

By Orbie P. Miller

The picture in last week's paper was the first railroad station in Hilliard. I have no way of knowing when the picture was taken, but it was before the Pennsylvania Railroad built the Station that is now a part of the Historical section of Weaver Park, next to the Franklin County Fairgrounds. One of the nice features of the early railroads was that they scheduled an early morning train for the shoppers and workers traveling to Columbus, and again in the evening to return them

back to Hilliard.

The following is copied from a book "Centennial History of Columbus and Franklin County", by William Alexander Taylor, regarding a railroad in Norwich township. "No village existed in the township until toward the end of the year 1853, when the vil-

lage of Hilliard was laid out by John R. Hilliard. The Columbus, Piqua and Indiana Railroad now a part of the great Pennsylvania system was then built and Hilliard's station thereon was established in the village". According

to Mr. P. B. VanCulin, who was the Station Master for the Pennsylvania Railroad and served for twenty-two years in the station located in the Historical Park, the station was built around 1890. Do you recognize anyone in the picture?