

PRESS RELEASE FOR **EARLY HISTORY OF CLINTONITES**

The Historical Society of Clinton has just published The Early History of Clintonites : small town stories. Work first started on this project in 1981 completed this year, with Sharon Scott as editor and with the help of many residents. Frank L. Woodward wrote eighteen articles about his home town, Clinton, for the "Clinton Local" in 1942. He was seventy-seven years old and some of these stories date back to his childhood in the 1860s. They are full of humor and could have happened in any small town in America. Some of the topics are: copper toed boots, a rat in the cream, the man who yelled fire, school pranks, hoop skirts and the Red Ribbon Crusade.

An example of a small town story follows:: Sell Demuth was a very accommodating person. A lady customer came to the store and asked Sell if he could use a crock of butter that a rat had drowned in the cream saying, she could not eat it and wanting some butter in its place. Sell took the crock of butter down the cellar, took it from the crock, worked it over into a roll and gave it to her. Telling me about the transaction laughed and said: "If she wanted someone else to eat it, it sure wouldn't hurt her to eat it, providing she didn't know it".

Frank Woodward lived in the Clinton most of his life and knew a tremendous amount about the houses and buildings in the area. This book contains three hundred and fifty footnotes, which index the buildings by township, section or street and number. Also included are historic maps of Clinton, Clinton-Tecumseh Township, Franklin and Cambridge Township and Bridgewater Township.

The books are available for \$12.50 mail order from Sharon Scott, 214 E. Michigan Ave., Clinton, MI 49236 or from stores and museums in the area.