT EVERY CABIN AND HOUSE.



DURING SOME WINTERS WHEN HE COULD NOT PLANT HIS APPLE SEEDS HE WOULD STAY WITH SOME PIONEER FAMILY, PAYING FOR HIS KEEP IN WORK.



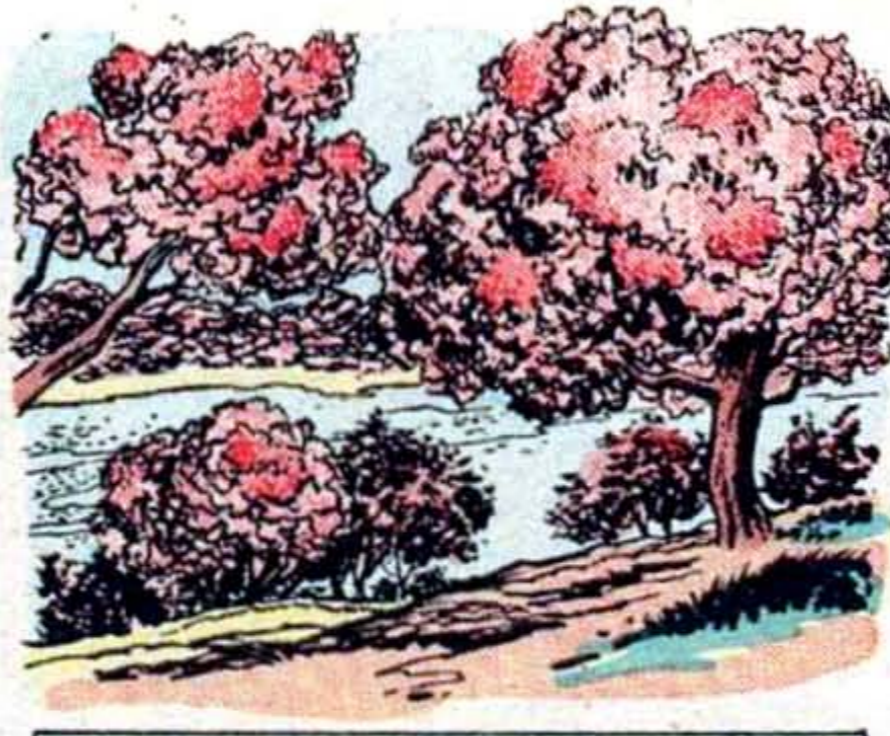
EVEN INTO SHAWNEE INDIAN COUNTRY
WENT JOHNNY WITH HIS BAG OF
SEEDS. THE INDIANS KNEW HIM
FOR A FRIEND. BUT...



SUDDENLY, ALMOST WITHOUT WARNING, THE INDIAN TRIBES UNDER TECUMSEH ROSE AGAINST THE
PIONEERS INVADING THEIR HUNTING GROUNDS. JOHNNY, WHO NEVER KILLED AN ANIMAL, WOULD NOT
CARRY ARMS AGAINST ANY HUMAN...BUT HE COURAGEOUSLY RISKED HIS LIFE OFTEN TO SAVE
FAMILIES ENDANGERED BY INDIAN WARRIORS.



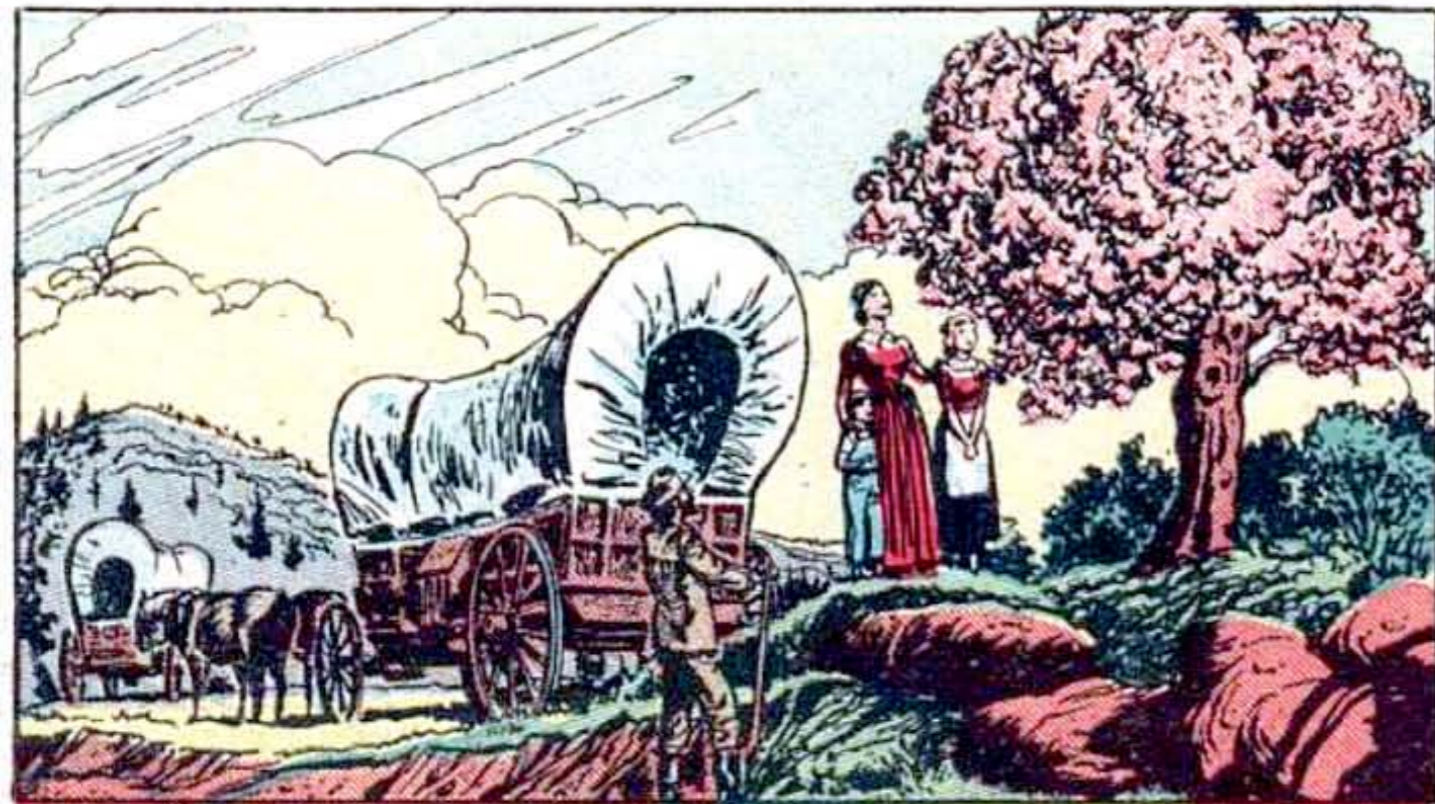
AFTER PEACE ONCE AGAIN WAS ESTABLISHED THE COUNTRY BECAME MORE AND MORE POPULATED. JOHNNY WENT FURTHER INTO THE WILDERNESS. AT FIFTY-FIVE HE TRAVELED TO INDIANA AND MICHIGAN...



UP AND DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY HE PLANTED HIS SEEDS...ENDURING UNTOLD HARDSHIPS SO THAT COMING SETTLERS WOULD FIND GROWING APPLE TREES.



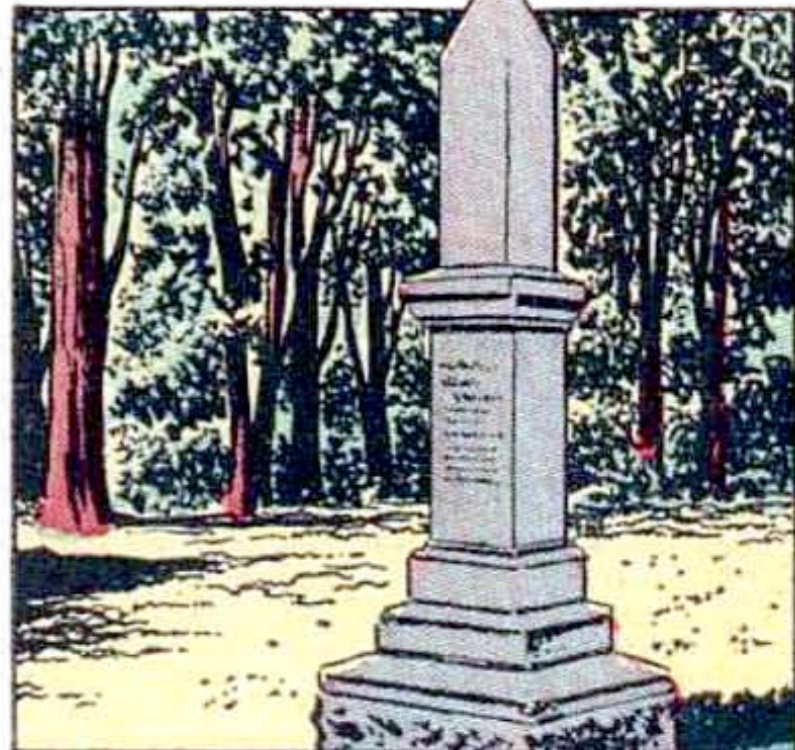
WHEN HE RAN OUT OF SEEDS HE WOULD WALK ALL THE WAY BACK TO OHIO FOR MORE DURING THE WINTER MONTHS, RETURNING IN THE SPRING.



EACH SPRING THE BEAUTIFUL PINK AND WHITE APPLE BLOSSOMS BURST FORTH TO GLADDEN THE HEARTS OF THE SETTLERS SO FAR FROM THE HOMES THEY HAD LEFT BACK EAST...



AND THE RIPE, RED FRUIT WAS A WELCOME ADDITION TO THE MEAGER FARE OF THESE BRAVE PIONEERS.



TODAY IN MANSFIELD, OHIO, THERE STANDS A MONUMENT HONORING JOHNNY APPLESEED, ONE OF AMERICA'S FIRST CONSERVATIONISTS.