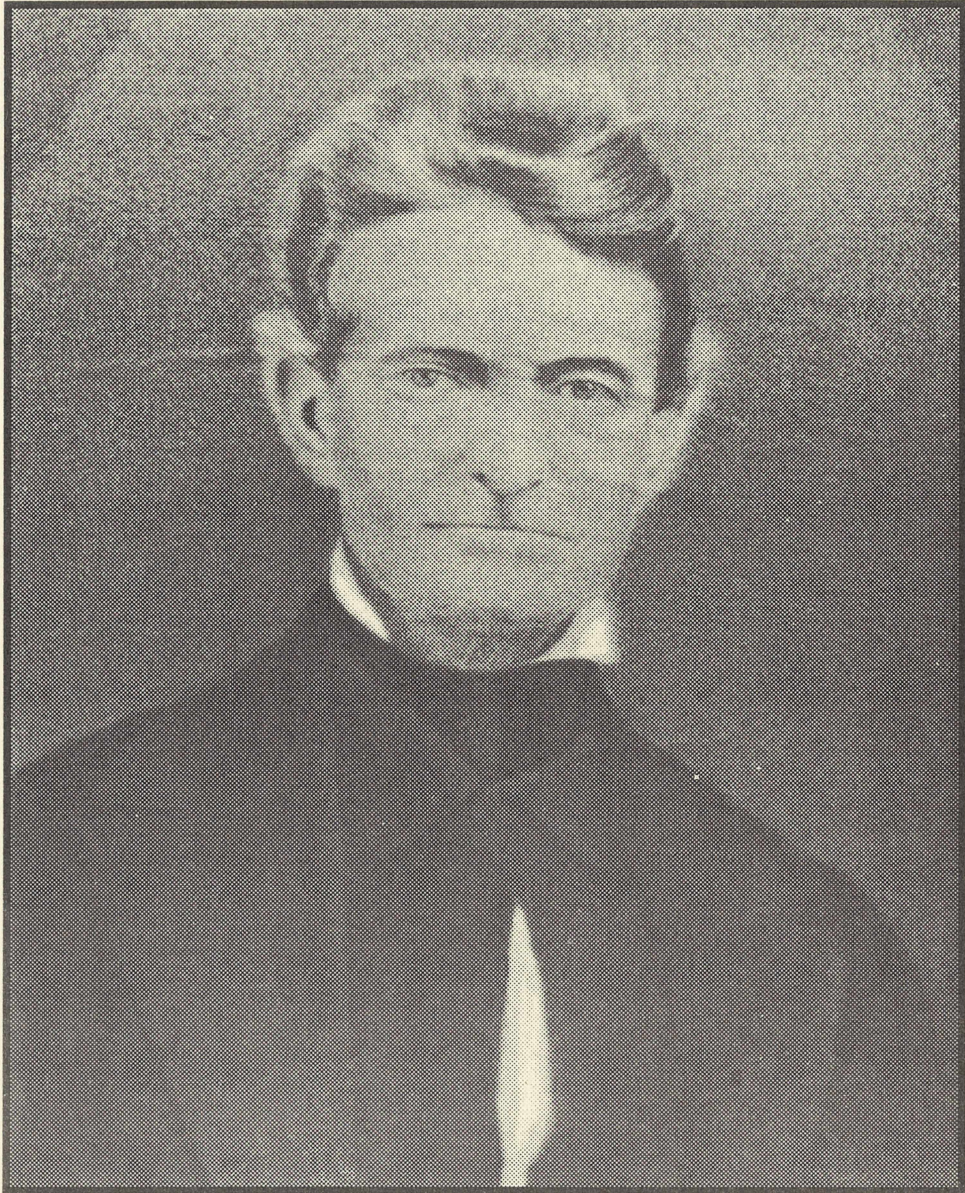


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EDITORIAL

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Erie County's earlier inhabitants included many persons from farther east who achieved varying degrees of fame in other quarters. Michael Hare is one such person.

Some of the exploits of Michael Hare, an eventual citizen of the southeast county, are presented here by Kathy Warnes, a prior contributor to *JES*. Limited traditional documentation exists to substantiate all the details of this adventuresome pioneer's life but there is sufficient evidence to support the level of speculation presented here. Although much of Hare's more exciting activities predated Erie County and took place well outside of it, this little known and rugged son is clearly one of us.

Myths about Prohibition abound on both national and local levels. Brian Ramsak's study dispels some of the local myths. The level of public support for the grand program to outlaw demon rum comes across quite differently here than some popular assumptions have it. This well-researched study will change the attentive reader's assumptions. Elements of social chaos, particularly demonstrated through crime, including at the top local level, are demonstrated. Life in Erie went deeper than flappers and Model A's during the "roaring twenties."

Anne W. Stewart's study of John Brown's decade in Crawford County is our second report on the abolitionist in a year. Hers results from a long-standing interest going back to shared places of origin in Connecticut as well as from a local, intense, primary source-based investigation. While John Brown is an important national figure, his years in northwestern Pennsylvania predated his achievement of national prominence. An understanding of the effects of his years living in the Meadville area—the subjects of both recent articles—would appear to best result from a study of the records of those years. The majority of Crawford County-relevant records reside in the city of Meadville, many at the Crawford County Historical Society.

Articles

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COVER

This portrait of John Brown comes to us
from the Delamater family,
donated by Lewis and Adelaide Delamater Walker.
It is a pastel and charcoal on paper,
apparently an enlargement
from an early daguerreotype.