SPOKE ON EARLY HISTORY

DR. M. L. WARD GAVE ADDRESS ON EARLY DAYS OF OTTAWA.

Interesting Historical Data In Paper Read by Dr. Ward Before County Teachers' Meeting.

Dr. M. L. Ward gave an interesting address to the Franklin County Teachers' Association in the Ottawa high school building Saturday, January 18. The teachers were told how Ottawa came to be Ottawa and the history of the Old Indian Burying ground, northeast of Ottawa. The address included the reading of a historical letter, which Dr Ward thinks never to have been given to the public before.

According to the letter six hundred Ottawa Indians were brought west from Ohio in 1837. The earliest settlements were along the north side of the Marais des Cygnes between Forest Park and the Seventh street bridge.

Two years later onehalf of the six hundred had died. The Rev Jotham Meeker came as missionary to the Ottawas and built a mission house and set up his printing press near Seventh street bridge

Following a destructive flood in 1844, the mission house was moved to the present site of the Old Indian Burying Ground Here the Rev Jotham Meeker and his wife finished their lives of service among the Indians and are buried at the spot where the old mission house stood Here, Tauy Jones the founder of Ottawa University lived, died, and is buried

The Ottawas were the ones to set the example of Prohibition Laws were drawn up and approved by the government, forbidding the bringing of whiskies into the reservation

The letter concludes with a vivid description of the romantic Old Indian Burying Ground which most of the students of O U have visited

Dr Ward said later that originally 20,000 acres were set aside as property of Ottawa University and that before the contract between the Indians and whites was made the school was to be a Roger Williams university

The address was very entertaining to those interested in Ottawa and Ottawa University It is interesting to learn that our Indian "ancestors" had no trouble in getting a 'Kenyon Sheppard Pill" passed