

**County Ramblings Onondaga**  
**Ingham County News**  
**8/22/1866**

Leaving the Rail Road at Leslie last Friday, we pursued our way to the township of Onondaga, situated in the southwest corner of the county. We are very much disappointed in the general appearance of the town. Notwithstanding it contains some splendid farms and fine residences, yet the whole face of the county bears the look of having been grossly neglected. Grubs and stunted trees have been permitted to grow in the fence corners, on unoccupied lands and along the road side, which with the numerous cat-holes and swamps, gives it a very bad appearance. The crops also look stunted and backward. There will not be half the corn or oats to the acre that there is in Leslie or Vevay. The fruit however promises a very abundant crop and will make up a great measure for the poor crops and grain.

We stopped for a short time at Winfield better known as "Kinneville." That village presents a very different appearance from what it did six years ago. Then it bore the appearance of thrift and improvement. Now it is the shabbiest, most God-forsaken, dog-gondest looking settlement that we ever past through. The old buildings are tenant less and going top decay, and no business of any consequence carried on, save the store of Mr. J. E. Howland, and the Flowering Mill of Mr. Wm. Justice. The mill being one of the best water mills, a large amount of custom work is done there which is about the only that bears the appearance of stir. There is a great deal of sickness in that vicinity, which we do not wonder at. We were home-sick at the first sight of the place and so we passed on as speedily as possible. We could not see a Church building nor ever a place where crackers could be obtained to satisfy the cravings of hunger.

Leaving Winfield, we pursue our way to the village of Onondaga, better known as Nauvoo. Along the way between those two places we found the crops much better and the farmers and buildings presented a more inviting appearance. With the exception of Montgomery Plains," this is a decidedly the best part of the town. At Onondaga we were met by Mr. John Sherman, the supervisor, who had prepared for our benefit a good substantial meal. Mr. Sherman is a wide awake, go-ahead man. He keeps a nice little Hotel, but is very prudent and careful about selling liquor to persons who are in the habit of drinking too much.

The Grand River Valley Rail Road passes through the town at this place. The grading is nearly complete, the bridges all built and the ties on the track. It is expected that the cars will be running through by the first of October. A special election is to be held soon to vote on the propriety of loaning the Company \$6000. There are two Hotels, a Store, School House besides several new buildings just being built, among which is a Store in the place of the one burned a few months ago. Onondaga is destined to be a lively little place.

In politics the people of the town are all right. There are no Johnson Republicans, but all are of radical stripe, sustaining heartily the measures and policy of Congress. Although they had little squabble on local matters last Spring, yet this fall they will come up to if not exceed their old republican majority.