

Historical Collections of Ohio by Henry Howe, 1904.

RICHLAND COUNTY.

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The following extract from a poem, by Mrs. E. S. Dill, of Wyoming, Hamilton county, Ohio, written for the *Christian Standard*, is a pleasing tribute to the memory of Johnny Appleseed :

Grandpa stopped, and from the grass at our feet,
Picked up an apple, large, juicy, and sweet ;
Then took out his jack-knife, and, cutting a slice,
Said, as we ate it, " Isn't it nice
To have such apples to eat and enjoy ?
Well, there weren't very many when I was a boy,
For the country was new—e'en food was scant ;
We had hardly enough to keep us from want,
And this good man, as he rode around,
Oft eating and sleeping upon the ground,
Always carried and planted appleseeds—
Not for himself, but for others' needs.
The appleseeds grew, and we, to-day,
Eat of the fruit planted by the way.
While Johnny—bless him—is under the sod—
His body is—ah ! he is with God ;
For, child, though it seemed a trifling deed,
For a man just to plant an appleseed,
The apple-tree's shade, the flowers, the fruit,
Have proved a blessing to man and to brute.
Look at the orchards throughout the land,
All of them planted by old Johnny's hand.
He will forever remembered be ;
I would wish to have all so think of me."