wore at the inauguration of our first governor are conspicious by their absence, but I think every one in Lexington knew was not new.

We can easily imagine the local interest in the gazette. It was the only newspaper printed within 200 miles, and was the only reliable source of information to our pioneer cliff the happenings in the rest of the world. It was carried to other settlements by post riders employed by Mr. Bradford and the schools to carry letters and packages, constituting the first efforts to establish a postal system in Kentucky. For several years Mr. Bradford maintained pigeon holes in a frame over the mantle in the fireplace in his house, where letters and packages were "to be called for." The first issue of the Gazette was a small half sheet printed in black letters and numbered 1 and 2.

**First Page**

The Gazette was sold by subscriptions at $1 per annum, advertisements of moderate length being $1 per inch. It was printed in the old style—the German "f" being used for the letter "s," and Kentucky in the title being written in lower case, which was changed to "y" in 1783, when the state was formed after several years he carried a facsimile of the State Seal between Kentucky and Gazette for a while. The paper was 1794. This reproduction is entirely different from the seal used by the State of Kentucky at this time, and certainly was not necessary.

In one of the early issues the editorial page announces:

"The editor presents his readers with the Kentucky Gazette, executed on paper prepared by a western newspaper, and a new type. The following will be taken for subscriptions: corn, wheat, rye, hemp, flax, tobacco, sugar, whiskey, ash furniture, and cured bacon." Only one advertisement appears in the early issues of May 1784. In this same issue the editor wrote a letter to explain his condition in the following:

"After having expended much in procuring the materials and conveying them to Philadelphia, I have ventured to open a printing office in the town of Lexington. The Gazette is to be published every Thursday. The subscription for a year is $1.00. The Gazette is to be sold at the office, or by the subscriber. The Gazette is to be printed on the best paper available. The Gazette is to be distributed as widely as possible. The Gazette is to be a voice for the people of the state, and to give them a sense of their rights and duties." The Gazette was published from 1784 to 1847. It was the first newspaper in Kentucky and one of the oldest in the United States. It was owned by John Bradford, a former state legislator and a member of the state constitutional convention of 1789.

**From the Gazette**

This newspaper grew and prospered, and was the voice of the people of Kentucky, both in the state and in the nation. It was a source of news and information, and was responsible for the development of the state. The Gazette played a key role in the growth of the state, and was an important part of the history of Kentucky.
A Wise Policy

The editor of a small frontier newspaper in those days was personally responsible for any and all items appearing in his pages. John Bradford’s policy of not printing any charges against report unless they were written out and signed probably saved him from many annoyances and lawsuits, but his successors and some of his rivals were not so fortunate. In 1838, he established the “Guardian of Freedom” at Franklin, Pa., near John Bradford and Son, but in 1839 it was conducted by James M. Bradford and was evidently a branch office for the purpose of securing the public printing but the Bradfords had passed the crest of their popularity and were not in the ranks of the public printers. The Guardian existed only for six years. It may have been established and run by John Elson who had announced he was to open a school in Lexington, but removed to Cincinnati and returned the second issue of the paper as John F. Elson. In 1838, and assisted in getting out the paper. (13)

He remained on the Gazette up to 1842, during the Spring of 1838, and then began to teach a school in Lexington. It is possible he was back in print before 1838, as noted by John Elson who had announced he was to open a school in Lexington that year, but removed to Cincinnati and returned the second issue of the Gazette on Saturdays, out of the way, and worked on the Gazette on Saturdays, but he was in the move to come back and in the meantime had found nothing to show that Parvin was working on the first two issues of the Gazette, and then returned. Bradford in his second issue was advertising for a printer would confirm this belief.

No Hurry to Press

Fielding had just completed three months with John Scull at Pitts- bury and then had more than two months after his arrival in Lex-ington, to get the Gazette, in which to set it up in the form. This was certainly not an impossible task, even for the largest presses. Time will permit only a brief mention of Mr. Bradford’s activities in the real estate.

In addition to the acres mentioned above, he made an entry on February 21, 1731 by treasury warrant for 1,000 acres, located on November 12, 1734, for 1,171 acres all running westward from the Russell property, and additional by purchase. This property, included in the boundaries of the Spindletop Farm, was described as the ‘Spartan boundary of 1754 Mr. Bradford bought a part of Lexington, but when the case came up for trial on June 21, 1754 (16) the jury decided in favor of Mr. Bradford in the case with costs against Mr. Bradford. A portion of their verdict reads:

The settlement of the town of Lexington was made in April, 1799—that the town was laid off into lots in April, 1799, and the streets were laid out, but no improvements and the lots then laid off were upon lands now a part of the town of Lexington. That the town then consisted of a blockhouse and a dwelling house; that the southern had begun in April to

clear land, and was plowed up in May. The Colonial Flood, or corner tree has not been found, but it appears to us from the return of the surveyor, the blockhouse and part of the blockhouse were on the land owned by Mr. Bradford, and the other part of the blockhouse and the greater part of the clearing were on vacant land.

Lived in Courthouse

Mr. Bradford was more successful in some of his other real estate ventures. He secured possession of the old courthouse in 1790 and purchased the residence in 1796. The minute book of the trustees of the Town of Lexington, under date of October 13, 1790,Robert Barr, the purchaser of the old courthouse, is ordered to pay to the Treasurer the sum of 50 pounds, 16 shill- ings, the purchase money for the same, and that the same be deducted out of the money to be paid to the Sheriff to Captain and for the building of the new courthouse.

On March 11, the trustees’ book ordered a consideration for a consideration Robert Barr assigned same to John Bradford. In July, 1796, a deed for 1796, a deed for 1797, to John Bradford, (17), for lot No. 11. The map of the town shows this lot to have been located on the north west corner of Main and Cross streets (now Broadway) and ex- tending back to Short street. During July court 1792 Mr. Bradford conveyed this lot to Charles Hill (18), the description reading in part— ‘a lot in Lexington containing 1,000 acres, more or less, on the west corner of Bradford’s house, formerly the old courthouse, thence, etc.’ which would confirm the tradition that Bradford’s house and the house was high.

An Historical House

The indices in the clerk’s office of Fayette county court show 21 county surveys covering property to Bradford, and by him. The property at corner of Mill and Second streets, where he resided so many years, and was sold to Joseph Thomas Hart, etc. for, etc. This lot was described in the deed as a wonderful source of revenue to the City of Lexington and the name of Little High.

Fayette Circuit Court, Complete Record Book "G", page 132.


(2) Complete Record Book "G", page 173, Fayette Circuit Court.


(4) A fourteen week "fumo wall of thirty years, City wall and mud wall, high fault high.

(5) Fayette Circuit Court, Complete Record Book "G", page 132.

(6) Eighty feet of this lot is still owned by the City of Lexington and is occupied by J. T. Purcell under a mortgage from the Second National Bank.

(7) The Gazette dated Aug. 11, 1793, was printed by good journeyman printer who understands the printing business in 1793. The Gazette could print newspaper in 1793.


(9) A fourteen week "fumo wall of thirty years, City wall and mud wall, high fault high.

(10) Fayette Circuit Court, Complete Record Book "G", page 132.

(11) The Gazette dated Aug. 11, 1793, was printed by good journeyman printer who understands the printing business in 1793. The Gazette could print newspaper in 1793.

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(14) The Gazette dated Aug. 11, 1793, was printed by good journeyman printer who understands the printing business in 1793. The Gazette could print newspaper in 1793.

(15) The Gazette dated Aug. 11, 1793, was printed by good journeyman printer who understands the printing business in 1793. The Gazette could print newspaper in 1793.

(16) The Gazette dated Aug. 11, 1793, was printed by good journeyman printer who understands the printing business in 1793. The Gazette could print newspaper in 1793.

(17) The Gazette dated Aug. 11, 1793, was printed by good journeyman printer who understands the printing business in 1793. The Gazette could print newspaper in 1793.

(18) The Gazette dated Aug. 11, 1793, was printed by good journeyman printer who understands the printing business in 1793. The Gazette could print newspaper in 1793.
FIRST ONE THING, THEN ANOTHER.

The newest interesting contribution to Kentucky history by J. Winston Coleman Jr., of Lexington, historian and author, is a 28-page sketch, "Lexington's Slave Dealers and Their Southern Trade," in The Filson Club History Quarterly for January, 1938. It presents a graphic picture of the period when dealers in slaves in central Kentucky and their agents in the South did an extensive business buying and selling slaves for profit. Mr. Coleman obtained material for his sketch by extensive research and personal interviews. Books, newspapers, court records, and manuscripts of slavery times and later histories are quoted by him. One information source was the diary of the late Rev. William M. Pratt, prominent Baptist minister, of Lexington, who was well-known in this county. According to more than one writer quoted by Mr. Coleman, to be known as a slave trader was about "the last word of opprobrium." Woodford county is reported as having been, in 1840, one of ten largest slave-holding counties in Kentucky.

LEXINGTON'S SLAVE DEALERS
AND THEIR SOUTHERN TRADE.
By J. Winston Coleman Jr. Privately Printed

To students of the history of the Bluegrass in the days before the War Between the States, Mr. Coleman's monograph contains little not already known, but persons not so well versed in Lexingtonian will be surprised to learn that Central Kentucky once was a clearing house and breeding place for slaves destined to be sold in the deep South. Kentuckians, proud of their state's history, will be disillusioned to read that, although Bluegrass land owners in most cases treated their slaves kindly, the slave traders had no scruples about breaking up Negro families, stealing slaves and mistreating them, all for the profits obtained by selling them at Natchez, New Orleans and other southern cities.

Mr. Coleman's article, reprinted from the Filson Club History Quarterly, is thoroughgoing, painstakingly written account of the activities of the slave dealers in Lexington and other parts of the state, and contains facts that should have been placed in print before. Other writers, among them William H. Townsend, in his "Lincoln and His Wife's Home Town," described the slave trade in Lexington, but none, so far as this reviewer knows, has devoted an entire booklet to the subject.

It is encouraging to note that the slave trade, carried on with ever increasing boldness, was conducted in spite of the protest of practically all the better class citizens, who deplored the brutality of the Negro dealers.

Kentucky's slave trade with the cotton states further south was under way by 1818, Mr. Coleman points out, but few slave dealers at that time openly advertised their wares in Lexington. However, the author declares: No aspect of slavery was more objectionable to the great majority of the people than that of buying and selling slaves for profit. To be known as a "nigger trader" was about "the last word of opprobrium that could be splled at a man."

The business was a profitable one, though, the dealers gradually increased in number and in disregard of public opinion, and began to fill the local papers with their advertisements for slaves.

One of the most notorious of the dealers was Lewis C. Robards, who in the summer of 1848, became the first of the traders to advertise his business in the newspapers. Mr. Coleman declares. It was Robards, too, who in 1849, shocked Lexington by purchasing the old Lexington theater on Short street and converting it into a slave jail that became the sensation of the Southland.

The activities of some of the dealers who were accused of stealing slaves and freed Negroes from Maysville and other places in Kentucky, and sending them to the southern markets, are described by Mr. Coleman, as are the boat trips down the Mississippi and the slave markets at Natchez and other cities in the cotton belt.

Indicative of the research work done by the author are the frequent references to actual cases of slaves bought, sold or stolen, and the many footnotes, many of which contain additional interesting facts concerning the subject.

Of especial interest to Lexingtonians is the reference to the uncle of Lucy, a sister of "Uncle Billy" Anderson, the 181-year-old Negro barber who still "serves faces" on 21st street. "Uncle Billy," according to Mr. Coleman, vividly recalls seeing his sister sold to a "trader to be taken south; and the aged barber has told this reviewer many times of the fruitless search he made for her after the war.

Although Mr. Coleman's monograph will disillusion many readers who have boasted of the excellent care given the slaves in the Bluegrass, it is a valuable contribution to Kentuckians and those persons fortunate enough to have received copies should value them highly.

-BURTON MILWARD.

SUNDAY HERALD-LEADER
JANUARY 2, 1938
Here in this house lived Capt. Jack Jouett, colorful Revolutionary patriot, who once made a daring and dramatic ride of more than 40 miles to save Gov. Thomas Jefferson and the Virginia legislature from capture by the British during the Revolutionary War. The house is located six miles southwest of Versailles on the McCoy's ferry pike. Nearby in the yard of the farm is the rock-walled family burying ground in which ancestors buried men and women who lived in the house during the past 150 years. From the front porch may be seen the Hillsboro Baptist church, situated on the land given by Capt. Jack Jouett. The stone chimney or "L", glimpsed at the left, was formerly connected to the brick residence by a dog-trot, now closed in. Captain Jouett's eventful ride was made 160 years ago tonight.

By FREDERICK JACKSON

By proclamation, Gov. Keen Johnson has designated Wednesday as "Jack Jouett Day." The action brings pleasure to students of early American history and especially to Woodford-county citizens who love to tell the story about Capt. Jack Jouett, Revolutionary patriot, whose dramatic and colorful ride of June 4, 1781, saved Gov. Thomas Jefferson and the Virginia legislature from capture by the British in the Revolutionary War.

The house in Woodford county where Captain Jouett lived is a colonial one-story brick, located six miles southwest of Versailles, on a 100-acre farm owned jointly by E. D. Davis and Verlaine, president of the Woodford Bank and Trust Company, and his brother, Steve T. Davis of Winchester. The Jouett land was a portion of an original 1,000-acre grant to Robert O'Neal, which was bounded on three sides by the Kentucky river, Gries creek and Crails creek.

There Jouett moved in 1780, following nine years' residence in Mercer county. He served Woodford county as its state representative for three terms, winning wide popularity as an able and progressive statesman of the Jeffersonian school. His advocacy of importing fine breeds of foreign cattle was largely instrumental in making Kentucky a great stock-raising center. One of his sons, Matthew Harri Jouett, is recognized today as one of Kentucky's greatest portrait painters, and a grandson, James Edward Jouett, was one of Ferra's officers at the battle of Manilla Bay.

Captain Jouett's wife was Sally Roberts, a sister of Lewis Roberts, first husband of Mrs. Andrew Jackson, wife of the president of the United States. At his Woodford county home, Captain Jouett entertained lavishly. He was a close friend of President Jackson and Honny Clay. Clay's mother resided on a farm within two miles of the Jouett home.

Jouett's Ride "Short"

But back to the history-making ride, a ride of more than 40 miles through underbrush and along back roads, which some historians have maintained makes Paul Revere's 18-mile jaunt over fairly good roads seem almost nothing by comparison.

On June 3, 1781, the British general, Cornwallis, detached 250 splendidly mounted horsemen under his "hunting tearpaw," Col. Henrietta Tarleton, to cover in 24 hours the 70 miles between his position in Hanover county and Charlottesville, Va., whither the legislature had fled from Richmond.

Plans were to seize Jefferson, disperse the assembly and destroy all records. The British leader had a certain surety. Captain Jouett, at Cacoo Tavern, some miles beyond Louisa saw Tarleton's troopers sweep along the main road shortly before midnight. Divining their purpose, he skirted the enemy's brooks, rode through the night across the countryside or over circuitous roads and footpaths to reach Jefferson's home, Monticello, before sunrise.

Jouett and his companions passed a lonely cabin from which issued the cries of a woman. Jouett rushed into the house and found a man beating his wife. Jouett attacked the husband, knocking him to the floor. The wife, thereupon, reached for a long-handled frying pan and hit Jouett with such force that the bottom was knocked out of the pan and the rim driven around Jouett's neck. He had to travel 35 miles before he found a blacksmith who could file off the ring.

Mrs. Leva Ware George, Woodford-county historian and teacher, who has done extensive historical research in the county, found Jouett spelled his name with an "I" in all deeds he signed, although the name in historical records were spelled with an "e." By one deed, recorded in Deed Book C, Woodford-county clerk's office, dated Sept. 27, 1936, Jouett and his wife, Sally, gave the Hillsboro Baptist church one acre cut off their home place for the church.

"John Jouett and Sally, his wife," reads the deed, "in consideration of their good will to the Baptists in general and in a particular manner for their neighbors, the members of the Baptist church at Hillsborough, and for the convenience of their family to attend their preaching, doth by these presents, as neighbors, friends, and grant to the said Baptist society one acre of land whereon the present meeting house called Hillsborough shall now stand, and lying in the county aforesaid on the drainage of Creek, being part of the tract of land whereon the said Jouett now lives."

The deed to the church expressly stipulated that "said society shall not have the privilege, nor granting it to others, of burying deceased persons on the said acre of land."

A private family burying ground is located within the yard of the Jouett home place.

The Woodford-county tax-assessment lists for 1781 showed Jouett as the owner of 400 acres of "1st rate land" in Woodford County, on Craigs creek, of same rate land on Bailey's run in Franklin county; 600 acres, second rate, on Silver creek in Madison county; 600 acres, second rate, in Mason County; Campbell county, Ohio; 17 slaves, six horses and 30 head of cattle.

The Jouett's sold their place on Craigs creek (at that time 594 acres) on Dec. 10, 1809, to Wilson Cary Nicholas, of Albemarle county, Virginia, for $7,745.59 cash in hand. Signatures to the deed were witnessed by George P. Jouett, Col. William Jouett and Richard Fox, the last-named an early surveyor in Woodford county.

Jouett's Ride was<br>After warning Jefferson, he hastened on to spread the alarm, so that when Tarleton, who had been delayed, by design, was near the home of Dr. Thomas Walker, reached Charlottesville two hours later he found his quarry had flown. Several members of the Virginia assembly were taken, and only a further rush of Jouett's saved Gen. Edward Stevens. However, those men most sought by the British—Richard Henry Lee, Benjamin Harrison and Jefferson—were safely beyond reach. The legislature, reconvening in Staunton, promptly voted Jouett an elegant sword and a pair of pistols in appreciation of his activity and enterprise. The legislative body, however, neglected to deliver the sword to Jouett until 1863. The year following this history-making ride Jouett came to Kentucky, marrying Miss Roberts Aug. 20, 1784.

Woodford-county old-timers recall that Jouett was a man of gigantic stature—a Hercules. In fact, he stood six feet four inches tall, weighed 220 pounds, was an expert horseman and a dead shot. When Jouett moved to Kentucky, this territory, not yet incorporated as a commonwealth, was a wild and rugged region in which a handful of pioneer frontiersmen lived in continual dread of the Indians. The first permanent white settlement had been established at Harrodsburg only a few years before, and panther, lynx, bear and buffalo roamed the forest.

Found Wise-Best<br>White on route from Virginia.
Winston Coleman Describes
Resort Springs Of Kentucky

OLD KENTUCKY WATERING
PLACES. By J. Winston Coleman Jr. Privately printed.

Early in the 19th century, after the hardships of pioneer days in
Kentucky had given way to a
measure of leisure, a number of
watering places or resorts were
established in various parts of the
state, and the people of Kentucky
and other sections of the south
came to them in search of relaxa-
tion, renewed health and pleasant
companions.

It is with these resorts, which
flourished in Kentucky for a cen-
tury, that J. Winston Coleman
concerns himself in this pamph-
et, which is reprinted from the
current issue of the Flison Club
Historical Quarterly.

As early as 1805, visitors were
attracted to Olympian Springs, in
Bath county, where Col. Thomas
Hart had erected a "boarding
house" with a dining room suffi-
ciently large to seat 100 persons at
a time. Even in 1803, a stagecoach
left Lexington each Thursday
morning for "The Bath of Ken-
tucky" and arrived at the resort
"the same day."

Olympian, however, was not the
only spring of importance in Ken-
tucky although it was one of the
largest-lived and most prominent.
There were Greeneville Springs and
Harrodsburg Springs, which were
combined in 1828 or 1829 under
the name of Graham Springs, and
which continued in operation in-
termittently until 1924.

There also were Estill, Crab Or-
chard, Esculapia, Blue Licks and
others, the names of which are
still widely known, and there were
dozens of others whose names
have been forgotten by all but a
few oldsters and historians.

Life at the resorts could not but
have been delightful, for to the
springs came the beauties of the
south, the eligible and handsom
young men, the wealthy planters,
the distinguished statesmen and
the sporting bloods.

For their entertainment there
were dances each night, music
throughout the day, games and
strolls along shaded walks, and
for the improvement of their
health, there were salt, sulphur,
chalybeate, alum and many other
types of springs.

"Old Kentucky Watering Places"
is a delightful pamphlet, and it is
greatly hoped that Mr. Coleman
has become sufficiently interested
in the subject to enlarge his arti-
cle to include a greater volume
of information about the resorts,
the people who visited them and
the romance that surrounded them.
The recently published "Springs
of Virginia" will not, I think,
make such a book unprofitable.

—BURTON MILWARD.

The "Book Thieves" Club
at Winburn Farm — Lex Ky —
Dec 12 - 1942
SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY is an account of the life, manners and customs of the "peculiar institution" as it existed in the Bluegrass State. Slavery came in with the earliest settlers; slaves were invaluable aids in clearing the forests, building homes, and guarding against Indians. As the land became settled, however, slave labor was found to be much less profitable than in the Deep South, where large gangs were needed for the rice and cotton fields, and slave life was proverbially easier than in most slave states. Interesting accounts have been left by travelers in this section, many of which have been drawn on to present the picture given here.

The author has also made use of much hitherto unpublished material from old court records; he has drawn extensively from newspaper accounts of occurrences in the state and elsewhere, and from interviews with ex-slaves and from his own family records and large collection of Kentuckiana.

The reader will find an accurate picture of the times from every point of view: slavery as it affected the day-to-day activities of master and slave; the eco-

(Continued on back flap)
Slavery Times in Kentucky

Chapel Hill

J. W. Coleman, Jr.

Slavery Times in Kentucky


Kentucky, probably more than any other State, was the key to the Civil War. It was a border State, strategically situated on wide and navigable rivers leading into the heart of the South. Abraham Lincoln saw its surpassing importance, Jefferson Davis did not until it was too late. So Lincoln saved Kentucky to the Union, and the North won the war.

This importance of Kentucky has been recognized by the historians, writing specifically on the subject of the war. Mr. Coleman's fine, detailed and objective study of slavery times in Kentucky fills in a part of the needed background to understand Kentucky's role in the war. The author traces, in painstaking fashion, the history of slavery in the State from its earliest known beginnings until the "full roar of Confederate cannon sounded the death knell of slavery" and the end of "Kentucky's most romantic and picturesque era."

Kentucky, as Mr. Coleman points out, was not suited to the peculiar institution of slavery. Most slave owners possessed less than five each. Those in servitude took the role of domestics rather than field hands on such a scale as practiced in the Deep South. Hence, in Kentucky, there existed long before the war a considerable sentiment for freeing the slaves; they were better treated, on the whole, than in any other part of the South.

The particular interest in Mr. Coleman's book for the person interested in American history lies in his excellent account of the life, manners and customs of slaves in the Bluegrass State. Aside from showing the economic role of the slave, Mr. Coleman makes wide use of the human interest elements to show the religion of slave to master, the loyalty of the slaves and the pleasant as well as the unpleasant side of the institution.

An indefatigable researcher, Mr. Coleman seeks his material in the untapped resources of musty manuscripts, family letters and the dust-covered records in the courthouses of Kentucky. He has drawn widely on these sources and contemporary newspapers for this valuable study of slavery in Kentucky.

Cecil Holland.

THE SUNDAY STAR, WASHINGTON, D. C.,

MARCH 2, 1941
A 20¢ note bearing the portrait of Gov. J. J. Crittenden and his wife, (probably around 1840–50 period) or earlier.

Script (1843–44) of a Mississippi bank.

Mississippi bank script, 1843–1844, period.
KENTUCKY COLONEL—NEW VINTAGE

CLEMENT EATON

ON a recent trip to Kentucky I had an opportunity to observe the 1940-41 style of Kentucky Colonels. Driving South from Cincinnati, I approached the fertile limestone basin of Lexington and was immediately conscious of being in a "fancy" country, with white rails to confine the spirited race horses and quaint stone fences that were unlike those of New England. As I approached the home of the squire, I was reminded of the childhood story of "The Little Colonel" who rode on her pony, "Tar Baby," down a long avenue of locust trees.

The squire of Winburn Farm was proud to announce that he was a "dirt farmer." There was nothing about him to suggest the stage version of the old Kentucky Colonel, with Van Dyke beard, frock coat, and gold-headed cane. Rather, he was a robust gentleman of early middle age, with a frank, sun-tanned countenance, and a hearty voice. His coat was off, his belt was loose, and his shirt was open at the throat. He made his living by growing tobacco and raising hay, and corn to feed the race horses in his vicinity. He informed me that before the Roosevelt agricultural policies were adopted, he had cultivated thirty-two acres of tobacco, but since the Government had curtailed production of "the sovereign weed," his quota had been fixed at sixteen acres. The machine age has reached the Kentucky farms. The squire uses tractors instead of horses to plough his land, and he plants his tobacco crop with an ingenious machine. He communicates with his tenants by a private telephone system, and he rides into Lexington for his luxuries in a Pontiac car. In olden days the Kentucky Colonels had obtained their ice for their juleps from domestic iced houses sunk in the ground, with conical shaped roofs. Such relics of the past may still be seen in the rear of "Ashland," Henry Clay's home. But the modern Colonel has a General Electric refrigerator that provides him with ice cubes. His food is cooked on an electric stove and a washing machine lightens domestic service. In fact, the rural life of the well-to-do in the South has been revolutionized by electricity and gasoline.

Around his farm are the luxurious estates where the Kentucky thoroughbred horses and their long-legged colts graze. This Lexington limestone basin is not a country for the yeoman farmer. Land is too expensive. The squire told me that the proprietor of a neighboring farm had been offered seven hundred and fifty dollars an acre for his land. Many of these lordly estates are owned by Northern capitalists, such as "Dixiana," and "Faraway Farm," the home of Man O'War. They are the playthings of the rich absentee owners. The Colonel does not attempt to breed race horses, for he says it is the quickest way "to break" a gentleman of moderate means. Nevertheless, he delights in horseflesh and is proud of the Kentucky racers. He escorts his guests to these "show places" and jokes with the old Negroes who display the retired heroes of the turf. Old Will, who should be called the major-domo to his majesty, Man O'War, has a
tremendous sense of his importance in caring for the famed racer, "that super-hoss," who was defeated but once in his career of racing, and the jockey who rode him on that occasion, Will significantly remarks, received his walking papers.

The natives, I am told, make invidious remarks about the gadgets which the wealthy Yankees have imported into the horse country, such as highly polished brass hardware in the stables and air-conditioned rooms for the harness. But, doubtless, they are glad that the profits from automobiles, moving pictures, etc., are devoted to supporting the horse farms in a manner that "dirt farmers" and the old generation of Colonels could not begin to afford.

The squire has attained a happy and tranquil philosophy of life on his blue grass farm, which has been owned by the family since 1810. In his earlier years he was a businessman, but the worries and uncertainties of that mode of life caused him to abandon it and return to the soil. Now he enjoys the independence and peace of mind of a country gentleman. No Southerner could be more hospitable than the Colonel. The food that he serves his guests is grown largely on his farm, the bread and pancakes are made from his own grain, the sausages and hams from his own hogs, the chickens and eggs are furnished by his tenants, the cream and strawberries are home products, and the flowers that adorn his table are gathered from his garden. When he makes a mint julep, he steps outside his door and pulls a sprig of mint from the bank of the stream by the spring house. He serves his delicious concoction from coin silver julep cups that his grandfather drank from, and he gleeefully shows you how worn are the edges of the spoon with which his "grandpappy" stirred his juleps.

This idyllic pattern of life can be realized by few Americans. It is doubtful whether many of them in pursuit of the Almighty Dollar can appreciate the delights of living in the country. But it is noticeable that a swing to the country has been gaining momentum since the depression of the 1930's.

The focal room in the house of Winburn Farm is the library. Its shelves are filled with books on Kentuckiana, for the squire is one of the amateur historians of the South. Many of the dollars that were earned from the sale of tobacco and livestock have gone into buying rare books on Southern history. The Colonel has written books on the romance of stagecoach days and of the old taverns of Kentucky, such as Postlethwaite's in Lexington. His magnum opus, however, is a mellower study of slavery times in Kentucky. On the walls of his library hang the photographs of many eminent Southern writers who have visited his home. They indicate that the proprietor has a gift for friendship and has carried on the old Southern virtue of hospitality.

The Colonel belongs to a book club of the intelligensia of Lexington called "The Book Thieves." The members meet for lunch at each other's homes at frequent intervals and discuss books and life. There is no formal program for these gatherings to restrain the spontaneous flow of wit and good conversation. The culture of the Blue Grass region is reflected in the membership of this club which includes gentlemen from various professions and walks of life. Perhaps the most outstanding personality in this group is a white-haired, aristocratic judge, "the dean of Kentucky historians," who has the largest private library in the State. Other
members are: an eye specialist whose hobby is the collection of rare first editions; a loquacious and witty business man, nicknamed "the General;" the dignified president of the University of Kentucky; a physician who has written a book on the conquest of cholera; a lawyer who has devoted years to research in the life of Abraham Lincoln and has collected one of the most valuable libraries of Lincolniana in the world; and a young professor at the University of Kentucky who has published a number of volumes on Southern history. In such a group the visitor feels that he may discuss many subjects, especially the history of the Old South, in a free spirit, without the inhibition of partisanship.

I believe that the Colonel determines the tone of the club and his influence is in the direction of informality and freedom. He makes fun of high-brows, stuffed-shirts, and big-wigs. Certain society folks of the Blue Grass region who follow the fox and hounds in fancy costumes are the butt of his wit and mimicry. He is especially amused at "the blessing of the hounds" when a portly bishop prays over the hounds in a deep voice that rumbles forth from the depths of his belly. The Colonel also jokes about his ancestors, making many flippant remarks as he shows you family portraits done by Jouett, and ancestral silver. He observes that the Blue Grass region contains some inhabitants that are "long on ancestry and short on cash." But one of the most appealing facets of his personality is his philosophy of enjoying life. He thoroughly believes in leisure. Hence he does most of his farming by telephone. Especially does he believe that every person should have a hobby. He is fond of contrasting his carefree and pleasant mode of existence with the prosaic life of some other farmers who work hard, fret, and fume, and have little fun out of life. It is this appreciation of leisure, to use for culture and the enjoyment of good companionship, that forms the connecting link between this splendid specimen of the Kentucky Colonel of 1941 and his prototype, the old Colonel with the Van Dyke beard and the gold-headed cane.
Know all men, by these presents,

That I, Elizabeth Patton, of the County of Madison, in the State of Kentucky, for and in consideration of the sum of Twelve hundred dollars, current money of Kentucky, to me in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have this day bargained and sold, and by these presents do bargain and sell unto Lewis C. Roberts, Negro man, slave, named Lewis Prentice, about 33 1/2 years of age, of a Black complexion, which Negro is a sound, healthy and sound in body and mind, and a Slave for life; and the title do and will forever warrant and defend, by these presents.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this 15th day of November in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and 54.

Elizabeth Patton, seal.

Bill of Sale for Female Slave, Lewis Prentice

Madison County, Ky. Nov. 13, 1854

J. Winston Coleman, Jr., Lexington, Kentucky, a life member of our Society, author of *Slavery Times in Kentucky*, *Stagecoach Days in the Bluegrass*, and numerous historical articles, has just finished a new bibliography of the books on Kentucky to be published in the spring by the Princeton University Press. This promises to be an important check list of Kentucky material, a book that will be in immediate demand. It represents much tedious effort on the part of Mr. Coleman. We wish him well with this his latest book.


Vol. 5, No. 4, December, 1947

Cincinnati, Ohio.
The historic residence known variously as Glendower, Wickliffe Place and Preston Place, located on West Second street opposite St. Joseph's hospital, is pictured above as it appeared before the erection in the front yard of the new Euphrasia hall nurses' home.

By BURTON MILWARD

"A turkey is a nice fowl, but of an awkward size—too much for life, person and not enough for two."

That statement, attributed by tradition to a former mistress of the historic Preston Place now being torn down on West Second street opposite St. Joseph's hospital, is indicative of the hospitality once dispensed there by such hosts as Col. and Mrs. Robert Wickliffe and Gen. and Mrs. William Preston.

The spacious old house, known at various periods as Glendower, Wickliffe Place and Preston Place, was the setting for a multitude of brilliant weddings, banquets and other affairs during the 19th century, and was furnished as elaborately as any home in the entire south.

When the residence was built is not known, but according to tradition it was erected by Col. John Todd, one of the most prominent Kentucky pioneers, who was killed in the Battle of Blue Licks in 1778. Old documents show the house was on the tract prior to 1800.

Colonel Todd had purchased the land from John Floyd, who had received an extensive acreage as a military grant, and after his death the property descended to his daughter, Mary Owen, who later married Col. James Russell and was left a widow in 1802. In 1826, she married State Senator Robert Wickliffe and with him lived at the handsome residence that then became known as Wickliffe Place instead of Glendower, its earlier name.

Senator Wickliffe, the "Old Duke," brought with him four sons and three daughters by a previous marriage, and they were welcomed affectionately by Mrs. Wickliffe, whose only son, born in 1800, had died in 1822.

Mrs. Wickliffe was particularly fond of her youngest step-child, Margaret, who later became the wife of Col. William Preston of Louisville and who went with him to the court of the king of Spain, where he served as United States ambassador.

Colonel Preston, a veteran of the Mexican War, also served in the Confederate army on the staff of his noted brother-in-law, Albert Sidney Johnston, and after the latter's death at the Battle of Shiloh, he was commissioned brigadier general.

During the latter part of the war, Mrs. Preston and her family, intimidated by threats of Yankee reprisals against Confederate sympathizers, fled to Canada and remained until the end of the struggle.

Family Return

Returning to Lexington, the family resumed residence at the old house, which became known as Preston Place.

The property, which earlier had extended from Main street to Third street, had been subdivided until the estate included only the section bounded by Second and Third streets and Georgetown and Jefferson streets, and the house had been enlarged by the addition of one-story wings at either end and two-story wings at the rear.

It was during the occupancy of the Prestons that the most elaborate social functions were held at the residence, and it was Mrs. Preston who is reported to have made the remark about the size of a turkey.

There the weddings of three daughters were held, and there, also, the receptions for two others who had been married at Christ Church Cathedral were given.

On such festive occasions, according to Elizabeth M. Simpson's "Bluegrass Houses and Their Traditions," the large table was set with a handsome service of coin silver, heavily plated with gold, which the Prestons had purchased in Washington from a French ambassador, and with gold-bordered china made especially by the Dreden factory of the Kaiser in Germany.

The dinner started with two soups and included fish, game, roast, vegetables, salad, pastries and other desserts, and wines and liquors of every kind. Such meals, Mrs. Simpson reports, gave rise to the story that a guest could always get drunk and sober up three times during one of the four-hour meals at Preston Place.

Entertainment Was Lavish

Even during the days of Colonel Wickliffe, however, hospitality had not been lacking, and many prominent persons were treated to lavish entertainment by the Old Duke.

After General Preston's death, Mrs. Preston continued to live at Preston Place with a son, Wickliffe Preston, and his wife, the former Sally McDowell of St. Louis.

However, Mrs. Wickliffe had left the property to her favorite step-granddaughter and name-sake, Mary Owen Preston, who later married Col. John Mason Brown, and a newspaper story published early in 1869 reported that the property then was being held in trust for Mrs. Brown's children.

The house and its surrounding property were involved in a civil suit filed in Fayette Circuit Court by H. Wickliffe Preston and others against William Preston and others, and, on April 15, 1893, in accordance with a court order, the estate was sold by the master commissioner and the property, mentioned in the deeds as the Preston Inn property, was sold up.

Later, in 1918 and 1919, the house and land immediately around it, extending from Second street to Maryland avenue, were purchased by the late John Milward, who conducted a funeral home there. On July 21, 1926, it again was sold by the master commissioner and was purchased by A. E. Welch, who, however, assigned the benefits of his bid to the Nazareth Literary and Benevolent Institution, Inc., which then purchased the property into a home for nurses and student nurses of St. Joseph's hospital.

The old residence remained in this capacity until last month when, upon completion of a large, new nurses' home, Euphrasia hall, immediately in front of it, it was abandoned. This week a permit was granted by the City of Lexington for the destruction of the historic home.
Slavery Times in Kentucky. By J. Winston Coleman, Jr.


This very readable and entertaining book is less a formal history of African slavery in Kentucky than a series of very vivid pictures of different aspects of the institution as it developed in a border state between the Revolution and the Civil War. The story centers about Lexington and the blue grass region with very little attention to conditions in other portions of the state.

The few slaves who were first brought into pioneer Kentucky were treated somewhat as comrades. They not only worked side by side with their masters to clear and plant the fields, but they also helped to fight the Indians. Later, wealthy planters from Virginia, Maryland, and North Carolina brought larger groups of servants, and plantation life began.

In the two chapters which describe the rising aristocracy, their houses, servants, fields and small industries, Kentucky slavery is pictured as a kindly, paternal institution, the least objectionable to be found anywhere. But the remaining two-thirds of the book presents a less idyllic story. The increasing number of blacks, the activities of the abolitionists and the horrifying tales of bloody insurrections in other states induced a more rigid control by town guards and rural “patterrollers.” The rapid expansion of the cotton and sugar fields in the lower South created a heavy demand for Negro labor there and brought into Kentucky, where slave labor was less profitable, the dreaded and hated “niggah trader”; debts and the settlement of estates often forced both field hands and house servants to the auction block, with resulting long coffles of blacks and mulattoes moving by land or boat down to the markets of Natchez, New Orleans and other towns. There are many pathetic descriptions of auctions where the helpless victims were torn away from their homes and families to satisfy the demands of creditors or the cupidity of the callous professional traders.

Meanwhile two kinds of “nigger stealers” had entered the scene: crafty thieves who seized and carried away free Negroes whom they sold into slavery further South, and abolitionists from the North who spirited slaves away to freedom in Canada.

A chapter is given to cases of cruelty to slaves. Very little is said of crimes of violence on the part of the slaves, except those committed in self-defense. One of the most interesting chapters, “African Utopia,” summarizes the effort and failure of the Kentucky Colonization Society to solve the local slavery problem by sending emancipated Negroes to “Kentucky in Liberia.” The final chapter is a sketchy account of the activities of Kentucky abolitionists, with particular reference to the Wickliffe-Breckenridge feud and the exploits of the redoubtable Cassius M. Clay, who was a perfect example of the “southern fire-eater,” except that he fought for abolition.

One might take exception to a few of Mr. Coleman’s statements and inferences. For instance (pp. 188-189), he asserts that on many large plantations in Louisiana, Mississippi, and other southern states, owned by non-residents, the overseers, intent only upon their shares of the profits, procured cheap, broken-down Negroes from Kentucky and lashed them “until they literally died in their tracks.” The evidence he cites for this
frightful practice consists of three abolitionist tracts. Aside from considerations of humanity, no sane planter would have permitted his overseer to pursue such unprofitable methods. The author also falls into the old error (p. 26) of classing all non-slaveholders as “poor whites.” In general he seems more concerned with the exceptional cases of cruelty than with the normal operations of the institution. And while he is clearly aware of the practical difficulties which faced slave owners who might otherwise have favored a system of emancipation, when he recounts the activities of the abolitionists he frequently refers to these owners in terms strongly reminiscent of his abolitionist sources.

But these are minor faults. The book is both interesting and instructive; the illustrations are well chosen; and the bibliography is useful if not exhaustive. Mr. Coleman has explored not only local histories and memoirs, but contemporary pamphlets, newspapers and court records. The make-up of the book is of the high quality we have come to expect of the Press at Chapel Hill.

CHARLES W. RAMSEY.

The University of Texas.

THE SOUTHWESTERN HISTORICAL QUARTERLY

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AUSTIN, TEXAS.

LINCOLN ROOM OPENED AT INDIANA U.

Kentucky Scholars Join Curator In Inspection of Books.

Bloomington, Ind., Feb. 15.—Three well-known Lincoln scholars and collectors from Kentucky attended the opening Saturday of the Lincoln Room in the Indiana University Library which will house the famous Indiana-Oakleaf Collection, purchased last year by the university. From left, Col. J. Winton Coleman, Jr., and William H. Townsend, collectors and authors from Lexington, Ky.; Dr. Cecil K. Byrd, curator of the collection, and Thomas D. Clark, head of the history department at the University of Kentucky. Many Lincoln scholars from Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee and Indiana, the area in which Lincoln spent the formative years of his life, were at the formal opening of the room and the dinner which preceded it. Gov. Henry F. Schricker accepted the collection on behalf of State.

Louisville Times, Feb. 15, 1943.
This is a record of the slave regime in the most strategic of the southern border states. *Slavery Times in Kentucky* is a gripping account of slave and white life there from the pioneer frontier days of the late eighteenth century to the close of the Civil War. The geography of this commonwealth made it essentially different in many respects from the staple-crop regions of the Deep South. In the first place, the book shows that Kentucky was not adapted to the large-scale plantation economy of the cotton, tobacco, rice, and sugar sections. Notwithstanding this difference, slaves were present from the beginning and shared the hardships, bloody Indian encounters, and sufferings of the wilderness. From documents, newspaper files, and the oral testimony of white citizens and ex-slaves, Coleman has woven together one of the most authentic and valuable accounts of slavery to appear in this generation. He has selected the dark as well as the bright aspects of Kentucky bondage and described them objectively at a time when many historians are relegating the distasteful truths of slavery to oblivion. In this process they apogetically stress the benevolent side of the institution which was never more than a very minor portion of the record.

Slave and owner mores are copiously illustrated from descriptions of customs, habits, and practices which resemble poignantly those of slavery in general throughout the South. Funerals, cornshuckings, amusements, work songs, and spirituals are submitted as evidence of slave life and labor in the Bluegrass State. Chauvinistic and nostalgic writers will find accompanying white life enlightenment on sadistic indulgences of auctioneer-traders in the sale of Eliza with one sixty-fourth colored blood (pages 131-134) and Robard’s exhibits of “fancy girls” (pages 157-160) at Lexington. Likewise, those historians of slavery, who discernit slave breeding because of the paucity of documents on this rather general business in Maryland, Virginia, and Kentucky, should consult pages 131, 143, 144, and 147 where Henry Clay admitted it in a public speech delivered at Frankfort in 1829. Page 197 shows the sale of infants from their mothers’ breasts for $1.00 each while the great Thomas Jefferson’s nephew, Lilburne Lewis, (pages 255-261) choppeth up a living slave youth on a meat block with a broad axe as a terrible and certain warning against insubordination of his other slaves who were compelled to witness the orgy.

Coleman records repercussions in Kentucky during the period of crisis from Nat Turner August 21, 1831, to John Brown October 16, 1859. The “town watch and patteroller systems” reflect the dire fears which sent a chill through the entire South. Singularly, this era marked great expansion in the “cotton kingdom” and increasing demands for slaves from Kentucky dealers. Illustrations of the auctions, prices, and systems of transportation “down the river” show that slavery was probably the State’s most lucrative business. Hence the vague subterfuge of “states rights” as the pro-southern argument vanishes before the economic stakes in slave property.

This book reveals Kentucky as a center of abolitionism which flourished there, no doubt, because of the location on the Ohio River borderlines. Such heroes and heroines as Webster, Fairbanks, Fee, Birney, Cassius M. Clay and many lesser lights conducted crusades in the state which have not been adequately evaluated by historians. From Coleman’s narratives, the faith and sacrifices of these saintly men and women loom to heights as noble as those of any American
heroes of the battle fields. He also includes a clear account of the Underground Railroad and the daring adventures of these bold and courageous leaders. Kentucky’s part in the utopian schemes of colonization to Africa receives due consideration. The hierarchy of mansion-house servants, artisans, and field hands pass in the review and reflect Kentucky as an ideal region for Stowe’s framework and plot of Uncle Tom’s Cabin.

The values of Slavery Times in Kentucky can not be easily estimated. It shows that, with the exception of Bancroft and a few others, historians of slavery, like those of reconstruction, have not yet satisfactorily completed their tasks. What Coleman has done for Kentucky might well be undertaken with fruitful possibilities in each of the slave states. The unadulterated truths which the author presents reveal the depths to which slavery debased the slave and simultaneously dragged the owners and legions of poor whites. Students of cultural sociology and anthropology, who are puzzling themselves to account for the complicated problems of caste and class in America, should turn to the unexplored backgrounds of slavery. From such materials as these in Slavery Times in Kentucky, scholars will find the real origin of the “color line” and the basic reasons why it is so zealously worshiped as a criterion of value in the United States.

W. M. BREWER

Miner College,

JOURNAL OF NEGRO HISTORY

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SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY. By J. Winston Coleman Jr. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press. $3.00.

ANTE-BELLUM Kentucky has long been considered one of the more romantic heritages from the American past; her brand of slavery has been described as the gentlest and kindest in American, rivaling the Virginian legend in this respect. Mr. Coleman concurs in this belief; nevertheless, he goes bravely ahead and presents a very nearly complete picture of the “peculiar institution” in a border state.

Mr. Coleman’s interest in slavery is that of the antiquarian and, like a British writing fondly of Devonshire byways, he has produced a book filled with the lore of slavery. In so doing he has provided evidence so generally unlovely that any reader would be justified in asking, “If this was slavery in its gentlest state, what was it like in its harsher phases?”

The answer is that Mr. Coleman, in generalizing about the nature of slavery in Kentucky, has forgotten that human actions in their minor aspects can have so many more variations than in their kindlier aspects that a recital of the sadder side of slavery will always blanket and negate the gentler side. Mrs. Stowe discovered that nearly a century ago when her readers forgot the Shelbys and the St. Clairs and remembered only the Legrees.

Mr. Coleman’s book is, nevertheless, a valuable one, for it is filled with the type of material which can be gleaned only from letters, interviews, diaries, court records, newspapers, and a constant association with remaining descendants of those who lived in slavery times. As a result, slavery as here pictured is more a living thing than is usual in such accounts, for the book is loaded with illustrative material, often anecdotal but usually documented. Here are potters, kilnmen, slave dealers, runaways, reclamers and dabbles, cruisers on both sides of the abolitionist question, colonizers, insurrectionists: all of the motley company who made Kentucky, because of her long stretch of river leading both to free land and to the lower South, the home of all types and shades of slavery opinion.

There is an excellent discussion of the too-long-neglected Kentucky abolitionist, Cassius Clay, kinman of the great Henry Clay, who literally fought his way through pro-slavery mobs with a bowie knife in one hand and a copy of his newspaper, The True American, in the other. There is likewise a good chapter on the Underground Railroad, whose notes are sometimes more rewarding than the text itself. The accounts of the famous sales from the Cheapside auction block in Lexington, and of the cruelties of overseers are matched by the actions on life in the big houses and happier times in the quarters. But though Mr. Coleman has no soft spot in his heart for Mrs. Stowe, his picture of slavery in Kentucky is generally darker than that in Uncle Tom’s Cabin.

As a survey of life in ante-bellum Kentucky the book has obvious deficiencies. It is constructed as from a pile of notes, loosely stacked together, with frequent repetitions of ideas, interests, and personality identifications. Occasionally there is a not unnatural but out of place example of condescension. It would be as easy to refer to the distinguished William Wells Brown as “Brown” as it is to say “William, a Lexington slave.” The greatest deficiency, however, is that a full picture of Kentucky of the period requires more than a discussion of the lore of slavery. An omission of the “Times” from the title would give more accurately the nature of the book so long as it does not imply a full economic and historical account of the unsavory institution.

Yet, there is more pertinent material of a local character in this book than in most. While it should not serve as a model for local histories of slavery, it should serve many a novelist well for background material, for in its emphasis upon the contradictory nature of slavery it provides the materials of romance—the romance of escape, of trial, of hardship, of villainy, heroism, and heartbreak. Dozens of novels and biographies yet unwritten lie here, as in any similar account, from the Newgate Calendar on. And there is enough of reality here to prevent romance’s running away with the facts.

Journal of Negro Life.
January, 1941.

KENTUCKY. Coleman, J. Winston, Jr.
Slavery Times in Kentucky. Illus. 8vo. Chapel Hill, 1940. New. $3.00.
An account of planter life and slave labor in ante-bellum Kentucky; chapters on the Underground Railroad; etc.

Argosy Catalogue.
May, 1941.


Banta Catalogue, May, 1941.

$3.00


The flood tide of writings about the South continues unabated. Year in and year out the presses of the nation pour forth masses of books, pamphlets, and articles about this fascinating region. Of all the rich variety of southern history and life, no aspect has proved more attractive to writing folk than that of race and the relations between the races. To this category belong Slavery Times in Kentucky and The Negro in Virginia.

Coleman’s book is a finished work of art. With great skill he has developed a picture of slavery in Kentucky, tracing its evolution from the days when Kentucky settlements, through the small town, through the town, to the city, through the city to the state, and on into the first stages of the "irrepressible conflict." The book may well be likened to a series of carefully delineated drawings. The reader is first introduced to the "peculiar institution" as it functioned on the frontier. In two succeeding chapters, entitled "Folks in the Big House" and "Nigger People," he is shown in clear outline the fundamental roles of master and slave. Following this the reader’s attention is focused upon a sketch of the local controls exercised through the town watch and the "patterrollers." The next scenes portray the horrors of traffic in human beings, the author turning the spotlight up to the "Auction Block," "Niggah Trade," and "Down the River." The reader next views slavery in Kentucky from the vantage point of abolitionist activities and the undercover chapters entitled "Nigger Stealers" and "Following the North Star." Closing scenes depict the cruelty and brutality of extreme cases and the activities of colonization societies and the most prominent abolitionists.

This book is a finished product; the author has told his story well. Social scientists will probably find considerable difficulty in evaluating the narrative, but on the other hand in few places will they find an old story better told.

The Negro in Virginia is a very different type of book. Detailed facts are the warp and woof of this report. In appearance and readability it suffers severely in comparison with the excellent product of the University of North Carolina Press. The Virginia study falls into two parts: the first consists of a reconstruction of slave times and Negro history pieced together from the accounts of old Negroes—ex-slaves who were still living at the time of the study in 1936–1938; the second is made up of discussions of the present status of the Virginia Negro and his institutions. The personal histories of Virginia’s ex-slaves make very interesting reading, and
The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science -- March 1941

T. Lynn Smith
Louisiana State University

"SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY"

(Slavery Times In Kentucky" by J. W. Coleman, Jr.—The University of North Carolina Press, $2.00)

Kentuckians who always have been a little smug about the benevolent manner in which their forefathers treated their slaves can expect to be disillusioned when they read J. Winston Coleman’s account of "Slavery Times In Kentucky.

Not that Mr. Coleman doesn’t bring evidence to show that slavery was practiced in its mildest form in Kentucky. It is just that in retrospect the "mildest" at times was a horrible indictment of no less horrible conditions. This is the impression that the book leaves with a generation removed by nearly a century from an age which could afford the extravagance of mass kindness and the waste of mass cruelty. The book deserves attention because it permits the reader to make his own factual appraisal of those colorful days of ante-bellum Kentucky when one man was considered good enough to rule another. For this reason it is not a book for Kentucky alone. Instead, it has to be considered as a volume which while intended primarily to tell of slavery in this state is also a reflection of conditions as they existed in the nation.

Mr. Coleman points out that "Kentucky as a border slave state came in for its share of anti-slavery agitation and, being close to free territory, afforded the agents and "conductors" on the Underground Railroad ample opportunities to ply their trade and spirit hundreds of slaves northward in their frantic quest for freedom." An absorbing picture of these activities is given in the book together with the account of the implacable hatred of the planters for the abolitionists. There is also much new information on the activities of the "nigger traders" with their slave depots and coffle gangs headed "down the river.

It was this traffic in slaves, Mr. Coleman recalls, that impelled Stephen Collins Foster to write "My Old Kentucky Home."

Equally well chronicled is the pleasant side of slavery—the devotion of slave to master of master to slave. In this connection, Mr. Coleman tells in full the story of the Utopian scheme to transport and colonize freed Negroes in the African colony of Liberia.

Since "Slavery Times in Kentucky" contains reference after reference to forgotten and known bits of Mason county history, it will have a greater personal interest for Mason countians. Repeated is the story behind the story of Harriet Beecher Stowe’s "Uncle Tom’s Cabin", for Mr. Coleman relates incidents to show upon what actual persons are based the characters in the tale of the thrilling escape of Eliza and her patsy across the Ohio.

Some of the facts that the author presents will not be new but he has made use of much hitherto unpublished material in the writing.

The book is well illustrated with old prints, runaway notices and bills of sale of slaves, portraits of important men of the period, and well-known places in the state. Again Mason countians will be glad to read more about such familiar names as the Rev. John G. Fee, of Lewis county, whose sacrifices in the cause of anti-slavery are today recognized in the Negro school which bears his name in Maysville.

Mr. Coleman is a Kentuckian, and both of his grandfathers were slaveholders planters in Fayette county, where he is now occupied in farming.

"Slavery Times in Kentucky" is his first book-length history since "Stagecoach Days in the Bluegrass." He is also the author of "Masonry in the Bluegrass" and "Lexington during the Civil War" besides historical articles for various historical magazines.

M.P.C.

THE DAILY INDEPENDENT—PAGE 5

MAYSVILLE, KY.

DECEMBER 16, 1940

COLEMAN, J. WINSTON, JR. Slavery Times in Kentucky. 8vo., cl. illus., 366 pages. 1940.

$3.00

Ruebush Catalogue, Mar.'41
Harrisonburg, Va.
SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY

J. Winston Coleman, Jr., University of Kentucky

Reviewed by V. L. Sturgill, Ashland High Teacher

SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY

J. Winston Coleman, Jr., University of Kentucky

In his recent volume, "Slavery Times in Kentucky," the Lexington, Ky., author and editor has given us a splendid and detailed history of the "peculiar institution," which is both informative and entertaining. It is a book that can be read with profit by all people, and especially Kentuckians. The authors and editors of this book are carefully researched and scholarly organization. While conforming to the time element in the handling of his material, Mr. Coleman is careful not to overwork the reader with material too detailed. He has organized the material in a manner most dramatic and convincing. "The slavery times in Kentucky are of great interest to the student of history, for it is a monument to the field of innumerable scholars and social historian.

"Slavery Times in Kentucky is a beautiful book both in form, typography, and presentation. It is rich in photographs of people, places, and documents associated with the slavery period. Some of the photographs are excellent, well-chosen, and carefully balanced to suit the printed content. Much of the illustrative material, as explained in his preface, has been "found in the yellowing court records which played an important role in directing the labor and in the Bluegrass State. It is not my purpose to write an economic or political history of slavery, but rather to tell the story of the life of the people in that part of Kentucky which was affected by slavery."

"Of interest to Eastern Kentuckians are the many incidents which occurred in Greenup, Carter, and Magoffin counties, especially in this section. These, however, cannot be fully appreciate without looking at the pictures as a whole. The Underground Railroad, a clever device of abolitionists and "rigger stealers" to spirit runaway slaves from Kentucky to freedom, is touched in some measure, almost every section of Kentuckiana along the Ohio River from the Big Sandy to the Mississippi."

"As the number of escaping slaves grew, the "rigger stealers" became more daring and sophisticated. These villages gained at strategic transfer centers along the Ohio River, such as Nobuck, Portsmouth, Ashland, Evansville, and Jeffersonville."

"The thrilling escape of Eliza and her husband Archie, who blockaded the Ohio River, which stirred ten thousand hearts, was aided and engineered by the Colfax. After her dramatic escape from Kentucky, much as Mrs. Stowe describes it, Eliza was concealed for days in a isolated spot near the home of the Reverend John Rankin of Ripley, Ohio. Another famous station on the Underground Railroad was the Robich-House in Covington. Many Negroes escaped after the most trying hardships, only to be captured and returned to bondage. A few purchased their freedom and were permitted to go into free territory."

"Some masters were very kind to their slaves, particularly those in the backwoods. They were not cruel and sensual. The profit motive nagged and encouraged villanous masters of all sizes. Some masters were very kind to their slaves and encouraged them to demoralize both master and servant. These incidents, taken with the other atrocities, the religious authority, the black man, are skillfully portrayed in the pages of "Slavery Times in Kentucky.""

"Here is also shown the Negro in the church of his choice, at his worst under the institution of slavery, and at his best without its influence. Frigntful wrongs were committed against him and were likewise committed by him. Shocking murders were committed by black and white alike. Such was the bane of that "peculiar institution," such was its everlasting disgrace. As one illustration, let us consider the following: "Townsville, a most shocking outrage," was committed in Greenup county, in northeastern Kentucky, further inflated the public mind and added some of the darker aspects of the domestic slave trade. Henry Gordon, a well-known Negro trader of this state, had recently purchased in Maryland about ninety Negroes, men, women, and children, and was taking them to the coast. They were seized and delivered by a local Negro who was known by the name of "J. B. Allen," and by William B. Pettit (or Pettitte), the local Negro, who conveyed the baggage."

"The men were handcuffed and chained together in the usual manner for driving these poor wretches while the women and children were suffered to proceed without incumbrance. By means of a file, the Negroes, unarmed, had succeeded in separating the iron which bound their hands, and in such a way as to be able to throw them off at any moment. About six o'clock in the morning (August 14, 1829), while proceeding on the state road leading from Greenup to Paintsville, the two of them dropped their shackles, and commenced to fight, when the waggoner, Pettit, rushed in with his whip to compel them to continue the journey."

"At that moment every Negro was found perfectly at liberty, and one of them, seizing a club gave Pettit a violent blow on the head and laid him dead at his feet; and Allen, who had come to his assistance, met a similar fate. The contents of a pistol fired by another of the gang, Gordon was then attacked, seized and held by the Negroes, while Pettit was twice fired at him with a pistol, the ball of which each time grazed his head, but not killing effect. He was then surrounded by club and kept from the ferry for dead." Gordon, in the meantime escaped and spread the alarm. The pursuit was on and the Negroes captured.

"Seven of the slaves, six men and one woman, thought to have been in pursuit of Negroes and emigrants, were tried for the murder of Allen and Pettit at the October term of the Greenup Circuit Court, at Greensburg. Five of the men—Jesse, John, Hooper, Fisher, and Levin—were found guilty and publicly hanged by Sheriff Ward King on November 20, 1830." Dinah, the slave woman, was "taken on May 23 of the following year, to the gallows, which had been erected in the courthouse yard at Greensburg, and hanged by the neck until dead.

"Plots for escape often created excitement. One such plot involved the Negroes of William McMinn, a large planter of Carthage, Ky. The Russellville Herald under date of January 23, 1857, carried this information. In the autumn, the Negroes of Wyoming in Beech county, fourty Negroes, "fully armed, were arrested at a colored festival. Their plan was to assemble all the Negroes of White Oak Creek and then to fight their way to Ohio." This fact is substantiated in the proceedings of the Whig."

"For December 26, 1836, those incidents, the dread of the Negro of being sold "down the river," the rising tide of anti-slavery sentiment, and the chance of a serious, raw-boned Kentuckian who had sworn he would hit the slavery wall, and hit it hard."

Abraham Lincoln, the Great Emancipator—spelt the doom of slavery in Kentucky and the United States forever. These, and the names of Henry Clay, Robert J. Breckinridge, Robert D. Wickliff, James G. Birney, John G. Fee, and others of their kind, brought to an end this "peculiar institution.""

On a high plane the author brings his book to an end. The dull roar of that Confederate cannon from Fort Johnson's mortar stands, the dead kneel of slavery, social order at once kindred yet cruel, benevolent though deplorable, in the song-celebrated 'land of the free.' J. Winston Coleman has written an unusual and important book in his "Slavery Times in Kentucky."
Slavery Times in Kentucky. By J. Winston Coleman, Jr. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press. 1940. Pp. xiv, 351. $3.00.)

So far as I can recall, no book about slavery describes the institution in such contrasting colors as does Coleman's Slavery Times in Kentucky, and this alternation of brightness and shadow is both intriguing and puzzling. At one extreme is the statement that "it does not seem too much to say that this [the Kentucky] system of bondage was the mildest that existed anywhere in the world" (p. 15). Coleman finds the explanation of the unique beneficence of Kentucky slavery in nature's generosity to all who live in the blue-grass state as well as in the fact that slavery was there integrated with a farm rather than a plantation system of economy. Hence there was little plantation regimentation, absentee ownership was infrequent, overseers were not numerous, and most of the slaves worked under the personal direction of their owners. About a third of the book is devoted to the ordinary, daily activities of slavery.

At the other extreme, a large part of the book, perhaps too much for a well-proportioned account of the institution, recounts bizarre and extraordinary events in which cruelty and bestiality were all too evident. These events occupied only a small fraction of the life of the slaves even when allowance is made for the fact that the shadows of such events fell far across the quiet periods of life. Insurrectionary plots, crimes, flights across the Ohio, kidnappings, and the purchase and sale of Negroes are told with rich detail drawn from local court records, newspapers, abolitionist propaganda, and other sources. Many of the episodes are dramatic and stirring, and the book will interest many readers by the very sharpness of the contrast between the goodness and evil that is set forth in this description of Kentucky slavery. In the accounts of the slave trade and of runaway slaves an unusual amount of new material is presented. An important contribution is made in the treatment of problems peculiar to the institution in a border state. Attention is given to the Kentucky Colonization Society, and there is a good chapter entitled "Crusaders for Freedom". Typography and binding are attractive, and the book is well illustrated.

The work would have been improved by a more critical use of the sources. Some of dubious validity were taken at face value, and in a few instances the interpretation of material is open to question. One example is the assertion (p. 206) that widespread kidnapping of free blacks is proved by the claims of many jailed fugitives that they were free; the fact is overlooked that bona fide slaves sometimes claimed to be free so as to lessen the chance of being returned to a disliked master.

Duke University,

Charles S. Sydnor.

American Historical Review

July, 1941
The Literary Guidepost

Slavery Times in Kentucky

By J.W. Coleman, Jr. (University of North Carolina Press, 1938)

Telling the history of slavery in Kentucky is no easy task. As John S. Elmore points out, there are many aspects to consider in understanding the institution. Slavery was a complex and multifaceted part of Kentucky's past, and its legacy continues to shape the state today.

Abraham Lincoln, six years before he became President, described the typical slave merchant to his listeners in Peoria, Ill., in these words: "You have been speaking of the case of the Negro in Kentucky. He watches your necessities and supplies you with your slave at a speculative price. If you cannot help it, you seli him; but if you can help it, you drive him from your door. You utterly despise him. You do not speak to him as your friend or even as an honest man. Your children must not play with him; they may roll his freely with the little negroes, not with the slave dealer's children."

Lincoln had observed the slave trade at the rear of the slave market at Lexington, Ky., his wife's home town, as relates J.W. Coleman, Jr., in his book, "Slavery Times in Kentucky" (University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, N.C., $3).

"Slavery's popularity was widespread. But in Kentucky, especially, it was hated with bitterness. The people considered it as the social equal, while the negroes were treated as mere property, the more so when one of them advertised his presence in the community."

For most of the period, the slave's jobs would be "sold down the river." To the rice and cotton fields of the Deep South - Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, it was a common sight to see slaves transported where they would be used most effectively.

The author, J.W. Coleman, Jr., describes the lives of these slaves in his book, "Slavery Times in Kentucky". The book is illustrated with old prints, maps, postcards, and bills of sale, portraits of important men of the period, and well-known places in the state.

At the end of the book, Mr. Coleman offers his own thoughts on the subject of slavery in Kentucky. He feels that the state was able to "live up to" its reputation as a place where slavery was not as prevalent as in other parts of the South, and he believes that the state had a "great deal less profitable" than it was farther south, where both rice and cotton were grown.

But Kentucky had its problems, as Mr. Coleman points out. One of these was the lack of geographic knowledge. The state was separated from free territory only by the Ohio river. This was an important fact, as the Underground Railroad passed through Kentucky, and the state was a key point in the struggle for freedom.

Mr. Coleman has used much hitherto unpublished material from old court records, has used newspaper records of occurrences in the state and elsewhere, and from interviews with former slaves and their friends. His book is one of the best accounts of Kentucky slavery yet published.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA PRESS - CHAPEL HILL · N·C

July 24, 1939

Mr. J. Winston Coleman, Jr.
Winburn Farm - Russell Cave Road
Lexington, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Coleman:

We shall be very glad to consider your manuscript, Slavery Times in Kentucky, when you have it ready.

The best way to send the manuscript is by insured express. Of course, we would expect you to pay carrying charges both ways.

Sincerely yours,

W. T. Couch
Director

Note: This is the first correspondence with the Univ. of North Carolina Press regarding the proposed book. At that time I had only ten of the twelve chapters completed.

J. W. Coleman Jr.

Mr. COLEMAN explains why it was that slaves in Kentucky were generally well-treated. It was not because there was any essential difference between the Kentucky planters and those farther south. The conditions, rather, were different, making for dissimilar considerations. In Kentucky master and slave were more closely associated in work; there was no need for a large number of slaves, and in the late 18th and 19th centuries the state was hardly more than a frontier. Slave labor was less profitable than in the cotton and rice states, where gangs of laborers were necessary.

Mr. Coleman has used much hitherto unpublished material from old court records; he has used newspaper accounts of occurrences in the state and elsewhere, and from interviews with former slaves and from his own family records. Both of his grandfathers were Kentuckians, and slave owners, and lived in Fayette county, where Mr. Coleman lives and farms. "Slavery Times in Kentucky" is readable, thorough, and gives every impression of being scholarly. The book is illustrated with old prints, runway notices and bills of sale of slaves, portraits of important men of the period, and well-known places in the state.
"SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY," by J. W. Coleman, Jr.: [University of North Carolina Press; $5.]

Telling the story of slavery in Kentucky is not quite the same as telling about the "peculiar institution" as it existed in the Deep South, for Kentucky was in a different, and sometimes more difficult, situation. It is this difference which J. W. Coleman, Jr., makes clear in his "Slavery Times in Kentucky."

And it is one that should be understood by writers who involve themselves in discussions of slave times anywhere in the South.

Slavery went to Kentucky with the earliest settlers, and in primitive days avarice was exceedingly useful to Kentuckians for the hard labor of clearing land, building houses, and fighting off Indians. But the difference between Kentucky and Alabama, for example, began to be evident when the country was settled—incidentally, certain parts of Kentucky, particularly Bourbon county, were at one period over-settled.

Then the "peculiar institution" was found in Kentucky to be a great deal less profitable than it was further south, where both rice and cotton needed a great deal of cheap labor. Kentucky slaves were, on the whole, better off than their racial brethren of the cotton states. This was not only because the work was less demanding; but because the institution was less a wholesale affair, and relationships between master and slave could be, and often were, much closer.

But Kentucky had some problems of her own, as Mr. Coleman shows. One of these was the fault of geography. Kentucky was separated from free territory only by the Ohio river. There was mounting friction between Kentucky and her neighbors. The state was a natural victim for the assaults of the abolitionists. Escape was comparatively easy, and attempts to regain escaped slaves led very often to bloody encounters and general bitterness. Not to mention the activities of those vermin who made a business of stealing free negroes from both sides of the Ohio, and selling them down the river. Or the fact that the author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" lived in Cincinnati.

Mr. Coleman has put the situation on record, and documented it. He examines the entire fabric, from its closely-woven and seemingly smooth beginning in the homes of the genity to its frayed ends in the clutches of the slave dealers and thieves. Some of the picture is not pretty, but the air is honest.
two talented ceteroon sisters sold on the auction block; the two sadistic Lewis brothers, with their fiendish and insane cruelty. Nor is pleasing comedy lacking: What, with the antics of old George, and his kind, the rues of the Underground Railroad conductors, and the Olympian, somewhat bombastic, acimony of the “Old Duke” Wickliffe and “Old Bob” Breeknridge.

As much of the volume’s vital material is revealed by court records, the charge may either be that the author introduces an excess of the extreme, the sensational in slavery, conveying a warped view of that institution. We did not receive such an impression. It may be realized, nevertheless, that, after all, slavery was neither normal nor natural, nor will ever human bondage be.

The book, itself, sheds considerable light upon these queries. For instance, note these lines:

“One the surface, near the end of the eighteen-fifties, the ‘peculiar institution’ had lost none of its outstanding characteristics. The strong ties of affection which bound the cabin to the big house could not always prevent cruel masters or callous overseers from rawidding the backs of helpless slaves. Coarse, hardhearted ‘niggah tradahs’ ruthlessly separated husband and wife, parent and child on the auction block; runaways furiously pushed leaky skiffs into the dark waters of the wading Ohio, following the North Star to freedom, while the breeze of moonlit summer nights bore the twangling rhythm of banjos and guitars and the melody of deep, rich voices. Slavery with all its lights and shadows stood apparently unchanged and, as many believed, unchangeable.”

Mr. Coleman’s Slavery Times in Kentucky should please the reading public, aid the historian, delight the librarian, and, withal, serve to keep alive that most picturesque and colorful period of Kentucky’s history.—Hambledon Tapp.

The Filson Club History Quarterly
Vol. 14, No. 4

The Lantern
Caro Green Russell.

Abraham Lincoln, six years before he became president, described the typical slave merchant to his letters to Peoria, Ill., in these words:

“You have among you a sneaking individual of the class of native tyrants, known as the ‘slave dealer.’ He watches your applicabilities and clings up to buy your slave at a speculative price. If you cannot help it, you sell, but he can help you drive him from your door. You utterly despise him, but you do not recognize him as your friend or even as an honest man. Your children must not play with him, or they may roll freely with the little Negroes, but not with the slave dealer’s children.”

Lincoln had observed the slave pens at the rear of Pajim’s jail at Lexington, Ky., and he described them in his book, Slavery Times in Kentucky” (University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, N. C., $3).

The slave traders were never popular with anybody. But in Kentucky, especially, they were hated with bitterness. The whites considered them as outside the social pale, while the Negroes trembled with anxiety when one of them advertised his presence in the community.

For that reason, none of the slaves would be shed down the river. To the rice and cotton felts of the Deep South—Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia. No worse fate could befall them, they knew. There they must likely labor under the hard eye of an ignorant overseer, a class of men who made to have had much in common with our well known convict guard. Absentee planters were not unusual in these states, and the slaves often suffered at the hands of the overseers. Fanny Kelle, in her Journal, wrote vividly of the condition, mostly horrible of the slaves belonging to her husband, Pierce Butler, who spent most of his time in the North. Of course all slave owners were inconsiderate of the welfare of their slaves. In his book, Slavery Times in Kentucky, a slave received better treatment, at a rule, than those of the East and farther South.

“Most of the Kentucky planters felt that their slaves were a trust and that it was their business to hold and use them as humanely and fairly as possible,” he writes. He quotes from the will of “Old Duke” Wickliffe, who owned about 120 slaves and requested that all of his “black people” be allowed to attend his funeral and that they were not required to labor on the day previous, nor on the day nor for two days thereafter. If it should become absolutely necessary to sell them, he instructed his executors to regard in such sale the “relation of husband, wife, parent and child, and see that they be not sold and divided separately and sold to good and humane masters.”

Mr. Coleman explains why it was that slaves of the state were generally well treated. It was not because there was any essential difference between the Kentucky planters and those farther South. The conditions rather were different, making for similar considerations. In Kentucky master and slave were more closely associated in work, there was no need for great numbers of slaves and in the late 18th and 19th centuries the state was barely more than a frontier. Slave labor was less profitable than in the cotton and rice states where gangs of laborers were necessary.

Mr. Coleman has used much unpublished material from old court records; he has used newspaper accounts of occurrences in the state and elsewhere, and from interviews with former slaves and from his own family records. Both of his grandfathers were Kentuckians and slave owners and lived in Fayette county, where Mr. Coleman lives and farms.

“Slavery Times in Kentucky” is readable, thorough, gives every impression of being scholarly. The book is illustrated with old prints, runaway notices and bills of sale of slaves, portraits of important men of the state and well known places in the state.

This Clipping From
COLUMBIA, S. C.
STATE

This Clipping From
NORFOLK, VA.
LEDGER DISPATCH

SEP 30 1940

If you have no mind for that sort of thing possibly you’ll be interested in “Slavery Times in Old Kentucky,” by J. W. Coleman, in which the University of North Carolina Press, of Chapel Hill, is distributing.

Reading what’s ahead of us one wants to go back to the good old days before the war—not the first World War but the War Between the States, where the worst that could happen to the blackest bouldman was to be sold down the river to the planters.

In his old Kentucky home, where Stephen Foster sang and which Harriet Beecher Stowe put into a romance that rent the States apart, the bouldman was far from being a member of organized labor today.

With the care of a specialist Mr. Coleman has assembled data from the days when the black members of the pioneer’s family fought side by side with the whites against the Red Men, down to the derelict days when they found that they were free to serve for what they could get. He put it into a book worthy of being cherished.

There may have been “Nigger weddings” in those days, even Simon Legrees, but the vilest compare favorably with the thugs of the Camera that have burned labor unions into cinders, sold their followers down the river and put their rivals on the spot.

It is possible that the black servants of that period had a better social security than the white slaves of today.
Depicts Both Sides of Slavery

SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY.
Reviewed by WIRT A. CATE

Mr. COLEMAN'S BOOK—totally devoid of moral indignation even where episodes are introduced and written in luminous style—provides a case history of America in many respects unique. So curiously detached, indeed, is the viewpoint that the reader has literally to walk until he discovers just what the author thinks of the South's "peculiar institution." The book is a volume presented with episodes and facts (fully and unobtrusively documented) that illustrate both the best and worst aspects of slavery.

From the first fourth of the book the reader gets the impression that he is to be treated to a carefully filtered picture illustrating the loyalty of slaves and the kindly aspects of the institution wherever it is found. Indeed, the author presents the facts and figures with a manner that makes the reader recall the old slaveholders' picture of the slave as the worker who labored night and day for his master, and who was contented with his lot in life. The book is a careful and scholarly presentation of the institution as it existed in the Southern States.

Mr. Coleman points out that the slaves of Kentucky, and especially those in the bluegrass where the yoke of bondage rested lightly, had an instinctive terror of being "sold South" by the "migger traders." From tales of horror and overwork brought back by runaway slaves, they heard that to be sold down the river meant separation from their families and loved ones, and long years under cruel taskmasters in the cotton and rice fields of Mississippi and Louisiana. By 1820 the increase in slaveholding had increased the demand for labor, and the traffic, as a consequence, had assumed unpleasant proportions, with the traders wandering over the country with regular auction days in the larger towns. "Coffee" of twenty to fifty black and white men and women were sold every Sunday on the slave market in Lexington, where the manner of their display and sale was unusually revolting. Finally, there are splendid sections dealing with the underground "slave trade" by means of which so many slaves escaped across the Ohio, and with the anti-slavery crusaders who zealously agitated against the institution.

The book is a valuable contribution to the study of slavery in Kentucky, and the period just before the Revolutionary War, and the institution of slavery, which had spread so fast as naturally as it had to other sections of the Old Dominion. While the struggle for independence prevented any large immigration during the five years of the Revolution, the period immediately thereafter was one when literally thousands set out to reoccupy their former holdings beyond the Alleghenies. While the settler brought in his human chattels along with his tools, he, and his household goods, the veritable solitudes of the vast wilderness and the isolation of the scattered settlements made the slave more prosperous. Indeed, as the author points out, the oppressive farming for the slave, the human kindred, the companionship of master and slave, were an essential condition to the happiness and survival of the backwoods home, and the "Uncle Ben" of the baking. The author's account of the slave is a true reflection of the institution that he is describing, and the book is a valuable contribution to the study of slavery in Kentucky.

Books Out Today

"Who Walk Alone," by Perry Burgess (Holt, $2.75). The story of a young American soldier who came back to a small town to discover that he had contracted leprosy in the Philippines.


"Bellevue," by Lorraine Maynard in collaboration with Lawrence Musicall (Nesbitt, $2.50). The famous institution is described in this book.

"Pageant of Adventure," by Lowell Thomas (Putnam, $2.50). Two hundred stories of globe-traveling adventures.


"Red Carolinians," by Chapman Chapman (University of North Carolina, $4). Tracing the history of the Carolina Indians through the removals to the West to their lives and achievements today.

"The Light From the Flag," by George W. Dall (University of North Carolina, $3.50). The story of the Carolina Indians through the removals to the West to their lives and achievements today.

This CLIPPING FROM
ASHVILLE, N. C.
CITIZEN

SEP 22 1940

Cooper Writes
Book On Slavery

TELLING the story of slavery in Kentucky is not quite the same as telling about the "peculiar institution" as it existed in the deep South, for Kentucky was in a different, and sometimes more difficult, situation. It is that difference which J. W. Coleman, Jr., makes clear in his "Slavery Times in Kentucky." (University of North Carolina Press, $3.) And it is one that is not easily understood by writers who do not have the same experience as their readers. But in this book, which was written and published in Kentucky, the story of slavery is told from the perspective of the people who lived through it.

Slavery went to Kentucky with the earliest settlers, and in primitive days slaves were exceedingly useful to Kentuckians for the hard labor of clearing land, building houses, and fighting off Indians. But the difference between Kentucky and Alabama, for example, becomes more evident when one considers that when the country was settled—incidentally, certain parts of Kentucky, particularly Bourbon County, were as prospering as any other.

Then the "peculiar institution" was found in Kentucky to be a great deal less profitable than it was farther south, where both rice and cotton needed a great deal of labor. Kentucky slaves were, on the whole, better off than their counterparts in the southern states. This was not only because the work was less demanding, but because the institution was less a business affair, and relationships between master and slave could be, and often were, much closer. But it was not without some problems of its own, as Mr. Coleman shows. One of these was the fact that the institution was separated from free territory only by the Ohio River. There was a great deal of friction between the communities on the Ohio and Kentucky sides, which led to the abolitionists in Kentucky. This escape was comparatively easy, and attempts to regain escaped slaves led very often to bloody encounters and general bitterness. Not to mention the activities of those Vermonters who made a business of stealing free negroes from both sides of the Ohio, and selling them down the river. Or the fact that the author of "Tom's Cabin" lived in Cincinnati!

Mr. Coleman has put the situation on record, and documented it. He examines the entire fabric from it: closely-woven and ostensibly smooth beginning in the homes of the white people, and proceeding to the ill-treated race in the cities of the slave dealers and thieves. Some of the picture is not pretty, but it all has the air of honesty.
Slavery Was Big Business in Kentucky, Exhibit Shows

Although Harriet Beecher Stowe wrote, in "Uncle Tom's Cabin," that slavery "in its mildest form" was practiced in Kentucky, the exhibit now in the libraryoyer shows that the Negro trade was big business, especially in Central Kentucky.

The exhibit contains the source materials used in the preparation of "Slavery Times in Kentucky," the latest book by J. Winston Coleman, Jr., a graduate of the engineering college in 1930 and a Fayette county farmer.

Sale advertisements, receipts of slave transactions, and Coleman's research notes show that slaves were valued at as much as $4,400, as indicated by the acknowledgement of a sale of a Negro girl. One William P. Talbott, Lexington, published on July 8, 1833, his offer to pay $1,200 to $1,400 for No. 1 young men and $850 for No. 1 young women to be sold at the New Orleans market.

Market at Cheapside

The local slave market is Cheapside, attracted sellers from all parts of the Bluegrass. On January 18, 1855, according to the library display, John Darke, Esq., of Lewis county, offered 21 "hacks" and two "women" at public sale here. As Coleman shows in his source materials, slaveholders had difficulty with runaway property. One Stanford Graves, of Scott county, offered $500 reward for a "runaway" on July 22, 1833. Often the masters posted reward notices in post offices, grocers', and other public places.

One of these notices advertised a $100 reward for "my Black Woman, named Emily, seventeen years of age, well grown, black color, has a warning voice." Another described a runaway as having "several of his foot teeth out; and upon body are several old marks of the whip, one of them straight down the back."

Passe Quotidie

Original papers in the display give evidence that slaves could not love the estate without permission. A "pass," issued by a certain John Darke, of Livingston county on September 26, 1832, states that "Allen does bargain and trade for him self, until the first day of May next, and also to pass and return from Livingston county, Kentucky, to the Monticello county estate of Virginia Morganstent, and then to return home."

The display also contains pictures of the quarters of two of Fayette county's better-known slave traders, L. C. Bobbitt and Edward Stone. One picture shows Stone's home, in the center of which were six slave prisons. The place, known as "the Grove," is four miles from Paris.

There are also pictures of the John Rankin house, overlooking the Ohio river at Ripley, Ohio, and the Bethel house at Covington. These were important quarters for underground railway activities.

Slavery Times in Kentucky, fascinatingly and scholarly written, well documented, illustrated with art old prints, portraits, and handbills, and season with local color, is a distinct contribution to the literature of slavery.

W. G. BEAN, Washington and Lee University.

THE KENTUCKY KERNEL

TUES., OCT. 22, 1940

COLEMAN DESCRIBES KENTUCKY SLAVERY

SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY: By J. W. Coleman, Jr.; Chapel Hill: the University of North Carolina Press; $3.00

By WENDELL S. REYNOLDS

J. W. Coleman, Jr., is engaged in farming in Fayette county, Ky., where both of his grandparents were slaveholders, planters, and he has done extensive research in writing several historical books on the field. His familiarity with the people and their customs as well as a thorough study of this particular subject is evident in his sympathetic but unbiased "Slavery Times in Kentucky." His information comes from many sources - newspapers, court records, reminiscences, personal interviews with former slaves and former slaveholders and his own family records. Posters and newspaper advertisements also form the illustrations, which also include a slave auction in Lexington, a court day sale in Maysville, stations on the Underground Railroad and portraits of men prominent in abolition controversies.

The early slaves in the territory were used either for labor or to build homes, and fighting the Indians. Possibly that is one reason why the sons of the pioneers did not let the rock of bondage rest heavily on the necks of their Negroes. The affectionate relationship that grew up between the "Big House" and the "Quarters" forms an interesting part of the book. In the early eighties most of the bondmen were apparently happy with their lot.

As slave labor became less profitable, however, traders began to buy Kentucky Negroes for "down the river" and cotton plantations, the shadow of fear hovered constantly over a great many of them. Disillusionment grew with the increasing wealth of the abolitionists and "agitator" teachers. A great many of the slaves, either of the own accord or under the influence of agents of the Underground Railroad, fled across the Ohio River and followed the north star to Canada and freedom.

An interesting account of several of the escapes between the plantation and abolitionists, some of them leading to bloodshed, is presented by Mr. Coleman. The book also discusses the legal status of the Negroes, the economic and legal aspects of slavery, and the fate of African colonization and the customs prevailing on the plantations. The marriage ceremony of a Negro couple was often consisted of nothing more than jumping over a broomstick.

The picture Mr. Coleman presents is clear and undisguised. It should be of special interest not only to historians but to those having family connections in Kentucky, as many West Virginians have.
SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY

By J. Winston Coleman, Jr.

AN ACCOUNT of the life, manners and customs of the "peculiar institution" as it existed in the Bluegrass State. Slavery came in with the earliest settlers; slaves were invaluable aids in clearing the forests, building homes, and guarding against Indians. As the land became settled, however, slave labor was found to be much less profitable than in the Deep South, where large gangs were needed for the rice and cotton fields, and slave life was proverbially easier than in most slave states. Interesting accounts have been left by travelers in this section, many of which have been drawn on to present the picture given here.

The author has also made use of much hitherto unpublished material from old court records; he has drawn extensively from newspaper accounts of occurrences in the state and elsewhere, and from interviews with ex-slaves and from his own family records and large collection of Kentuckiana.

The reader will find an accurate picture of the times from every point of view: slavery as it affected the day-to-day activities of master and slave; the economic and legal aspects of slavery and the activities of the "nigger traders" with their slave depots and coffee gangs headed "down the river"; the pleasant and unpleasant sides of the "peculiar institution"—leisure and threats of servile insurrection for the masters, irresponsibility and physical and mental cruelty for the slave; the Utopian schemes of African colonization; the unselfish, but to the planters, devilish and seditious, interest of the abolitionists in the slaves, as shown by newspaper articles and memoirs of the times.

The book is profusely illustrated with old prints, runaway notices and bills of sale of slaves, portraits of important men of the period, and many well-known places throughout the state.

Mr. Coleman is a Kentuckian, and both of his grandfathers were slaveholding planters in Fayette County, where he is now occupied in farming. He is also the author of Masonry in the Bluegrass, Lexington during the Civil War, and Stage-Coach Days in the Bluegrass, besides several articles for historical magazines.

Profusely illustrated. 350 pages. Size 6" x 9". Ready. $3.00.
Collection Of Slave Lore Is On Display At U. K. Library

By L. T. Igelhart

"Theoldest time old Miss Eliza beat me was when I caused her to change her name to Nancy to get her up to do boss.

Written upon the open page of a typewritten volume, containing personal interviews with remnants of Kentucky’s almost-forgotten slave race, these few words of distinctly typify the Old Black-Joe atmosphere created at the University of Kentucky library, where the state’s most complete exhibit of slave material is on display.

Arranged in the eight wall cabinets and four floor cases on the library’s first floor are original parchments and source material, the notes, the pictures and the book proofs that resulted in the recent book, "Slavery Times In Kentucky" by J. Winston Coleman, Jr., Lexington author and historian.

Miss Tuttle Arranged Exhibit

The materials were furnished by Mr. J. Winston Coleman in his volume, "Slavery Times In Kentucky," and the exhibition, "Miss Tuttle’s Slaves," which is a recent book of old black-Joe, the University library staff recently took the materials, arranged them and made the result was a small chunk of the old, old South.

To remain on display through Nov. 15, the exhibit is composed of large, small units, portraying this phase of the history of slave life in the eighteen hundred. In one case are the original parchments, in faultless handwriting of more than a century ago. A receipt for the $1,400 sale of a young slave girl named "Kitty Lee" is placed next to the yellowed "pass" paper, without which a slave was not allowed to leave his master’s estate.

Pictures FREED Slaves

Here, also, are the original rental contracts by which one white man rented a slave from another, stipulating the amount of food and clothing to be provided, and "free papers" with the Fayette county seal, granted by kindly masters to slaves who had served out their time.

The exhibit contains photostatic copies of posters advertising the sale of a "likely lot of good Negro slaves," and posters offering substantial rewards for the return of runaways. One owner advised that his runaway be recognized by "anyone’s nose." In this case are the print offices of professional slave-traders to pay first-class prices for good slaves.

SLAVE TIMES IN KENTUCKY.

By L. Winston Coleman, Jr., University of North Carolina Press. $3.

The special character of slavery in Kentucky, where the absence of large plantations made it a domestic rather than a commercial institution ("My Old Kentucky Home"), is treated here together with its connection, through the slave trade, with the wider problem of slavery in America. Although primarily for specialists, the volume is a particularly readable example of the valuable regional historical studies emanating from Chapel Hill. Photographs, old prints, and facsimiles of old handbills and other documents add both to its charm and to its value.

The NATION

Oct. 26, 1940

Slavery as it affected the daily activities of master and slave, the economic and legal aspects of slavery and the activities of "slave traders," with their slave depots and cargo gangs headed "down the river," the Ugandan schemes of African colonization, etc.
Thomas Parvin, Kentucky’s Trained Printer, Lost Two Children in Indian Attack

The earliest professionally trained printer to set type in Kentucky—50 miles from the nearest newspaper or print shop—was Thomas Parvin, who had worked in the Philadelphia shop of William Bradford.

Parvin is said to have come to Kentucky in the fall of 1764, settling at Crew’s Station, near Danville. He wintered there and in the spring bought a farm on Dick’s river, a few miles out of Danville. Because of danger of Indian depredations, he moved to Constant’s Station in June.

In 1765, John Bradford had decided to publish a paper, which was greatly needed to inform and unite the scattered residents of this district of Virginia, who were seeking formation of a new state. Fielding, Bradford, younger brother of John Bradford, had spent three months in Pittsburgh studying printing and buying type for the Kentucky vent.

Meanwhile Parvin, who had done nothing for 20 years, had started teaching at Strode’s Station. John Bradford had sold his press to Parvin and had sent him for his son. The date that Parvin joined the Gazette stands in this controversy. John Bradford wrote that he parted—Fielding Bradford—had been ill for a fortnight before the first Gazette was issued, and that he—John—had had to put the first issue out single-handed.

Thomas Parvin’s son, Henry, in an interview with the Rev. John D. Shanes (Jillson’s “First Printing in Kentucky,” page 11) claimed that his father was killed by the Bradford before the first Gazette was published, that he found the forms made up wrong, remade them, and actually struck the first sheet, or proof, from the small Washington hand press.

The weight of much of the evidence, however, indicates that Parvin joined the Gazette after the first issue was printed, and this rests heathen by John Wills, president of the local Bradford club, and others.

Thomas Parvin did move to Lexington and worked with the Bradfords several months then, in the spring, for only one day each week—Saturday, since Parvin had begun to teach again.

Shane’s Interview with Fielding Bradford credited Parvin with being “the first person who worked in the office that had served a regular apprenticeship to the business.”

Fielding had studied the three months in Pittsburgh and bought type and taught to Parvin in his own type-setting.

Literary Guidepost
BY JOHN ELBY

“Slavery in Kentucky,” by W. T. McAmis, University of North Carolina.

Telling the story of slavery in Kentucky is not quite the same as telling about the “peculiar institution” as it existed in the Deep South, for Kentucky was different, and, sometimes more difficult, as the state that was “the state of the Antebellum Kentucky.”

The state was a natural victim for the vices of the abolitionists, escapes to the north of the border, or by the underground railroad to Canada or west.

One of the first temporary escapees was an escaped slave who was born in Kentucky and sold down the river. Or the fact that the author of “Uncle Tom’s Cabin” lived in Lexington.

Mr. Coleman has put the situation on record, and documented it. He re-creates the entire fabric, from the closely-woven and ostensibly smooth beginning in the homes of the families who provided、“the island of the state, to the misery of the slave dealers and thieves. Some of the picture is not pretty, but it all has the air of honesty.

SLAVERY TIMES, MUNCIE, IND., STAR

SEP 17 1940

Author Releases New Publication On Slave Days

More than four years were spent by J. Winston Coleman Jr., Lexington author and historian, in researching and writing through dusty court records, old newspapers, diaries and letters, as well as interviews with numerous patriots and former slaves to give material on “Slavery Times in Kentucky,” which is an account of the life, manners and customs of the institution of Negro slavery as it existed in the Blue Grass State.

This book, published by The University of North Carolina Press, number 300 pages with numerous illustrations of rare broadsides, bills of sale for slaves, runaway notices, portraits of important men of the period, and well-known places in the State. The new chapter deals with the Underground Railroad, with accounts of Kentucky slave fleeing from their masters, their hardships and privations while enroute to Canada on this mysterious trail. Another chapter, “The White River,” describes the system of selling slaves from Kentucky and other border slave States to Mississippi and Louisiana, where large gangs of enslaved blacks were used in the cotton and sugar cane fields of the Far South.

Exciting accounts are related by Mr. Coleman on the futile and hazardous attempts of the abolitionists to establish their anti-slavery newspapers in slaveholding Kentucky, the most famous and most colorful of these being The True American, which was set up and operated for a while at Lexington by Cassius M. Clay. This paper, as were the others, was suppressed by the slave-owners’ element which heavily prevailed in Kentucky.

Agricultural pursuits are likewise given their place in this book. It is pointed out by the author that hemp was the “money crop” of ante-bellum Kentucky and was grown principally in the rich counties of the Blue Grass region. Kentucky ranked first, with Missouri second, as a hemp-producing State. Tobacco in the days before the war was raised in large quantities in the counties of Daviess, Christian, Todd, Henderson, Caldwell and Barren—any one of which in 3840 produced more than the five rich counties surrounding Lexington, the county seat of Fayette County.

Efforts of the Kentucky Colonization Society to transport and colonize emancipated slaves from Kentucky in its colony on the western shores of the Ohio, which is known as Negro Kentucky in Liberia, are pictured at length. Over a period of thirty years, this worthy but impractical social experiment plan was tried to rid the State of free Negroes, but the effort failed and turned out to be nothing more than a great fantastic dream.

“Slavery Times in Kentucky,” which consists of twelve chapters, is well documented and is written according to the standard requirements of modern writing. This book might well be termed an accurate and authentic account of life and labor in ante-bellum Kentucky, in which the reader will find an interesting picture of the times from every point of view; slavery as it affected the day-by-day activities of both master and slave; the economic and legal aspects of the system of African bondage and the activities of the “negro traders” with their slave depots and coffee gangs headed “down the river”; the pleasant and unpleasant sides of the “peculiar institution”; the auction block where husband and wife, parent and child, were ruthlessly separated; the “fiddlers”; rumors and threats of slave insurrections and uprisings; the devilish and devious intrigues of the abolitionists in the slaves as shown by newspaper articles and memoirs of the times. The price of the book is $3 and copies may be obtained from the author at Lexington, or the publisher at Chapel Hill, N. C.

FALMOUTH OUTLOOK

OCTOBER 4, 1940

This Clipping From
COVINGTON, KY.
KENTUCKY TIMES STAR

U. K. ALUMNUS WRITES BOOK ON SLAVERY

J. Winston Coleman, Lexington, is Author.

“Slavery in Kentucky,” the title of a book by J. Winston Coleman, Lexington author, and alumnus of the University of Kentucky, has just come from the press.

Slavery in Kentucky has always constituted an interesting source of conversation, but, until now, however, the work of this subject has not been available in such form that they could be read and enjoyed. Coleman, author of the book, "Slavery in Kentucky, The Blue Grass," has produced what is perhaps the most interesting study of slavery in a book for general reading.

The author has been thoroughly honest in his book, having been an eyewitness to many of the facts of the period. The reader will find both the good and bad of slavery presented with sufficient documentary material to叙述 the validity of the facts," says Dr. T. D. Clark, associate professor of history at the University, in a recent complimentary book. "The state is indeed fortunate in having a native son who has written and brought about an interest into his archives and to produce a book which is as informative and enlivening as this one."
SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY

April 5, 1940

KINGSPORT PRESS, INC.

Kingsport, Tennessee
SLAVERY TIMES
in Kentucky

By

J. WINSTON COLEMAN, JR.

Author of
Stage Coach Days in the Bluegrass, etc.

Chapel Hill

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA PRESS

1940
LEXINGTONIANS WRITE BOOKS—Pictured above are four Lexingtonians who will have books published within the next few months. They are, left to right, Dr. Thomas D. Clark, who is engaged in writing “The Kentucky River,” Dr. W. F. Gallaway, whose book, “Reason, Rule and Revolt in English Classicism,” will be released soon; J. Winston Coleman Jr., whose historical work on “Slavery Times in Kentucky,” now is being printed, and Dr. J. Huntley Dupre, who has written a biography entitled “Lucas Carnot: Republican Patriot.”

LEXINGTON RATES HIGH IN REALM OF BOOK-WRITING; WORKS BY FOUR LOCAL MEN ARE IN VARIOUS STAGES OF PREPARATION OR PUBLICATION

By John F. Day

Lexington, for all its claim to being a seat of culture, is not the best book-buying city in the world, but right now it's holding its own in the realm of book-writing.

Four Lexingtonians will have books published within the next few months, and according to a tentative outline submitted to the publisher, the river will form the backbone of the stories. The four who have books definitely on the way are Dr. Thomas D. Clark, Dr. J. Huntley Dupre and Dr. W. F. Gallaway, a University of Kentucky, and J. Winston Coleman Jr., Fayette historian.

Dr. Clark, who in the past has written “The Rampaging Frontier” for the Bobbs-Merrill Company, “History of Kentucky” for Prentice-Hall, Inc., and “Exploring Kentucky” (in collaboration with Dr. Lee Kinstler of Paris) for the American Book Company, has a contract with Farrar and Rinehart to write “The Kentucky River,” one of the company's popular and valuable “Rivers of America” series.

He has been gathering material for about a year and a half, and expects to have the manuscript ready early in July. According to a tentative outline submitted to the publisher, the river will form the backbone of his story. He has plans for some 22 chapters dealing in a popular vein with Kentucky and Kentuckians, past and present.

Included among the subjects he will tell will be those of John Swett and his famous silver mine, a legend contrasted with the palaeolithic range that has its heart in the Kentucky-river valley; Shawnee Trace; the Indian town in the state and the early scouts visited when they came to the territory prior to white settlement; the Cincinnati and the Ohio River, as the river that shaped the river; the river that shaped the river, as the river that shaped the river, as the river that shaped the river.

Biography of Carnot

Dr. Dupre has a new book being printed by the Mississippian Valley Press, Oxford, Ohio, is a biography entitled “Lucas Carnot: Republican Patriot.”

As Dr. Dupre has set forth in the South Atlantic Quarterly: “His (the Frenchman's) claim to fame rests on his record as a member of the Committee of Public Safety, charged with the direction of the personnel and the movements of the 14 revolutionary armies that saved France, and, no doubt, the Revolution. His training as an army officer prepared him for his general military services and made him the innovator and the modernizer in the field of fortifications and defense that he was. Carnot was a mathematician and scientist of no little originality and renown. He is also revealed, strangely enough, as a poet of some charm and merit. In addition to being a member of the Committee of Public Safety, during which were the most critical moments in the history of the French Revolution, Carnot was a member of the Legislative Assembly, the Convention and the Napoleonic Tribunate. He was an original member of the Executive Directory, and was twice a Minister of State under Napoleon. His life was concluded at three score years and ten in exile, under proscription by Louis XVIII, because of his political faith and conduct.”

Dr. Dupre's book, as well as Dr. Gallaway's book, will be published through partial grants of the University Committee on Publications from the Margaret Voorhees Haggan Fund, established in memory of the late James B. Haggan.

Dr. Gallaway's book, “Reason, Rule and Revolt in English Classicism,” will be distributed by H. C. Scribner's Sons. He expects to receive proofs within a few days.

A scholarly work of some 460 printed pages, the book analyzes English tastes in the 18th century, making a fresh approach to the subject by revealing what the authors themselves thought about literary ideas of the century. Dr. Gallaway has endeavored to show that the philosophical and scientific background was more important than the influence of the ancients.

The book is divided into three sections—literature and science, history and art, and the works of the century. It is divided into three sections—literature and science, history and art, and the works of the century. It is divided into three sections—literature and science, history and art, and the works of the century. It is divided into three sections—literature and science, history and art, and the works of the century.
SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY

Slavery Times in Kentucky, by J. Winston Coleman, Jr., of Lexington, Kentucky, will be published in the summer of 1940 by the University of North Carolina Press. It is an account of the life, manners, and customs of the "peculiar institution" as it existed in the Blue Grass State. The book will consist of 325 pages and will contain 33 full-page illustrations of rare and unpublished documents and pictures.

Slavery was found in both its least objectionable and most colorful forms in Kentucky. Nevertheless, as Harriet Beecher Stowe pointed out in Uncle Tom's Cabin, the possibility of being sold "down the river" threatened the security of every Kentucky slave, no matter how kind his master, or how happy his life in the Blue Grass might be.

Mr. Coleman discusses this subject thoroughly, and uses Stephen Foster's great song, My Old Kentucky Home, as a portrayal of both the virtues and the evils of Kentucky slavery, in his chapter, "Down the River."

The Foster Hall staff has read the manuscript of this book, and feels that all students of the pre-Civil War period and of our American background, will find Slavery Times in Kentucky intensely interesting.

ABOUT THE BOOK

Attractively bound in natural finish cloth with ink stamping in red and brown; dust jacket of tan paper printed in two colors. Profusely illustrated. 366 pages. Size 6" x 9". To be published September 28.

$3.00

Slavery times in Kentucky. Coleman, J. W., Jr. 3.00
Univ. of N. C. Press (28)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mr. Coleman is a Kentuckian, and both of his grandfathers were slaveholding planters in Fayette County, where he is now occupied in farming. He is also the author of Masonry in the Bluegrass, Lexington during the Civil War, and Stage-Coach Days in the Bluegrass, besides historical articles for various historical magazines.
"SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY." by J. W. Coleman, Jr.: (University of North Carolina Press: $3).

TELLING the story of slavery in Kentucky is not quite the same as telling about the "peculiar institution" as it existed in the deep South, for Kentucky was in a different, and sometimes more difficult, situation. It is this difference which J. W. Coleman, Jr., makes clear in his "Slavery Times in Kentucky." And it is one that should be understood by writers who involve themselves in discussions of slave times anywhere in the South.

"Slavery went to Kentucky with the earliest settlers, and in primitive days slaves were exceedingly useful to Kentuckians for the hard labor of clearing land, building houses, and fighting off Indians. But the difference between Kentucky and Alabama, for example, began to be evident when the country was settled—incidentally, certain parts of Kentucky, particularly Bourbon County, were at one period overpopulated.

Then the "peculiar institution" was found in Kentucky to be a great deal less profitable than it was farther south, where both rice and cotton needed a great deal of cheap labor. Kentucky slaves were, on the whole, better off than their racial brethren of the cotton states. This was not only because Kentucky was less demanding, but because the institution was less a wholesale affair, and relationships between master and slave were, and often were, more tender.

But Kentucky had some problems of her own, as Mr. Coleman shows. One of these was the fault of geography. Kentucky was separated from free territory only by the Ohio River. There was no friction between Kentucky and her neighbors. The state was a natural victim for the assaults of the slave states. Escape was comparatively easy, and attempts to regain escaped slaves led very often to bloody encounters and general bitterness. Not to mention the activities of those vermin who made a business of stealing free negroes from both sides of the Ohio, and selling them down the river. Or the fact that the author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" lived in Cincinnati!

Mr. Coleman has put the situation on record, and documented it. He describes the entire fabric, from its closely-woven and ostensibly smooth beginning in the homes of the settlers, to its frayed ends in the lives of the slave dealers and thieves. Some of the picture is not pretty, but it all has the air of honesty.

THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW

September 29, 1940.
SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY

J. WINSTON COLEMAN, JR.
SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY

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The book is well illustrated with old prints, runaway notices and bills of sale of slaves, portraits of important men of the period, and well-known places in the state.
New Kentucky Book
On Old Slave Days

More than four years was spent
by J. Winston Coleman, Jr., Lex-
ington author and historian, in
covering through dusty court
records, old newspapers, diaries
and letters, as well as with inter-
views with numerous patriots
and former slaves to gather ma-
terial for "Slavery Times In Ken-
tucky," which is an account of the
life, manners and customs of the
institution of Negro slaves which
existed in the Bluegrass State.

This book, published by The
University of North Carolina Press
contains over three hundred and
fifty pages with numerous illus-
trations of rare broadsides, bills
for sale of slaves, runaway notices,
portraits of important men of the
period and well-known places in
the state. One chapter, "Down the
Underground Railroad, with
accounts of Kentucky slaves flas-
ing from their masters, their har-
dships and privations while enroute
to Canada on this mysterious rail-
road. Another chapter, "The True
American," which was set up and
operated for a while at Lexing-
ton by Cassius M. Clay. This paper,
as were the others, was short-
lived and was suppressed by the pro-
slave element which heavily prev-
ailed in Kentucky.

Agricultural pursuits are like-
wise given their place in this book.
It is pointed out by the author that
the most abundant crop of the
state was hemp. The raw material
in the counties of Daviess, Christian,
Todd, Henderson, Caldwell and
Barren which in 1840 produced more
than all of the five rich Bluegrass
counties surrounding Lexington,
the county seat of Fayette.

Efforts of the Kentucky Coloni-
ization Society to transport and
migrate colonized slaves from
Kentucky in its colony on the west-
ern shores of Africa, which was
known as "Kentucky in Liberia," are
pictured at length. Over a
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ment plan was tried to rid the state
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aspects of the system of African
bondage and the activities of the
"niggah traders" with their slave
depots and coffin gangs; the slave
"down the river" and the pleasant
and unpleasant sides of the "peculiar
institution"; the auction block
where husband and wife, parent
and child were ruthlessly separat-
ed; the "patterrollers"; rumors and
threats of slave insurrections; the
devilish and seductive interest of
the abolitionists in the slaves as
shown by newspaper articles and
literature of the times. The price
on the book is $3.00 and copies may
be obtained from the publisher at
Chapel Hill, North Carolina, or the
author at Lexington.

Bath County News-Outlook
September 26, 1940.

Random Book Talk
By Fred G. Neuman

THE ENQUIRER, CINCINNATI

September 28, 1946

THE PADDUCAH SUN-DEMOCRAT

OCTOBER 6, 1940
J. W. Coleman’s Third Book Describes Slavery In State

SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY.
By J. W. Coleman, Jr., University of North Carolina Press. $3.

It is strange that Lexington, which has been a seat of learning and an intellectual center since its earliest days, should neglect to write anything about its citizens today such a small group of authors. It is perhaps true that books published by the University of North Carolina Press contain over three hundred and fifty pages with numerous illustrations of rare books, bills of sale for slaves, runaway notices, portraits of important men, and periodicals in the state. One chapter deals with the Underground Railroad, which accounts for Kentucky slaves fleeing from their masters, their hardships, and privations while on the run to Canada on this mysterious railroad. Another chapter deals with the abolitionists who were responsible for the writing of books in Kentucky. This book describes the system of selling slaves from Kentucky and border slave states to Mississippi and Louisiana, where large numbers of enslaved blacks were employed in the rice, cotton, and sugar-cane fields of the deep South. Exciting accounts are related by Mr. Coleman of the futile and hazardous attempts by the abolitionists to establish their anti-slavery newspapers in slaveholding Kentucky, which the best known and most colorful of these journals is The True American, which was published near the border of Kentucky by Cassius Clay. This paper, as were the others, was short-lived and was suppressed by the slaveholding element which heavily proscribed it in Kentucky. Agricultural pursuits are likewise given their place in this book. It is pointed out by the editor that the “Free Press” of ante-bellum Kentucky and was grown principally in the rich bluegrass counties of central Kentucky. This state was also the second largest hemp-producing state. Tobacco in the days “befo de war” was grown in large quantities in the counties of Davison, Christian, Todd, Henderson, Caldwell and Barren—and one of which in 1860 produced more than all of the five rich counties surrounding Lexington, the county seat of Fayette. Efforts of the Kentucky Colonization Society to transport and colonize emancipated slaves from Kentucky to its colony on the western shores of Africa, which was known as “Kentucky in Liberia,” are pictured at length. Over a period of thirty years, the effort was impractical, but the scheme of African colonization proved too costly and turned out to be nothing more than a great fantasy dream.“Slavery Times in Kentucky,” which consists of twelve chapters, is well documented and written accord-
"SLAVERY IN KENTUCKY"—

Henderson is in the news again, this time in book form. In a book released for review yesterday under the title "Slavery Times in Kentucky," J. Winston Coleman, Jr., includes a story of slavery days in Henderson County. He obtained some of his material from Evelyn Phillips who was, at the time of the book's writing, deputy circuit clerk under Beatrice Critzer Williams. Apparently Evelyn's research was of great value to Mr. Coleman, for, in the preface to his book, Author Coleman makes grateful acknowledgement to those who aided him with "valuable court records, personal recollections," etc., and includes the name of Evelyn Phillips of Henderson in this list.

We became interested in the book primarily because of the Henderson touch. It didn't take long for the material itself to reach out and hold us. We read it with great interest from cover to cover, and found it not only enlightening, but thoroughly entertaining. The writing could hold themselves and their personal prejudices in such obsolescence as does Mr. Coleman. He has taken documentary evidence to support his conclusions regarding the days of slavery in old Kentucky, and he presents the good and the bad with impartiality.

The main reference to Henderson in the book is contained in the chapter dealing with "The Darker Side" of slavery. He tells the story of a cruel overseer of Henderson County, Jim Kiddie, who was so hated by the slaves that they eventually rose up in rebellion, strangeling him with a piece of cotton rope. The case eventually reached the courts, and it was through Evelyn Phillips' research in the court records of 1862 that Mr. Coleman obtained the material for this book.

Hendersonians will be interested in "Slavery Times in Kentucky" not only because of the local touch, but because it is a balanced and fair treatment of a controversial subject, and because it adds much that is new to an old theme.

It is published by the University of North Carolina press (Chapel Hill), and reviewed today in MBG's column "In Your Library."

Henderson, Ky.
Gleaner & Journal
Sept. 29, 1940

Finds Slavery Was Different In Kentucky

Author Reveals Peculiar Problems Faced by Blue-Grass State

(Reviewed by John Selby)

"SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY" by J. Winston Coleman, Jr. (University of North Carolina Press, $3).

TELLING the story of slavery in Kentucky is not quite the same as telling about the "peculiar institution" as it existed in the deep South, for Kentucky was in a different, and sometimes more difficult, situation. It is this difference which J. Winston Coleman Jr. makes clear in his "Slavery Times in Kentucky." And it is one that should be understood by writers who involve themselves in discussions of slave times anywhere in the South.

Slavery went to Kentucky with the earliest settlers, and in primitive days slaves were exceedingly useful to Kentuckians for the hard labor of clearing land, building houses, and driving off Indians. But the difference between Kentucky and Alabama, for example, began to be evident when the country was settled—incidentally, certain parts of Kentucky, particularly Bourbon County, were at one period overpopulated.

Then the "peculiar institution" was found in Kentucky to be a great deal less profitable than it was farther south, where both rice and cotton needed a great deal of cheap labor. Kentucky slaves were, on the whole, better off than their racial brethren of the cotton states. This was not only because the work was less demanding, but because the institution was less a wholesale affair, and relationships between master and slave could be, and often were, much closer.

But Kentucky had some problems of her own, as Coleman shows. One of these was the fault of geography. Kentucky was separated from free territory only by the Ohio River. There was no dividing fence between Kentucky and her neighbors. The state was a natural victim for the assaults of the abolitionists, and attempts to retain escaped slaves led very often to bloody encounters and general bitterness. Not to mention the activities of those vermin who made a business of stealing free negroes from both sides of the Ohio, and selling them down the river. Or the fact that the author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" lived in Cincinnati.

Coleman has put the situation on record, and documented it. He examines the entire fabric, from its closely-woven and ostensibly smooth beginning in the homes of the master to its frayed cords in the dives of the slave dealers and thieves. Some of the picture is not pretty, but it all has the air of honesty.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX. EXPRESS
SEP 17 1940
"SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY"

By J. Winston Coleman, Jr.

As a readable and full of interesting incidents as a novel, yet with factual information derived from much hitherto unpublished material and interviews with the few remaining ex-slaves, "Slavery Times in Kentucky" is definitely one of the most readable books of the year.

Mr. Coleman's picture of early Kentucky is accurate and sympathetic, and he shows us that the Kentucky-bred slave was the aristocrat among slaves for he was an integral part of the family life, not the toil-worn, brutally treated Negro of the deep south cotton fields.

The hemp-growing of early Kentucky with the tobacco, corn, wheat, hemp, and sugar cane was employed by the slaves and only the under dire financial straits was one sold to the hated "niggah-trader."

Mr. Coleman gives the stories of the slave uprisings, including one at Hopkinsville in 1856, and the "paterollery" kept watch that no slaves were allowed on the streets or in the highways after dark without a permit from the master.

Both the dark and bright sides of this "paterollery" are shown in an unbiased, understanding manner.

Henderson is given a good share of prominence throughout the book which adds to the interest for local readers.

Henderson, Ky.
Gleasner Journal
Sept. 29-1940

Read The Latest Books

I Married Adventure (by Osa Johnson) $3.50
The Family (by Nina Fedorova) $2.50
Audubon's America (by Donald Peattie) $6.00
Slavery Times in Kentucky (by J. Winston Coleman) $3.00

Latest Books For Rent . . . Picture Framing A Specialty

David Hunt
PURCELL'S
Main Floor
Lexington Herald-Leader
Nov. 5-1940
Slavery Times in Kentucky Vividly Described

J. Winston Coleman, Jr., Writes Scholarly Study

Full of Human Interest

Reviewed by Malcolm Bell, Jr.

A Mr. George Humblong of Breckinridge county, Ky., once received a letter from Halifax, England. The letter was from a runaway and stated in part, "Dear Man, I am going to deliver myself up to you. I hope you won't flg me when I come to you. — I run away last May and would rather be your slave than free. You can do what you like with me; sell me where you think proper. I am quite tired of being knocked about in England. I would thirty times rather be a slave than free." The letter was signed your faithful slave, John Brown. There were many other such incidents, some recorded and reported by travelers who were usually impressed by the differences in Kentucky slavery and that of the other Southern states.

Though Kentucky slavery was mild, it was only mild in comparison. It also had its darker side. The old negro minister who married the slaves qualified his marital unions with "slaves in this state are constantly being forced to marry each other. The whipping post was present. The "planters" men usually too poor to own slaves patrolled the country side on the lookout for uprisings and were more often than not unnecessarily cruel in their dealings with the slaves. Grimness of all due was the auction block. Here the negroes were knocked down to the highest bidder, and here slavery intruded its worst name.

Mr. Coleman calls upon particularly graphic incidents to give a lurid picture of this phase of "the peculiar institution." In Lexington where the market was the most active, Mr. Coleman reports slave sales that are almost unbelievable in their cruelty. On the higher side again—slave sales in market contrast to most. The Pleasant Green Baptist Church of Lexington bought their minister, George Duffey, who was on the block as a part of his late owner's estate. They paid $110 for George after calculating a desperate "slaves traded." The money was borrowed from a white minister and for many Mondays thereafter a few members of George's flock made a trip to the white man's house to deposit the collection from the Sunday services.

Mr. Coleman writes interestingly of Liberia, the land of freedom and its capital, Monrovia. Many Kentucky slaves went joyfully and hopefully down the Mississippi to New Orleans in freedom—a journey they had dreaded in their bondage for to be "sailed down the river" was in reality seen feared than death. From New Orleans they sailed into the Gulf and out across the Atlantic and back to Africa. Near Monrovia there came to be a new colony called Kentucky in Liberia and the capital city was Clay and the country place, Ashland, named for Henry Clay and his country place, Ashland.

Such horrors as auction blocks, such practices as "nigger trading," led eventually in a single direction—agitation for abolishment. Fighting Cossacks Clay, kinsman of "Oblate Henry," led the attack on slavery in Kentucky. Armed with a bowie knife Clay preached abolition through the state. Once he was fired at point blank by an adversary who lost an eye, an arm, and his life. The pistol ball from the victim struck Cassius Clay's bowie knife scabbard and left nothing but a red mark over his heart. As Cassius Clay and his followers fought for the freedom of slaves, the War Between the States was begun and won their battle for them.

"Slavery Times in Kentucky" is a fascinating work. Mr. Coleman's text is rounded with footnotes and references. There are many illustrations, maps, and advertisements of the like. This book is a good book of college professors that is all too occasional. It is scholarly and entertaining, a rare combi-
Unique Status Of Slavery In Kentucky Well Revealed

SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY, By J. W. Coleman, Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press. $3.00.

TELLING the story of slavery in Kentucky is not quite the same as telling about the institution as it existed in the deep South, for Kentucky was in a different, and sometimes more difficult situation. It is this difference which J. W. Coleman, Jr., makes clear in his "Slavery Times in Kentucky." And it is one that should be understood by writers who involve themselves in discussions of slave times anywhere in the South.

Slavery went to Kentucky with the earliest settlers, and in primitive days slaves were exceedingly useful to Kentuckians for the hard labor of clearing land, building houses, and fighting off Indians. But the difference between Kentucky and Alabama, for example, began to be evident when the country was settled—incidentally, certain parts of Kentucky, particularly Bourbon County, were at one time over-settled. Then the peculiar institution was found in Kentucky to be a great deal less profitable than it was farther south, where both rice and cotton needed a great deal of cheaper labor. Kentucky slaves were the better off, on the whole, than their pastoral brethren of the cotton states. The slave economy, as a whole, was less demanding, but because the institution was less a wholesale affair, and relationships between master and slave could be, and often were, much closer.

But Kentucky had some problems of its own, as Mrs. Coleman shows. One of these was the fluctuation of geography. Kentucky was separated from free territory only by the Ohio river. There was undying friction between Kentucky and her neighbors. The state was a natural haven for the abolitionists, especially during the Civil War, and Kentucky slaves fled in response to the tempest. The state was also a natural destination for escaped slaves, runaway notices, portraits of important men of the period and well-known places in the state. The state's role as a crossroads for fugitive slaves is evident in the Underground Railroad records, which document the state's participation in the Underground Railroad.

The book, which takes its title from the University of North Carolina Press, consists of three hundred and fifty pages, with numerous illustrations. It tells the story of Kentucky slavery and its abolitionists, providing a valuable account of the state's role in the Underground Railroad.

New Book On Old Slave Days

More than four years was spent by J. Winston Coleman, Jr., State Librarian, on collecting and publishing his "SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY," which is an account of the history of Kentucky slavery and the institution of Negro slavery as it existed in the Bluegrass State.

The book is the product of his long and arduous labors in compiling a record of slavery in Kentucky, which was published by the University of North Carolina Press. It contains over three hundred and fifty pages, with numerous illustrations, showing the lives and customs of the slaves, as well as the lives of the slave owners.

The book is of great value to students of slavery in Kentucky, and is a valuable contribution to the study of the history of slavery in the United States. It is a valuable addition to the literature on the subject, and is a valuable resource for students of slavery in the state.
By CARO GREEN RUSSELL

Telling the story of slavery in Kentucky is not the same as telling about the "peculiar institution" as it existed in the deep South, for Kentucky was in a different, and sometimes more difficult situation. It is this difference which J. W. Coleman, Jr., makes clear in his "Slavery Times in Kentucky." And it is one that should be understood by writers who involve themselves in discussions of slave times anywhere in the South.

"Slavery went to Kentucky with the earliest settlers, and in primitive days slaves were exceedingly useful to Kentuckians for the hard labor of clearing land, building houses, and fighting off Indians. But the difference between Kentucky and Alabama, for example, began to be evident when the country was settled—indubitably, certain parts of Kentucky, particularly Bourbon County, were at one period over-settled.

Then the "peculiar institution" was found in Kentucky to be a great deal less profitable, and less burdensome than it was in the South, but where both rice and cotton needed a great deal of cheap labor, Kentucky slaves were, on the whole, better off than their racial brethren of the cotton states. This was not only because the institution was less a wholesale affair, and relationships between master and slave could be, and often were, much closer.

But Kentucky had some problems of its own, as Mr. Coleman shows. One of these was the fact of geography. Kentucky was separated from free territory only by the Ohio River. There was no undisturbed friction between Kentucky and her neighbors. The state was a natural victim for the assaults of the abolitionists, escape was comparatively easy, and attempts to regain escaped slaves led very often to bloody encounters and general bitterness. Not to mention the activities of those vermin who made a business of stealing free negroes from both sides of the river, or the fact that the author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" lived in Cincinnati.

Mr. Coleman has put the situation on record, and documented it. He examines the entire fabric, from its closely-woven and extremely smooth beginnings, the homes of the gentry to its frayed ends in the hands of the slave dealers and thieves. Some of the pictures he paints are not pretty, but it all has the air of honesty.

This Clipping From
KINGSTON, N. Y.
FREEMAN
SEP 17 1940

This Clipping From
TOLEDO, O.
TIMES
SEP 2 1940

This Clipping From
NORFOLK, VA.
VIRGINIAN PILOT
SEP 3 - 1940

"Slavery Times in the South" by J. W. Coleman, Jr. (University of North Carolina Press; $1)

"Slavery Times in Kentucky" is readable, thorough, and gives every impression of being scholarly. The book is illustrated with old prints, runwway notices and bills of sale of slaves, portraits of important men of the period, and well-known places in the State.

SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY
by J. W. COLEMAN, JR.

"You have among you a sneaking individual of the class of native tyrants, known as the 'slave dealer.' He watches your necessities and crowds up to buy, if he cannot get it, what he can.

Mr. Coleman has used much unpublished material from old court records; he has used newspaper accounts of occurrences in the State and elsewhere, and from interviews with former slaves and from his own family records. Both of his grandparents were Kentuckians, and slave owners, and lived in Fayette County where Mr. Coleman lives and farms.

"Slavery Times in Kentucky" is a thorough, thorough, and gives every impression of being scholarly. The book is illustrated with old prints, runwaway notices and bills of sale of slaves, portraits of important men of the period, and well-known places in the State.
Old Slave Days Pictured In New Book

More than four years was spent by J. Winston Coleman, Jr., Lexington author and historian, in delving through musty court records, old newspapers, diaries and letters, as well as interviews with numerous patriarchs and former slaves to gather material for "Slavery Times in Kentucky," which is an account of the life, manners and customs of such an institution of Negro slavery as it existed in the Bluegrass State.

This book, published by the University of North Carolina Press, contains over three hundred and fifty pages with numerous illustrations of rare broadsides, bills of sale for slaves, runaway notices, portraits of Important men of the period and well-known places in the State. One chapter deals with the Underground Railroad, with accounts of Kentucky slaves fleeing from their masters, their hardships and privations while enroute to Canada on this mysterious railroad. Another chapter, "Down the River," describes the system of selling slaves from Kentucky and other border slave states to Mississippi and Louisiana, where large gangs of enslaved blacks were employed in the rice, cotton and sugar-cane fields of the Deep South.

Exciting accounts are related by Mr. Coleman of the futile and hazardous attempts by the abolitionists to establish their anti-slavery newspapers in slaveholding Kentucky, the best known and colorful of these being the True American, which was set up and operated for a while at Lexington by Casasius M. Clay. This paper, as were the others, was shortlived and was suppressed by the pro-slavery element which heavily prevailed in Kentucky.

Agricultural pursuits are likewise given their place in this book. It is pointed out by the author that hemp was the "money crop" of ante-bellum Kentucky and was grown principally in the rich Bluegrass counties of central Kentucky. This state ranked first, with Missouri second as a hemp-producing state. Tobacco in the days "beau de wail" was grown in large quantities in the counties of Daviess, Christian, Todd, Henderson, Caldwell and Barren—any one of which in 1840 produced more than all of the five rich counties surrounding Lexington, the county seat of Fayette.

Efforts of the Kentucky Colonization Society to transport and colonize manumitted slaves from Kentucky in its colony on the western shores of Africa, which was known as "Kentucky in Liberia," are pictured at length. Over a period of thirty years, this worthy but impractical social experiment plan was tried in an effort to rid the state of free Negroes, but the scheme of African colonization proved too costly and turned out to be nothing more than a great fantastic dream.

"Slavery Times in Kentucky," which consists of twelve chapters, is well documented and written according to the standard requirements of modern history writing. This book might well be termed an accurate and authentic account of life and labor in ante-bellum Kentucky, in which the reader will find an interesting picture of the times from every point of view: slavery as it affected the day-by-day activities of both master and slave; the economic and legal aspects of the system of African bondage and the activities of the "migzah trade" with their slave depots and slave gangs headed "down the river," the pleasant and unpleasant sides of the "peculiar institution;" the auction block where husband and wife, parent and child were ruthlessly separated; the "patterrollera" and their song; rumors and threats of slave insurrections; the devilish and seditious interest of the abolitionists in the slaves as shown by newspaper articles and memoirs of the times. The price of the book is $3.00 and copies may be obtained from the author at Lexington, or the publisher at Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

THE SENTINEL-ECHO,
LOUISIANA,
SEPTEMBER 27, 1940

LITERARY GUIDEPOST
—by John Selby


Telling the story of slavery in Kentucky is not quite the same as telling about the "peculiar institution" as it existed in the deep South, for Kentucky was in a different, and sometimes more difficult, situation. It is this difference which J. W. Coleman, Jr., has called "Slavery Times in Kentucky." And it is one that should be understood by writers who involve themselves in discussions of slave times anywhere in the South.

Slavery went to Kentucky with the earliest settlers, and in primitive slave days were exceeded only in Kentucky for the hard labor of clearing land, building houses, and fighting off Indians. But the difference between Kentucky and Alabama, for example, began to be evident when the country was settled—incidentally, certain parts of Kentucky, particularly Bourbon County, were at one period over-settled, their slave institutions was found in a great deal less profitable than it was farther south, where both rice and cotton needed a great deal of labor. Kentucky slaves were, on the whole better off than their racial brethren of the cotton states. This was not only because the work was less demanding, but because the situation was less a wholesale affair, and relationships between master and slave could be, and often were, much closer.

But Kentucky had some problems of her own, as Mr. Coleman shows. One of these was the fault of geography. Kentucky was separated from free territory only by the Ohio River. There was uneasy frictioon between Kentucky and her neighbors. The state was a natural victim for the assaults of the abolitionists, escape was comparatively easy, and attempts to regain escaped slaves led very often to bloody encounters with general bitterness. Not to mention the activities of those who were fearsome in the lives of these slave dealers and thieves. Some of the picture is not pretty, but it has all the air of honesty.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1940.

THE MESSENGER, OWENSBORO, KY.

J. W. Coleman, Jr.'s story of "Slavery Times in Kentucky," just off the Chapel Hill Press, at the University of North Carolina, is a picture gallery of scenes snatched along the years from pioneer days in Kentucky to the end of the slave era in the sixties. He speaks from experience gained by associating with those who knew the subject he handles so deftly. From the balustrade of a stage that glittered with such an alliteration, he attempt ed duplication would be an impossible task, he looks back across the decades and extracts therewith major events.

Slave days in Kentucky flowered in the Bluegrass where the author was born, but because the spreading acres, the leisure that went with adequate means to enjoy the heart's dictates, architecture, a feudal system equal to the best in the far South. Through the pages of "Slavery Times in Kentucky" tropic in a high chivalry of the epoch of baronetial and of trampster classes of kingly, when slaves were free they were then disinterested. The slaves were then disinterested.

This Fayette farmer turned writer has hand in an engaging tale, effectively and with a blazonry of sparkling sentences, the sentences of memories that bloom from the stem of who ride encounters with his subject, "Slavery Times in Kentucky" reveals intimate glimpses of long nurtured legends that blend with the history of a period that ended three quarters of a century ago. The cities and towns in Kentucky that were stages for verbal writhings build over slavery history have been thrown upon the screen, and many the abolitionist, and slave holder who stalks provocatively through its pages.
Slavery in Kentucky

Among other interesting statements in J. W. Coleman's new book "Slavery Times in Kentucky" we note the following: Slaves were seldom called that; they were "field hands," "black people," etc. Masters who hired out a slave of a state other than Kentucky, permitted him to choose his new master. There were instances where runaway slaves who had reached Canada, or even England, wrote to their old masters imploring to be taken back into bondage. In garden patches where they could raise fruit, potatoes and other vegetables were placed at the disposal of slave families, and they had Saturday afternoons off to cultivate them. Opportunities were provided for slaves to earn wages by extra labor and buy their own freedom. When a husband was on one farm and his wife was on another, weekly reunions were arranged for them.

For two reasons slavery never paid in Kentucky: the climate did not permit year-around labor, and the support of the aged was a social obligation which all masters accepted. Many slaveholders who did not like the institution— Clay among them—shrank from a general emancipation of their black dependents because it would expose helpless old people to want and suffering. The usual argument for slavery was that it gave families in the "big houses" the leisure to entertain lavishly and support an almost baronial tradition of hospitality. A biased picture? Harriet Beecher Stowe does not say so; "perhaps the mildest of the arguments of the system of slavery is to be seen in the State of Kentucky," are her words in "Uncle Tom's Cabin." The blot upon it, for white and black families alike, was that debt or the death of the master might entail the scattering of the black households and the separation of families—this where husband and wife found themselves far apart, being the equivalent of a divorce.

We should like to close our glance at a similarly interesting and suggestive point—which reflects its first hundred pages—but there is more. J. W. Coleman is a Kentuckian, he is a history man, and he has brought out the stains and the shadows. He pictures the systematic abuse of slaves for the downriver trade, the stripping of women nearly white for the hateful game of the auction block, the existence of a quadruple market where light-skinned slave women were sold as mistresses for white masters.

Traders in human flesh stole free blacks and sold them back into slavery. The Abolitionists were Cain—in some cases contriving at armed slave uprisings as well as the flight of individuals, always toward the North Star, the one signpost of direction given fugitives. Uprisings and rumors of uprisings around the tens of white masters, and led to ugly deeds. We cite the ugliest because of the blood of the dozen: they were white nephews of Thomas Jefferson, and they were maddened by drink and the runaway problem among their numerous blacks. They sent a Negro boy with a cut glass pitcher to fetch water from a spring. He stumbled and broke it. With a breach of the law they cut him, while still alive, into pieces. To the credit of Kentucky, they were indicted for murder; one brother slew himself, the other fled to the far South.

Wherefore one may take for closing words the words with which Coleman concludes his book. A Kentuckian, Lincoln, said them: "Conceding slave owners to be "as good as the average of people elsewhere," yet he declared, "no man is good enough to govern another man without that other's consent."
Slavery Times In Kentucky

A Fayette County author and farmer writes of a picturesque, bygone social order that was kindly yet cruel, benevolent but despotic—of stories heroic, and tragic

Greed and rapacity constituting as they do such vital components of human nature, the reader closes J. Winton Coleman's new book, "Slavery Times in Kentucky," filled more with amazement that the peculiar institution of human slavery ceased in this country than surprise that it ever began.

The sound and fury of social, military and political crises in our times make the stirring events of slavery times in Kentucky seem further removed from us by the years than, historically, they are. And Mr. Coleman's book has a value that transcends its substantial contribution to the historical literature of the State and its absorbing and frequently fascinating narrative of dramatic events and incidents.

This is that the Fayette County author and farmer has established, whether intentionally or not: that the grave issues raised by slavery brought forth leaders on both sides who sacrificed their time and property and who did not hesitate even to put physical safety at hazard to sustain the cause of personal principle.

Great figures in Kentucky's history crowd the pages of the book: heroic and tragic stories, some familiar, many little known, are pressed between its covers.

Selling of Eliza

Court records, contemporary newspapers, letters and diaries have furnished material for a volume that presents not only a balanced account of slavery in Kentucky from the first settlements to the beginning of the War Between the States, but reflects many of the colorful facets of the Commonwealth's history for that period as well.

Here is the author's account of one of the most dramatic slave sales ever held in Kentucky, a story that has become a legend and which furnished the plot for a widely-known stage play:

"While slave sales, as a rule, attracted little more than casual interest, there occurred, early in May, 1843, an event which brought together fully 2,000 persons on historic Cheapside, the public square of Lexington. Here, around the old Ritchie auction block, were gathered the wealth and culture of the Bluegrass, ladies and gentlemen in fashionable attire from Cincinnati, Louisville, Frankfort and even as far south as New Orleans. The rich men and women, slave masters and mistresses, speculators in human chattels and idle bystanders—all anxiously awaiting the sale of Eliza, the beautiful young daughter of her master, only one-sixty-fourth African. She was white, with dark, lustrous eyes, straight black hair and a rich olive complexion. Yet she was a slave, the daughter of her master, about to be sold to the highest and best bidder to satisfy his creditors.

"Reared as a family servant in an atmosphere of refinement and culture in an old Bluegrass home, Eliza had acquired grace, poise, education, 'social manners' and other accomplishments rarely found in one of her position.

"Beside her stood the old auctioneer, in frock-tailed coat, plaid vest, calfskin boots, with a broad-rimmed white beaver hat pushed on the back of his head. In the most insinuating manner he called attention to the handsome girl, her exquisite physique and fine qualities, well suited, as he suggested, for the mistress of any gentleman.

"Bids began at $250 and rapidly rose by $25 and $50 to $500—$700—$1,000. When $1,200 was reached all of the bidders except two had withdrawn from the field. Calvin Fairbank, a young Methodist preacher who had lately arrived in town, and a short, thick-necked, beady-eyed Frenchman from New Orleans.

"'Fairbank and the Frenchman continued to bid—slower and more cautiously. The auctioneer on the block raved and cursed. 'Fourteen hundred and fifty,' ventured Fairbank, with a futile glance toward his competitor. The Frenchman stood silent. The hammer rose—paused—lowered—rose—fell, and then the exasperated auctioneer, dropping his hammer, suddenly seized Eliza, jerked open her dress and throwing it back from her white shoulders, exposed her superb neck and breast to the startled crowd.

"'Look here, gentlewoman,' he exclaimed, 'who is going to lose such a chance as this? Here is a girl fit to be the mistress of a king.'

"Through the crowd swept a suppressed cry of disgust and contempt, of anger and grief; women blushed and men hung their heads in shame. But the old auctioneer, calous to such scenes and knowing that he was well within his rights, was not to be intimidated, and again in his rough voice called for bids.

"'Fourteen sixty-five,' risked the Frenchman.

"'Fourteen seventy-five,' responded the preacher.

"Then, with the hull that followed, it seemed apparent that the bidder from New Orleans was through. Sickened at the sale, many of the crowd were now leaving, when the auctioneer, who seemed at his wits' end, in a frantic effort to stimulate bidding, suddenly 'twisted his victim's profile' to the excited crowd and, lifting her skirts, laid bare her beautiful, symmetrical body, from her feet to her waist.

Sold into freedom

"'Ah, gentlewoman!' he exclaimed, slapping her naked thigh with his rough hand, 'who is going to be the winner of this prize?'

"'Fourteen hundred and eighty,' came the Frenchman's bid above the tumult of the crowd.

"'Fourteen hundred and eighty-five,' cautiously repeated the preacher.

"'Eighty-five, eighty-five, eighty-five; I'm going to sell this girl!' Looking at the Frenchman, he asked: 'Are you going to bid again?' With an air of indifference the man from New Orleans slowly shook his head. "'Once—twice—three times—sold!' cried the auctioneer, bringing down his gavel with a loud rap as Eliza crumpled and fainted on the block.

"'You've got her damned cheap, sir,' said the auctioneer cheerfully to Fairbank. 'What are you going to do with her?'

"'Free her,' exclaimed Fairbank, as a loud cheer rose from the crowd, led by Robert Wickliffe, the largest slaveholder of the Blue-

GREAT SALE of SLAVES

JANUARY 10, 1855

3 Bucks Aged from 20 to 26, Strong, Able-bodied
1 Wench, Sallie, Aged 12, Excellent Cook
1 Wench, Liz, Aged 13, Excellent Cook
One Buck Aged 5, good Kernel Man
17 Bucks Aged from twelve to twenty, Excellent

JOHN CARTER, Esq.

210 East Main Street, Lexingto, Kentucky

Typical notice telling of slaves for sale at Cheapside, Lexington.
grass. Eliza and her new owner were driven in Wickett's carriage to the home of a friend, where her "free papers" were made out.

Fairbank, an ardent abolitionist, represented Salmon P. Chase, later Lincoln's Secretary of the Treasury, and Nicholas Longworth of Cincinnati, and had been authorized to bid as high as $23,000, if necessary, for Eliza.

Every phase of slavery provided its own stories of tragedy, pathos and humor. An example of the latter is found in the book's chapter, "Folks in the Big House":

"A multitude of family servants, as some claimed, was a serious detriment to the wives of the planters—made them idle, weak and undeveloped. Cassius M. Clay admonished the velutinian ladies of the plantations thus: 'Make up your own beds, sweep your own rooms and wash your own clothes—throw away your corsets and nature will form your bustles.' And, continuing, he held out high hopes, 'you will have full cheeks, glossy hair, rosy complexion, velvet skins, rounded limbs, graceful tourduff, eyes of alternate fire, sweet temper, good husbands, long lives of honeymoons and—no divorces!'

**Easier in Kentucky**

Kentucky slave owners lived in the same fear of an uprising by their human chattels that gripped the other slave States, and a somber chapter details abortive attempts of slaves to overthrow their masters.

A farm, rather than a plantation, State, Kentucky did not offer the return to owners on slave labor that was found in the cotton fields in the deep South. The lot of the slave generally was much easier in the Bluegrass State than it was on the big plantations, and the fear and the dread of most slaves were that they would be sold down the river.

However, for a period before the War Between the States, cotton and sugar paid rich dividends to plantation owners and increased the call for human workstock for cotton fields and cane patches in the South. The importation of slaves into the country having been outlawed, a richly paying market for Kentucky slaves developed "down the river."

**Slave breeding ground**

Many public leaders, both owners and non-owners, became alarmed that Kentucky was becoming a breeding ground for slave stock for export trade.

"Robert Wickliffe, familiarly known as the 'Old Duke' and the largest slaveholder in the Bluegrass, appeared before the Legislature in 1840 and severely denounced Kentucky's growing slave traffic with the Cotton Kingdom and its attendant evils," Mr. Coleman writes.

The efforts of slaves to escape to free States and Canada, operations of the "underground railroad" and clashes and maneuvers of opposing forces of owners and abolitionists across the Ohio River between Kentucky and Ohio and Indiana are described. Two typical code messages used by underground railroad operatives were:

"Dear Sir: By tomorrow's mail you will receive two volumes of 'Impressible Con-

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Illustrations from "Slavery Times in Kentucky."

Slaves from the Bluegrass had an instinctive dread of being sold down the river for it meant separation from loved ones and cruel taskmasters in cotton.
"Uncle Tom says if the roads are not too bad you can look for those fleeces of wool tomorrow. Send them on to test the market." "Efforts to colonize freed slaves in Liberia, on the west coast of Africa, are described fully and a colorful chapter is devoted to the fighting leaders in the abolitionist movement."

A brilliant literary summation closes Mr. Coleman’s record of "Slavery Times In Kentucky." He writes:

"On the surface, near the end of the eighteen-fifties, the 'peculiar institution' had lost none of its outstandig characteristics. The strong ties of affection which bound the cabin to the big house could not always prevent cruel masters or jealous overseers from riving the backs of helpless slaves. Coarse, half-hearted 'bigger trashas' ruthlessly separated husband and wife, parent and child on the auction block; runaways furiously pushed leaky skiffs into the dark waters of the winding Ohio, following the North Star to freedom, while the breeze of moonlit summer nights bore the twanging rhythm of banjos and guitars and the melody of deep rich-voiced Slavery with all its lights and shadows stood apparently unchanged and, as many believe, unchangeable."

"But the unsung efforts of those early anti-slavery martyrs whose tragic ideals lost them home, friends, property and sometimes even life itself had not wholly been in vain. In field, shop and factory, around the family hearthstone at evening, or the big stove in the village store, the plain, quiet people slowly pondered the declarations of a droll, earnest, Kentucky-born, circuit-riding lawyer that the Union could not 'endure permanently half slave and half free,' and that, conceding slave owners to be 'as good as the average of people elsewhere,' still 'no man is good enough to govern another man without that other's consent.'"

'The cruel yet cruel' "And so, finally and inevitably came the fateful twelfth of April, 1861. Hospital, wharves and shoreline along the Battery of South Carolina's historic Charleston were thronged with an anxious multitude tensely waiting through the damp, chilly hours of early morning. Then, as the dim outlines of Fort Sumter became visible through the harbor mists, one of Fort Johnson's mortars belched a spreading column of flames, a thick white wall of smoke, rising high in the air, curved slowly and gracefully toward Fort Sumter's shadowy ramparts."

"The dull roar of that Confederate cannon sounded the death knell of slavery, a social order at once kindly yet cruel, benevolent though despotic in the song-celebrated 'land of the free.' Kentucky's most romantic and picturesque era had come forever to an end."

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SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY, by J. Winston Coleman, Jr. Published by the University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, 1940. 351 pages. Illustrated. Indexed.

Mr. Coleman, of Lexington, Kentucky, and valued member of the Kentucky State Historical Society, has overcome local prejudice by presenting both sides of the slavery question in giving a true account of the 'peculiar institution' as it existed in Kentucky. A selected bibliography of six pages, other than the many court records, manuscripts, and periodicals consulted, and many personal interviews, is ample evidence of the author's extensive research, from which he has gleaned much hitherto unpublished material and woven it into a story that will hold the reader's interest.

Slavery spread to Kentucky with the earliest settlers, but in the solitude of the wilderness the slaves were more than property. The irrepressible longing for the society of mankind made the companionship of master and slave an essential condition to the contentment and happiness of the backwoods home. They worked the fields and hunted together to supply the wants of existence, and fought side by side to defend their homes from the Indians.

As the tide of emigration expanded many log cabins gave way to fine homes, in which were numerous contented servants, proud to be "quality niggers," and who would not have wanted freedom under any condition. These house servants formed a class quite distinct from, and socially above, the field hands; the former having little to do with the latter, who were regarded as the lowest and last link in the chain of human bondage.

The mildest form of slavery existed in Kentucky, and the slaves, under ordinary circumstances, were well fed, well clothed, happy and contented. With old "Mister" and old "Mistus" to look out for their wants and needs, they were far better off than many of the white working men of the Northern states. There was little that was morose or gloomy about them. They took great delight in their dancing, singing, corn-shuckings and other slave diversions. Among them the slave preacher was a person of great consequence, and the more ignorant he was, the more power of influence he carried. Legally there was no binding marriages among them, but weddings were often important social events, celebrated in true slave fashion by "jumping over the broomstick." Public sentiment operated strongly against teaching them to read and write.

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THE COURIER-JOURNAL

November 10, 1940
because of possible promotion of insubordination by reading abolition literature or forging "free papers", but many trusted family servants were privately instructed. Many owners allowed their slaves to make extra money, which they saved and, in time, purchased their freedom.

Few Kentuckians were large slaveholders; in 1850 only five owned more than a hundred slaves, and the average number was only five. In many instances they were a heavy charge upon their owners, and were not a source of profit to them. Numerous Kentuckians were willing to liberate their blacks, providing a suitable disposal could be made of them, but were unwilling to abandon them to their fate without such assurance. As a means of solving this problem the American Colonization Society was formed in 1817, and a body in Kentucky in 1829, but when the colony for the Kentucky slaves on the Western shores of Africa failed to prosper, it presented a strong argument that emancipated negroes, thrown upon their own resources, were incapable of successful livelihood.

There were many disparaging accounts of the bondage as it was, but these were prepared for the most part by Northern abolitionists, who were eager to believe the worst about slavery. Slave owners were never entirely free from the anxiety and fear of a possible slave insurrection. The beginning of this fear manifested itself as early as 1822. Too-frequent slave uprisings later resulted in districts being laid off and patrolled at night for the public peace and good order of society. The slaves, as a rule, had a great hatred for these "Patrioters", but many eluded their watchful eyes, which resulted in various insurrections. There were many abolitionists scattered throughout the State, posing as peddlers, music teachers, etc., who influenced the slaves. Early in the 1840s the slaveholders began to feel the actions of the "Nigger Stealers". Slaves were stolen by abolitionists and taken across the Ohio river into free territory, whence many of them made their way to Canada. Free negroes were stolen, their free papers destroyed, and sold to slave dealers. Escaping slaves were told to follow the "North Star" to reach the land of freedom. The "Underground railroad" flourished. "Slave Drivers" and "Slave Catchers" became familiar sights. Advertisements appeared in the newspapers for runaways, and minute descriptions were given for indentifications. Many owners became extremely cruel to their slaves, and examples were made of unruly ones as a warning to runaways.

Eventually it became more and more apparent that the holding of slaves in Kentucky was unprofitable, and the Auction Block became a familiar sight in the towns on court days. The cotton and sugar planters of the South, realizing enormous returns from their plantations, needed more slaves, and the demand for Kentucky-born negroes became very great; they commanded the highest prices. "Nigger Traders" became numerous—they were at all auctions, ready to pay a good price for the slaves, and take them "down the river", where they were sold for a great profit at the "Forks of the Road," near Natchez. The negroes lived in constant dread of being sold "down the river"; to them it was genuine terror.

In 1849, after the repeal of the Non-Importation Act of 1833, many more slave dealers were in Kentucky, with their slave depots and jails at various places. In that year Lexington became the largest slave market in the State, and within ten years was described as the largest in the United States. Coffle gangs of slaves, chained together, on their way to be shipped to the southern markets, were common sights. Kentucky, along with Virginia and Maryland, became known as a slave-breeding State.

Through the years there were many crusaders for the freedom of the slaves, but their forces were too small to cope with the pro-slavery group. Many Kentuckians favored some sort of gradual emancipation, but the impracticability of bringing it to pass impressed itself upon an ever increasing number. The bitter struggles and sacrifices of abolitionist crusaders, their efforts and publications, all seemed to have been in vain until a droll, earnest, Kentucky-born circuit riding lawyer began to impress the people that the Union could not endure permanently half slave and half free.
Slave Traders Described In Colemen's Historical Study

Abraham Lincoln, six years before he became President, described the typical slave merchant to his listeners at Peoria, Ill., in these words: "You have among you a sneaking individual of the class of native tyrants, known as the 'slave dealer.' He watches your necessities and crawls up to buy your slave at a speculative price. If you cannot help it, you sell to him; but if you can help it, you drive him from your door. He utterly despises you. You do not recognize him as your friend or even as an honest man. Your children must not play with his; they may rollick freely with the little Negroes, but not with the slave dealer's children."

Lincoln had observed the slave pens at the rear of the Pullman's jail at Lexington, Ky., his wife's home town, says J. W. Coleman, Jr. in his book, "Slavery in Kentucky" (University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, 1940).

"Slave traders were never popular with anybody. But in Kentucky, especially, they were hated with bitterness of the class of people considered them as outside the social pale, while the Negroes trembled with anxiety when one of them advertised his presence in the community.

For that meant that some of the slaves would be "sold down the river." To the rice and cotton fields of the deep South—Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia. No worse fate could befall them, they knew. There they were to work under the hot sun of an ignorant overseer, a class of men who seemed to have had much in common with our well-known convict guard. Absentee planters were not unusual in these States, and the slaves often suffered at the hands of the overseers. Fanny Kemble, in her Journal, wrote vividly of the condition, mostly horrible, of the slaves belonging to her husband, Pierce Butler, who spent most of his time in the North. Of course not all slave owners were inconsiderate of the welfare of their slaves, and, maintains Mr. Coleman in this book, the Kentucky slave received better treatment, as a rule, than those in the East and further South.

"Most of the Kentucky planters felt that their slaves were a trust, and that it was their business to hold and use them humbly and fairly as possible," he writes. He quotes from the will of "Old Duke" Wickliffe, who owned about 200 slaves. Wickliffe requested that all of his "black people" be allowed to attend his funeral, and that they be not required to labor on the day previous, nor on that day, nor for two days thereafter. If he should become absolutely necessary to sell them, he instructed his executors to regard in such sale "the relation of husband, wife, parent, and child, and see that they be not sold and divided separately...and sold to good and humane masters."

Mr. Coleman explains why it was that slaves in Kentucky were generally well treated. It was not because there was any essential difference between Kentucky planters and those farther South. The conditions, rather, were different, making for dissimilar considerations. In Kentucky master and slave were more closely associated in work, there was no need for great numbers of slaves, and in the late 18th and 19th Centuries the State was hardly more than a frontier. Slave labor was less profitable than in the cotton and rice States where gangs of laborers were necessary.

The Literary Guidepost

By JOHN SELBY


Telling the story of slavery in Kentucky, Mr. Coleman's book, "Slavery Times in Kentucky," is not quite the same as telling about the "peculiar institution" as it existed in the deep South, for Kentucky was in a different, and sometimes more difficult situation.

It is this difference which J. W. Coleman, Jr., makes clear in his "Slavery Times in Kentucky." And it is one that should be understood by writers who involve themselves in discussions of slave times anywhere in the South.

Slavery went to Kentucky with the earliest settlers, and in primitive days slaves were exceedingly useful to Kentuckians for the hard labor of clearing land, building houses, and fighting off Indians. But the difference between Kentucky and Alabama, for example, began to be evident when the country was settled—incidentally, certain parts of Kentucky, particularly Bourbon County, were at one period over-settled.

Then the "peculiar institution" was found in Kentucky to be a great deal less profitable than it was farther south, where both rice and cotton needed a great deal of labor.

Kentucky slaves were more often better off than their fellow brothers of the cotton states. This was not only because the work was less demanding, but because the institution was less a wholesome affair, and relationships between master and slave could be, and often were, much closer.

But Kentucky had some problems of its own, as Mr. Coleman shows. One was the fault of geography. Kentucky was separated from free territory only by the Ohio River. There was an enduring friction between Kentucky and her neighbors.

The state was a natural victim for the assaults of the abolitionists, escape was comparatively easy, and attempts to regain escaped slaves led very often to bloody encounters and general bitterness.

Mr. Coleman has put the situation on record, and documented it. He examines the entire fabric, from its closely-woven and ostensibly smooth beginnings in the homes of the gentry to its frayed ends in the lives of the slave dealers and thieves. Some of the picture is not pretty, but it all has the air of honesty.

This Clipping From YONKERS, N. Y. HERALD-STATESMAN SEP 17 1940

SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY, by J. W. Coleman, Jr. Mr. Coleman has peculiarly well fitted for the accomplishment of such a work, himself a Kentucky farmer and his grandparents slaveholding planters in Fayette County, Ky. In presaging this cross section of the manners, lives, and customs of slavery times in Kentucky, the author has made extensive use of old family and court records, newspaper accounts, personal interviews with ex-slaves, and endless research in Kentucky historical shelves.

Important to us is the fact that this well-documented book is somewhat more than the mere stringing together of facts. It is a readable record of Kentucky farming from the eventful days of 1777 when Harrod's Fort, the first permanent settlement, was accomplished by master and slave working side by side. Included also are dramatic accounts of pioneer hardships, hemp farming, early household operations, and social customs.

The book is copiously illustrated with pictures of prominent Kentucky men, important places, old prints, bills of sale, notices, etc. It is an unbiased account of the institution of slavery in the rise of abolitionism, and its opposing forces. It is worthy of a sure place in Kentucky history.

(The University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, N. C., $3.)

The Progressive Farmer, December 1940

Birmingham, Ala.
Border State Slavery

SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY.
By J. Winston Coleman jr. 
... 351 pp. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press. $3.

Reviewed by AVERY CRAYON

SLAVERY is a difficult subject on which to write with certainty. A generation ago, more of Americans quarreled bitterly over its merits. Enormous quantities of propaganda, pro and con, poured from abolition and pro-slavery presses. The abolitionists were bitter enemies of slavery; the northerners were childlike in their belief that if it were only left alone, slavery would go away. The southern planter maintained that his was the freest and most humane of all systems of agriculture, and that the Negro was as happy as any other member of the human race.

The abolitionist looked only for injustice, immorality and abuse. He usually found what he sought. He usually found what he sought. He usually found what he sought. He usually found what he sought. He usually found what he sought.

Such attitudes, valuable as they were for reform, left neither documents nor approaches satisfactory for a scientific evaluation of "slavery times." They make the task of the modern historian doubly difficult. He must challenge every witness, every shred of evidence, and free himself from all old values and judgments. He must see slavery as it was, not as it was pictured.

Mr. Coleman has come upon these difficulties with a large body of evidence. He has tried to tell a full and fair story, to do justice both to the Kentucky slaveholders and to the unfortunate race which served them. He has used a large and varied quantity of materials. He has not, however, been able to distinguish clearly between propaganda and sound historical documents. "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "Slavery as It Is," and many other distorting products of the abolition crusade are accepted as historical evidence of the conditions prevailing in Kentucky.

Records and the contemporary documents which the slave himself produced. "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "Slavery as It Is," and many other distorting products of the abolition crusade are accepted as historical evidence of the conditions prevailing in Kentucky.

Mr. Coleman does not hesitate to speak of slavery as it was, not as it was pictured.

As a matter of fact, Kentucky as a border state and one in which the plantation system never developed to any extent, allows the writer to see the true nature of slavery and the bitterness of the conflict in unequal degree. Kentucky's slavery was a low, low slavery. It was a slavery of debt, not of power. The slaveholder never dominated the social and economic order. Men of high standing, such as Henry Clay, Robert J. Breckinridge and Cassius M. Clay, openly attacked the institution and thousands of lesser citizens sympathized with slaves' efforts to escape. Agitation was, therefore, more common. Real and fancied slave insurrections occurred at regular intervals, "slave stealers," such as Patriot Doyle, Calvin Fairbanks and Della Webster, flourished and their trials furnished the occasion for intense public excitement. Under such conditions the patrol, which was well paid and more aggressive, the "escapes." "Rescues" more frequent, the public mind more inflamed. Gideon was the fact of slavery out of man's mind.

Furthermore, a surplus of labor developed more quickly in a state where expansion from small units to large ones was easy. The sale of Negroes from one plantation to another was common occurrence. The black slave a prominent figure. The black slave a prominent figure. The black slave a prominent figure. The black slave a prominent figure. The black slave a prominent figure.

The story begins with pioneer days in which a few worthy slaveholders helped to clear the forest and to plant the first balsam on the slopes of the mountains. It continues with the rise of prosperous farmers, more splendid houses and growing parcels of Negro slave. It moves down always in the foreground and Mr. Coleman's picture of slavery times in Kentucky is about as dark as could possibly be drawn. Negro families are torn asunder, infants are snatched from the mother's arms, beautiful girls are marketed for the lust of beasts and women are bred like animals for the production of a profitable "crop." Sickly Negroes are sent southward to be quickly worked to death. Freedom of speech and of the press are denied. Murder and arson are common occurrences.

The evidence on which such a picture is based is the abolition literature, court records and newspaper reports. Each emphasizes the sensational and the unusual. Often they distort. The result of "slave breeding" in Mr. Coleman's narrative is supported by a single bit of gossip and by the "unimportant" comment of a Northern traveler. The sale of Negro girls is recorded on the testimony of such abolition works as Fairbank's "During Slavery Times," "The Voice of the Fugitive" and Bancroft's unjustified inference that "they were obviously the class everywhere known as 'fancy girls.'" The recollections of persons given seventy years after slavery had been abolished and the two rival Abolition pamphlets, Clarke's "Narrative of the Sufferings of Lewis Clarke" and Elliot's "Sufferings of American Slavery," are given as the sources for the charge that Negroes were sold away from their mothers. Even where court records are used, the mitigating circumstances are never added to the cold record itself.

Such history writing may furnish "interesting" reading for a public already steeped in the abolition tradition. It does not make the reality of slavery clear to those who are now prepared for the truth. Slavery could be a very cruel and inhuman institution. It had no place in a democracy. Yet for historical purposes its record should be presented with the same critical, scientific care as is given to the more pleasant phases of American life.

New York 
Herald Tribune 
Nov-17, 1940

City Had Its Soup Kitchen In Nineties

The Poor Got Jaubert's Famous Burgoo During Severe Winter Spell

The soup kitchen of the early Nineties, when the lamps were regulated more as something new for Lexington, but by the Charity Organization of Lexington, with the aid of scores of local citizens, was putting out soup for the needy. In the Kentucky of 1893 it was very cold weather, deep snow, rising prices on coal and the plight of poor families stirred the community into action in January of 1893.

After much talk about what should be done to aid the needy, a soup house was opened on Church street between Mill and Market. The soup actually was burgoo made by Gus Jaubert, "the prince of burgoo makers." "All up and down Church and Mill street groups with cups, buckets and baskets of Jaubert's best could be seen sipping the nutritious food and praising its quality," said The Leader on Jan. 4, 1893. "It was a sight never to be forgotten, the poor, ragged people of both races standing about in the snow drinking the good, warm soup, a look of grateful satisfaction on their faces. With below zero, coal prices were advanced to 14 and 16 cents a bushel.

Jaubert, a native of Kentucky, was superintending the soup kitchen and Ed S. Riggs, treasurer of the Charity Organization, was receiving donations for the work.

LEO LEADER 
June 30, 1938
Slavery Times In Kentucky

By

J. W. Coleman, Jr.

8vo. cloth, pages 351       Chapel Hill, 1940

$3.00

SLAVERY TIMES IN KENTUCKY is an account of the life, manners and customs of the "peculiar institution" as it existed in the Bluegrass State. Slavery came in with the earliest settlers; slaves were invaluable aids in clearing the forests, building homes, and guarding against Indians. As the land became settled, however, slave labor was found to be much less profitable than in the Deep South, where large gangs were needed for the rice and cotton fields, and slave life was proverbially easier than in most slave states. Interesting accounts have been left by travelers in this section, many of which have been drawn on to present the picture given here.

The author has also made use of much hitherto unpublished material from old court records; he has drawn extensively from newspaper accounts of occurrences in the state and elsewhere, and from interviews with ex-slaves and from his own family records and large collection of Kentuckiana.
Stage-Coach Days in the Bluegrass

By J. Winston Coleman, Jr.

A stirring tale of an era of slow travel and fast living. It is a rich and racy word picture of men in high hats and women in hoop skirts loving and laughing along the old stage roads from one famous tavern to another.

There are exciting accounts of stage robberies, and more exciting incidents in the lives of famous nimble-fingered gamblers who played to win and shot to kill.

You will love the people you will meet in this book—and why not? They are probably your "own personal kinfolks." Your parents talked of them; your grandparents knew them in the flesh, and your great-grandparents formed a part of the pageant which moved back and forth over the beautiful Bluegrass country which has been so aptly called "The Bimble of the Universe."

The book is generously illustrated with reproductions of intensely interesting documents of long-gone days and scenes of present and historical interest. It is a book you will be glad to read and proud to own.

PRICE, $2.50

Published by The Standard Printing Company, Incorporated Louisville, Kentucky

Published in 1935

KENTUCKY. Coleman, J. Winston, Jr.—Slavery Times in Kentucky. 8vo, cloth, 316 pp., Illus. Chapel Hill, North Carolina, Sept., 1940. in d.w. $3.00

Coleman, John Winston, 1898— Slavery times in Kentucky, by J. Winston Coleman, Jr. ... Chapel Hill, The University of North Carolina press, 1940.

xvi, 351 p., plates, portraits, facsimiles. 23 cm.

"Selected bibliography": p. 327-332.


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143. COLEMAN, J. Winston, Jr: Stage-Coach Days in the Bluegrass. Being an Account of Stage-Coach Travel and Tavern Days in Lexington and Central Kentucky, 1800-1900. With 27 illustrations from contemporary material. 8vo., cloth, Louisville, 1934. $2.50

A fascinating contribution to the literature of travel in America. The work is the first complete account of Kentucky's stage-coaches and taverns. Every facet of the subject is touched — the difficulties of travel, the prominent position of the drivers, travelers' experiences, expedition lines and accidents, highwaysmen, taverns and tavern life, turnpikes, toll-gates, pioneer roads and travel, the coming of the railroads, the stage as a mail carrier, &c. &c., in a flashing, yet scholarly manner.

March, 1941 Argosy Catalogue. Cadmus