



“Indian Bill”

Last of the Wyandots

BILL MOOSE AND THE BLUE BIRDS

A delegation from Upper Sandusky, arranging a big celebration there, and in which Bill was to be one of the chief features, called on him at his Morse road shack to make arrangements for his presence there.

He refused to go, and the delegation returned home. They were sent back, the committee deciding the celebration would not be a success without the old Indian.

Again, Bill refused to go, and after the committee had repeatedly asked for the reason, the secret finally came out.

Pointing to a large post near the shack, Bill said, “You see there’s a mother blue bird inside that opening there, and she has little ones. I’ve got to stay here and watch out for those birds until they can take care of themselves.”

Of such was the simple and kindly heart of Bill Moose, last of the Wyandots, who loved Nature and all her handiworks.



Indian Bill at his cabin south of Worthington near Morse Road and the Pennsylvania/New York Central Railroad tracks.

Guests were always welcome and Bill was never at a loss for words. His tales would range from camping along the Scioto and Olentangy Rivers with his family in the 1840's to meeting Buffalo Bill Cody and Annie Oakley when he traveled with the Sells Bros. Circus.

Bill lived in his cabin from 1915 until blindness and other health problems necessitated his removal in 1930 to the Franklin County Infirmary. He died Monday, July 12, 1937, in his one hundredth year. He was buried the following Sunday at Wyandot Hill with state, county, and city officials taking part in the Ceremonies.