HISTORY OF COLUMBUS CELEBRATION, FRANKLINTON CENTENNIAL; 1797, 1897

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STEPHEN A. FITZPATRICK & U. S. MORRIS

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Franklinton Gentennial

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STEPHEN A. FITZPATRICK

II. S. MORRIS

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\$2,00

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LUCAS SULLIVANT, FOUNDER OF FRANKLINTON.

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PREFACE

The Columbus celebration of the Franklinton Centennial, September 14, 15 and 16, 1897, was an occasion of such rare historical interest that it has seemed to the publishers of this volume that the history of that event should take a more convenient, if not a more permanent, form than the files of the Columbus daily newspapers. Never in the history of Ohio's capital has the public mind been turned with such veneration to the settlers of Franklinton as it was during the weeks of the summer of 1897, culminating in the centennial exercises in September. No sooner had the celebration been formally determined upon than the tide reminiscence set in.

Gray hairs became a special badge of honor, and a good memory of pioneer days secured to its fortunate possessor a circle of eager attendants. Reminiscence became the choice morsel in the newspaper's daily menu, and the younger generations learned much of local history that they had never before heard. The revelation of old things was as interesting to the new generation as would have been the revelation of new things to the generation past and gone.

To preserve this picture of the past, with its modest heroes and heroines in homespun, and their struggle to transform the forest settlement into a village of civilization, with all the guarantees of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, is the purpose of this book. To know what the pioneers endured and how they struggled for that which is ours without an effort, almost without a thought, is an inspiration. To know that, after a hundred years the efforts of the pioneers found token of appreciation in speech, in

song, and a thousand deeds, is at least gratifying. In the pages that follow every important detail of the celebration is touched, and the history is written with such fullness as to give all who participated proper mention. To this is added a history of Franklinton, from the laying out of the town in 1797, by Lucas Sullivant, through the stirring war period, when the town gained its greatest importance, and that other period of independent existence on the edge of the more flourishing capital city, down to its annexation to Columbus in 1870.

In the preparation of this volume it has not always been possible to give credit to the sources of information, and it is desired here to acknowledge indebtedness to the Columbus Dispatch, the Ohio State Journal, and the Evening Press; to Martin's "History of Franklin County, and to Alfred E. Lee's comprehensive "History of the City of Columbus."

STEPHEN A. FITZPATRICK. U. S. MORRIS.

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