KENTUCKIANA SCRAP BOOK

J. Winston Coleman, Jr.
The Squire of Winburn Farm

THE WINBURN PRESS
Lexington, Kentucky
The Book Shelf Scrap Book

of

J. Winston Coleman, Jr.
Lexington, Kentucky
Winkman Farm

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Clay's Will Reveals Man

Excellent Conception Of Mind And Character Is Given By Document

An excellent insight into the mind and character of the Great "Clay" is to be found in his will, which was admitted to probate in the Fayette County court, July 12, 1839. Two years after his death Mr. Clay had died at Washington and his body had been transported to Lexington for a long journey from the capital on a funeral train. The funeral procession in Lexington was the largest that had ever been seen.

The will, written in 1815, follows: "In the name of God, Amen! I, Henry Clay of Ashland, do make, publish, and declare this to be my last will and testament and for my last will and testament hereby revoking and annulling all former and other wills by me heretofore made."

I give and devise to my wife, during her life, the use and occupancy of Ashland, the residence of the place hereinafter devised to my son, John, and also during her life, of my slaves, except that she may be disposed of, with all her other estate, otherwise disposed of, without her being liable to any account for the proceeds thereof. I hereby direct that she may have, use, and enjoy all my books, library, carriages, and horses, and such of my other horses, mules, and all the property, or any other livestock as she may select and choose to retain but upon this condition, neither during her life, nor by her will, testament, nor by any other disposition, the same is to be considered as part of my residuary estate.

I desire to reside at Ashland after my death, and will direct that a house and lot be purchased, built, and for her whereby she may prefer to dwell. Upon the death of my wife or if she shall determine to remove from Ashland, the same estate and of all the time be sectioned to her or to any of my slaves bequeathed to her, except such as may choose to reside during her life and also all the same is to be considered as part of my residuary estate.

I give and devise to my son, John, the slaves Harvey, Milton, and Nancy, and all the property made by my executors upon such terms as they may prescribe and alter.

I will and direct that a house and lot be purchased, built, and for her whereby she may prefer to dwell. Upon the death of my wife or if she shall determine to remove from Ashland, the same estate and of all the time be sectioned to her or to any of my slaves bequeathed to her, except such as may choose to reside during her life and also all the same is to be considered as part of my residuary estate.

In the event of the removal of my wife from Ashland and a consequent sale of that estate and other

Theodore's unhappy attention of mind, he shall be sedulously and comfortably supported in whatever situation it may be deemed best to place him. If it should please God to raise me to another state of life, I will direct that after the death of my wife, out of the proceeds of the sale of Ashland and other property hereinafter directed to be sold, the sum of ten thousand dollars shall be paid to him, to be paid without interest, the proceeds of the estate and property herein directed to be sold. If any of my slaves die after the payment of the legacies hereby directed to be paid, I will direct that if any of them die after the payment of the legacies hereby directed to be paid, the executor or executors shall, for the benefit of those who are to be entitled to their freedom, but that they may be retained in the possession of the same.

"I give to the children of my deceased daughter, Anne, in addition to the right of choice before referred to, the name of their mother, the sum of seven thousand dollars to be divided among them, to be paid without interest after the death of my wife, out of the proceeds of the estate and property herein directed to be sold. If any of my slaves die after the payment of the legacies hereby directed to be paid, I will direct that if any of them die after the payment of the legacies hereby directed to be paid, the executor or executors shall, for the benefit of those who are to be entitled to their freedom, but that they may be retained in the possession of the same.

"I give to my grandchildren, Henry, John, and Mary, thirty thousand dollars each, to be paid, without interest, after the death of my wife, out of the proceeds of the estate and property herein directed to be sold. If any of my slaves die after the payment of the legacies hereby directed to be paid, I will direct that if any of them die after the payment of the legacies hereby directed to be paid, the executor or executors shall, for the benefit of those who are to be entitled to their freedom, but that they may be retained in the possession of the same.

"All the rest and residue of my estate not herein specifically devised and bequeathed is to be left and divided among my grandchildren, Henry, John, and Mary, to be divided among them, to be paid without interest after the death of my wife, out of the proceeds of the estate and property herein directed to be sold. If any of my slaves die after the payment of the legacies hereby directed to be paid, I will direct that if any of them die after the payment of the legacies hereby directed to be paid, the executor or executors shall, for the benefit of those who are to be entitled to their freedom, but that they may be retained in the possession of the same.

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Graves-Cox Opened In 1889

Graves-Cox Company began business in the building pictured here, at the southeast corner of Main and Upper streets, in 1885. The two men standing in the doorway are George K. Graves (left), one of the proprietors of the firm, and Frank T. Justice, who then was a clerk in the store. The "Hatter's" sign was said to have been the first in the city on which the word appeared. The store immediately to the left, William Kiehl's tailor's establishment, later was taken over by Graves-Cox. In the basement of the corner store was the barber shop of "Uncle Billy" Anderson, who still is in business on North Mill street.

Kentucky Has A Misnomer

Area Is State And Not A Commonwealth, Act Of Creation Reveals

Kentucky has many official customs, some bequeathed to us in the actual form that they were adopted when Kentucky became a state in 1792, and others that have been rung in from time to time to meet the changes of various periods, that today are completely out of step with progress and convenience.

There has been much comment on the misnomer, "The Commonwealth of Kentucky," that appears on the state seal and on all official documents contrary to the specific wording of the act of congress, signed by George Washington, chartering the state and designating it "by the name and style of the state of Kentucky." The word "state" is used nine times in the act in reference to Kentucky, and "commonwealth" not at all.

Comment also has been made on the ridiculous dress and posture of the two figures used in the seal to illustrate the motto, "United We Stand, Divided We Fall." The original seal, copies of which may be seen today on the imposing monuments in the state cemetery at Frankfort erected years ago by Kentucky to her distinguished dead, shows two figures in pioneer dress, with right hands clasped and left arms embracing, standing on the bank of a precipice. The seal used officially today has two figures with a right and a left hand clasped, wearing clothes (one with short pants) and standing in a room. Records dating back to 1860 fail to account for the odd change in costume.

Kentucky's constitutional oath of office, however, caps the climax. Everyone who has served in any official capacity, down to election officer, recalls the line in the oath about not having "fought a duel." The most absurd case of the incongruity of this part of the oath was witnessed by this writer a few years ago at Frankfort. Judge S. S. Willis, former member of the Court of Appeals, was administering the oath to three women who had been appointed on the board of charities and corrections. The writer happened in just as the judge, with proper solemnity, was administering the oath. Two of the three women, all holding up their right hands, were Catholic nuns and it was hard to keep a straight face as the judge formally asked them to swear that "they had not fought a duel."

Favorite Spot For Picnics

On June 30, 1938, Johnson's Mill, above, for years a favorite picnic spot, now is a full-fledged swimming and recreational park.

LEX. LEADER
June 30, 1938
Character of Henry Clay Is Revealed by Anecdotes

By JUDGE CHARLES KERR

No one among his contemporaries exhibited a more consistent and unflinching passion for the union of the states than Henry Clay. Genial and lovable, possessed of an irresistible personality, there was always present in the air of the public forum a sense of assurance born of his power to win his point by unanswerable reasoning, or to paralyze his opponent by a flash of native unflinching courage. No one, in the great struggle for the preservation of the Union, gave a more perfect and complete demonstration of the efficacy of personal influence than he.

By request of the Judge of the Circuit Court and the local correspondent of the Times, the following is a selection from the many incidents which have come to my knowledge of the gentlemanly and chivalrous character of Henry Clay.

The most popular barbecue grounds in Kentucky, known as "Maxwell's Hill," were designated a "free and open butt," where no man of prominence ever attained office in Kentucky that had not watered his horse at this spring. This custom was continued when Clay appeared in court became less and less, but the reverence in which he was held as a statesman continued, and the fact always resulted in a crowded courtroom. In the course of a particular trial in which Clay participated, one juror, in arguing his case, quoted a section of the Bible and then addressed himself to Clay in the following words: "Mr. Clay, the Bible says, 'I will send a rain upon your field, and it shall not be withhold.'" Clay replied, "Mr. Clay, I think the Bible says, 'I will send a rain upon your field, and it shall be a blessing.'"

Clay's Early Days

When Clay became a resident of Kentucky there was not a man of any prominence in the state who was native-born. The political organization, almost without exception, was composed of native-born Virginians. When he became a member of Congress, and in effect, transferred his residence from one county of Virginia to another, Social and political life, it was evident at first, as it was being formed by Virginians. Into that life young Clay entered with a zest. As was the practice, counted the dollars in his ca.

Clay's Integrity

At one time in his life Clay became financially involved through indorsements for his friends. No man was ever more scrupulously true to his engagements. At one time he retired from public life that he might earn a sufficient income to discharge his personal indebtedness. Among his unsecured creditors was the Bank of Kentucky, and we suggest that the sum of $10,000 be tendered as partial payment which he owed the bank. This institution held his note for $10,000. As a matter of record, the bank notified one of the officers of the Bank of Kentucky, visiting in Philadelphia, that on one occasion in the 1840's, he was present in the Bank of Kentucky, transacting some business with its president, when an elderly gentleman of commanding presence entered the office and was cordially greeted by the president of the bank as "Mr. Clay." Without seating himself the gentleman handed him a note of $10,000 due in the bank that day, which he trusted might have the courtesy of renewing by paying the note at once; but he added, "It was a matter of deep regret to him that he could not discharge the personal obligation so promptly. In a letter to Clay, estimating the nature of the name, in the city limits of Lexington, in sight of beautiful "Amblin," Clay's home, were located...
Poor Poet

Everyone knows My Old Kentucky Home, Swann River, Beautiful Dreamer.

But not everyone knows that, except for a stroke of fate 100 years ago these folk tunes might never have taken form in gentle Stephen Foster's mind.

"Stephy"—gay, suggestive, 20—agreed to let his brother wangle an appointment for him to U.S. Military Academy. In the spring of 1846 Henry Foster wrote, sadly: "I can scarcely believe there is so little justice in our Government." The appointment had fallen through.

Turning to "other employment," as Henry urged, Stephen found that it gave him more freedom than he would have had in an Army career. That fall he copyrighted There's a Good Time Comin'.

Pay-Off. His family never considered song-writing "employment." But Old Dog Troy earned Foster $1,080; Swannie River, $1,647; My Old Kentucky Home, $1,372; Jeannie with the Light Brown Hair, $17. Between 1845 and 1860 he averaged $1,400 a year—not bad for those times. Had he not overdrawn on his publishers and sold for quick cash he would have made more.

But "temptations of popularity" were too much for him. His last years he was a sickly vagabond, a slave to drink.

In January 1864, at 38, died what he called "the wreck of Stephen Collins Foster."

His Songs Lived. Now Florida has put up $125,000 for a memorial at White Springs for "the nation's greatest songwriter" a few miles south of the Georgia line, on a bend in the Suwanee River (which Foster immortalized but probably never saw). White Springs has given 200 acres for a 75-bell carillon and a Stephen Foster museum. A life-size statue of the composer will stand on the river bank. A 30-mile "Melody Lane" highway will roll past the statue. And during song festivals, music will drift from a 1,000-seat amphitheater, out across the "Swanee."


STR: GORDON C. GREENE

Pull Up a Chair, Traveler

By CECIL BETRON

CAPN TOM believes his excursion steamer, the Gordon C. Greene, is beginning its best year ever all because of the war, according to the A. P.

The Gordon C. Greene, a 245-foot craft, is the only tourist excursion boat still in service in the vast Ohio-Mississippi river system. Seventy years ago, in the "golden age" of the nation's inland waterways, there were nearly 6,000 such steamers.

Cap'n Tom, who signs his name Thomas R. Green, is the 38-year-old president of the Green Line (homeport, Cincinnati), which operates two Ohio packets in addition to the Gordon.

The line fell heir to hundreds of travelers during the war because they had no other means of travel.

A study of the 1945 passenger list shows that 40 per cent of the travelers were repeaters. The line is booked almost solid for the eight months that the steamer will be in operation and for some of the cruises they have a long waiting list.

The 24-year-old Gordon, which accommodates 200 passengers, is scheduled to make four round trips from Cincinnati to New Orleans, each lasting 20 days. Three 14-day round trips to Chattanooga, Tenn., and 10 seven-day cruises to New Martinsville, W. Va., also are scheduled.

Cap'n Tom thinks there's a great future for someone in the river excursion business. Someday soon a smart investor will get into the business and put a fleet of passengers boats on the rivers.
It was on the front steps of this old Courthouse in Washington, Ky., that Mrs. Stowe saw Uncle Tom auctioned off.
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LINCOLN'S PATERNAL GRANDPARENTS, KENTUCKY PIONEERS

The paternal grandparents of Abraham Lincoln and the great grandfather of Mr. Thurlow H. Thurston, recently passed away at Louisville, Kentucky, were pioneer contemporaries in Jefferson County, Kentucky, and both were killed by the Indians within two years of each other. The fact of Mr. Thurston and the fact that so many of the events associated with Lincoln's paternal grandparents happened in the month of May invites the review of a few pioneer Lincoln episodes at this time.

Mr. Thurston for many years was president of the Filson Club and for a long period an outstanding patron of Kentucky history. His pioneer kinman, Bland W. Ballard, might be called the earnest recorder and a historical in a line connected with the Lincoln family in Kentucky. His observation was submitted to Col. R. T. Durrett and preserved in the colonel's papers now in the Durrett Collection at Chicago University Library. The item in question referred to a massacre which took place at Hughes' Station a few miles east of Louisville and under a crude pencil sketch of the station or fort is this notation:

"Bland W. Ballard states that the station was erected by Morgan Hughes in 1780; that it stood on Long Run in Jefferson County not far from the Baptist Meeting House; that it consisted of eight cabins and four block houses at the corners and that it was a weak fort poorly built. In 1786 a man was killed here by an Indian, while he was coming to the station from Mr. Ballard. Mr. Ballard, where he had been putting in a crop. His family resided in the station and soon after his death the widow and children moved to Washington County."

A footnote has been appended to this notation in the handwriting of Col. Durrett and apparently made at a much later date than the body of the document: "Query, might not this man thus killed have been Abraham Lincoln, the grandfather of the President?"

Several duly authorized public records have been discovered which contribute to the support of Col. Durrett's supposition that the man killed on Long Run at Hughes' Station was the grandfather of the President. It is a well known fact that Lincoln's paternal grandfather, for whom he was named, entered a four hundred acre tract of land near Hughes' Station in Kentucky on March 4, 1786. He migrated to Kentucky about 1783 and on May 17, 1786, William May, surveyor of Jefferson County, surveyed this tract, which he identified as situated on "the Fork of Floyd's Fork now called Long Run." Abraham Lincoln, the pioneer, himself served as 'mark' for the surveyor's second son, Josiah, and his cousin, Hanamiah, are named as "chain carriers."

This entry in the surveyor's office at Louisville clearly identifies Lincoln with the tract of land on Long Run adjacent to Hughes' Station, one year before the massacre in the same fatal month of May. The massacre was also mentioned in the biographical selections for campaign purposes in which Mr. Lincoln emphasized the grandfather "was killed by Indians, not in battle but by stealth when he was laboring to open a farm in the forest." The President usually placed the death of his grandfather "about the year 1784" but as we have observed from the testimony of Mordecai, who shot the Indian, it was in the month of May, 1786.

Some weeks after the massacre of Lincoln's grandfather, which apparently aroused the pioneers because of the sad fate of the widow with five small children and other community casualties, George Rogers Clark, another kinman of Mr. Thurston, was encouraged to plan an expedition against the Wabash Indians. A subscription was circulated in the Floyd Fork community on which appear, among others, both the names of the Widow Lincoln and Bland Ballard, great grandfather of Rogers Clark Thurston Ballard.

The proposal on the subscription list is as follows: "We, the undersigned subscribers, being fully aware to engage the following articles for the use of the expedition against the Wabash Indians, commanded by General Clark for Capt. George Pomeroy's Company. September the 5th, 1786."

Then follows 36 items and among them:

"A gun, the property of Widow Lincoln—8 0. 0."
"A pack saddle, the property of Bland Ballard—0. 9. 0."

One of the most recent unpublished discoveries by the editor of Lincoln Lore relating to Lincoln's grandparents is a manuscript which proves that the Widow Lincoln soon removed her family to Washington County as the Bland W. Ballard statement indicates. The agreement signed by Jeremiah York also proves the widow had taken active steps to set about supporting her family of five children. The covenant and its endorsements which appear in the papers of the suit brought by the widow against York for "Covenant Broken" follows.

**Lincoln vs. York**

Land Covenant Broken

Feb. 1, 1788.

I promise or cause to be done for BarSheBa (usually spelled Bershabe) Lincoln the clearing of two acres of land smack mothe for four pounds the work is to be done this spring and six acres for four pounds to be cleared for the plow for six pounds.

Test: Jeremiah York

James Cullough

Suit brought against him for covenant broken and recovery of 20 pounds asked.

Endorsement: May 20, 1788

Not executed by order of Plaintiff:

Thomas Bridges

August, 1788

We are now able to move back the arrival of widow Bershabe Lincoln and her five orphan children in Washington County, Kentucky, as early as February 1, 1788. This is eight months before the appraisal of the pioneer's estate was ordered on October 14, 1788. The document and its endorsement is of further interest in that it reveals the Widow Lincoln did not press her charges against York, which might imply at least that he had made some further agreement to carry out his contract.
Kentucky Colonel—New Vintage

By

DR. CLEMENT EATON
Lafayette College
Easton, Penna.

Reprinted from
The Southern Literary Messenger
Richmond, Virginia, March, 1941

ILLUSTRATED AND ANNOTATED

Privately Printed
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY
1942

Title page and text of Clement Eaton's article about myself, as reprinted in pamphlet form, with picture and footnotes.
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 ice 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.

Before the Civil War, the growing of hemp was the distinctive crop of Kentucky, the “money crop” of the old colonels. After a long period of abandonment, hemp is being planted again in the rich loams of the Bluegrass as a supplement to tobacco, and Winburn Farm can boast of fourteen acres planted in this ante-bellum staple. Today, however, it is necessary to secure a permit from the Federal Government to grow hemp, since Marihuana, the habit-forming narcotic, is made from the leaves and blossom of the plant. The Colonel’s permit, therefore, describes him as a “Producer of Marihuana” for the year 1941.

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 farm. 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 [Harbut], 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 invados 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 business man, 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 salsanges 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 springhouse. He serves his delicious concoction from a silver julep cup that his grandfather drank from, and he gleefully 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 non-professional 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 stage-coaching days and of the old taverns of Kentucky, such as Postlethwait’s in Lexington. His magnus opus, however, is a mellow 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 intelligentsia of Lexington known as “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 objects, 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 highbrows, 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 ancestors 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
Temple Passed, Church Rose
At Short And Walnut Corner

This was Lexington’s historic Masonic temple at the northeast corner of Short and Walnut streets at the dawn of the Nineties. Built in 1840, it was used by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky and subordinate lodges and for many years was a favorite place for social functions, dancing schools and other public gatherings. The Grand Lodge headquarters were moved to Louisville in 1859. Many happy memories were linked with this building and there was no little regret when it was torn down in December 1891. Soon thereafter the work of constructing the Central Christian church on the site was started. The church, erected at a cost of $60,000, was completed about the close of 1893.

A Pair Of Kentucky Heroes

This picture shows “Uncle John” Shell, “the oldest man in the world,” when he visited the Bluegrass Fair in company with Sergt. Willie Sandlin, the only Kentucky soldier in the World War who received the Congressional medal of honor. Both hailed from Devil’s Jump Branch, Hell for Sarin creek, Leslie county. “Uncle John” died several years ago.

LOOKING BACKWARD
BY R. LEE DAVIS

Do You Remember——
When Lexington experienced the coldest weather in its history, on February 13, 1899, when the mercury sank to 21 degrees below zero throughout the Bluegrass country and was even colder than that in some northern Kentucky cities and towns?

When the old clubhouse of the Lexington Country Club, on the Paris Pike, was destroyed by fire and later replaced by the present attractive and commodious structure?

When Camp Stanley was established on the Garrett W. Wilson farm, on the Versailles road, at the breaking out of the World War, and several thousand soldiers were mobilized there before being sent to Camp Taylor, Louisville?

When the building of the old Security Trust and Safety Vault Company, at the northeast corner of Short and Mill streets, was removed section by section, to clear the site for the present new eight-story bank building, and re-erected in replica by a Negro contractor, on south Broadway hill, to become later the State hotel?

When Blue Grass park, at Fort Spring, on the Versailles road, abandoned years ago, was established as an amusement park by the Tracton Company, which used to run interurban excursions there on Sundays and holidays?

TEN DOLLARS REWARD.
Runaway from me, about the 18th of December last,
A Negro Woman, called KITTY.

Near six feet high, dark, yellow colored, straight-ribbed,
Leaning and very likely she Stained a month since,
called Bona, had her husband—husband of a year and a half, doing public. Husband of Lexington, it is Kirby, who is reported
in court here. Any person who delivers said negro to me, or使我 with him to Fort R., will have the reward above specified.

WM. T. BARRY.

The Reporter, June 30, 1938

Lex. Leader, June 30, 1938

Sen.
Never-Failing Spring Which Pioneers Found Still Source Of Georgetown's Water Supply

Shown here is a section of Georgetown's never-failing spring, from which the town gets its water supply. In the background at left is the marker erected by the D. A. R. chapter to McClelland and his men and Revolutionary War soldiers. The marker is near the site of the first cabin built on the bluff, from which the pioneers could watch for prowling Indians.

By PAT HANZEL

GEORGETOWN, Ky., March 27 (Special)—Fifth Columnists may be more dangerous to the Royal Spring settlement than the Indians were.

Methods unknown to the red men who stormed McClelland fort may be used by saboteurs in case of attack on Georgetown, great-grandmother of the fort.

Gene Stout, state civil defense inspector, recently warned Georgetown's defense council that it must take steps to protect the city waterworks, fed by Royal and Big Spring, from Fifth Columnists.

The only major precaution taken so far has been the closing of the waterworks building to all persons not having permits to enter, according to Elmer Allen, local manager of the Kentucky Utilities, owner of the water system. However, the locked door would not prevent enemy agents from creeping up, flying the spring and polluting it and leaving Georgetown without drinking water.

Cabin Built On Bluff

In April, 1775, when John McClelland and six other settlers (including Mrs. McClelland) built the cabin that became McClelland fort, they selected the bluff back of the spring for the site. From the top of the bluff, the pioneers could watch for moving bands of Indians, and could lower buckets to the spring for water to drink and to extinguish fires set by flanking arrows. Their cabin, the walls pierced by loopholes, was the best fortified fort in Kentucky. It was built a few weeks before Boone's borough, which was completed in May, 1775.

Mrs. McClelland was the first white woman in Scott county and the settlement was named for her and not her husband, according to Gainer's history of the county.

Acting like a present-day chamber of commerce, residents of McClelland fort constructed the first summer's stockhouse to make the fortification "equal in size and superior in appearance" to Boone's fort, and named their water supply "Royal Spring."

Up to that time, they had called it Floyd's spring, for Col. James Floyd who, on July 9, 1774, with Col. James Douglas and others, conducted a survey of what is now Scott county and discovered the water source. The surveyors found that the spring had a fall of 15 feet from its head to the mouth of the branch. The spring site was included in the 1774 deed to Floyd for his military services.

Colonel Floyd deed the land to the heirs of Col. Stephen Early, and it later was taken, in a suit brought by John Cobb, who in turn transferred the tract to the Rev. Elijah Craig, Baptist minister and founder of Georgetown.

Craig Was Versatile

Mr. Craig opened a private school near the spring in January, 1776—a school that grew into Georgetown College, senior Baptist college in Kentucky. Later, this school, which Craig advertised as accommodating 50 to 80 pupils and offering courses in Latin, Greek and the sciences, used paper made by the founder in his mill powered by the spring branch.

Hand-made laboriously, sheet by sheet, this paper was the first made in the "West," in 1788.

Mr. Craig was a versatile minister! He erected the first fulling mill, and made the first whisky in Scott county, the first Bourbon in Kentucky, four years before the moonshine. His plants were on the banks of the spring branch. Through his sale of the tracts of land deeded to him, a settlement grew up the hill from the spring—Georgetown.

Chief Killed On Branch

At least two Indian chiefs lost their lives on the edges of Big Spring branch, which flows into Elkhorn creek and thence into the Kentucky river.

The death of one, Chief Pluggy, was costly to the pioneers. McClelland was mortally wounded in the same fracas. Late one afternoon in December, 1774, two scouts rode up to the fort to announce the approach of a band of Indian warriors. The defenders of the fort had time to mold extra bullets, check their firearms and draw up a supply of water before the attack came.

The invaders outnumbered the defenders and were repelled only after Pluggy was killed.

A woman, whose first name is not even chronicled, could have cut a notch in her gun for the death of the chief of the chiefs.

Capt. Daniel Gano, who had won his title under Ethan Allen, went 10 miles to get some supplies, leaving his wife and their two small children in the lonely cabin beside the branch.

About sundown, knowing the man was away, the Indians came upon Mrs. Gano ready for them. However, she was a mother first and a fighter second. She put the children in the small cellar, gave them bread and milk to keep them quiet, then lined up the guns.

It was Chief Eagle Feather who came forth and demanded that she surrender, threatening to burn the house if she refused. As Chief Eagle's men fixed burning brands to their arrows, Mrs. Gano aimed and fired. The chief fell dead and the Indians fled.

The Gano descendants still live in Scott county, according to Sadie Rucker, who recounts the story in an unpublished manuscript in the Georgetown public library.

Spring Never-Failing

The stream went on chuckling to itself as it fell from the bluff, and small boys swam in the branch, as the Indian children doubtless had done.

Georgetown residents continued to drink the spring water. For a long time they carried pails down to the spring to fill. In the early 19th century, they bought the water from an old wooden mill, supplied barrels, carted them up the hill and peddled door to door.

Some form of waterworks was built by the city in the 1890's. The spring site had been deeded to the community by Craig in the days when the town was known as Lebanon station, a name given it by the Virginia legislature in 1784. The present settling basins were completed in 1918.

Georgetown—McClelland fort, McClelland station, Lebanon station, or any community near Royal Spring—has never been without water. In the abnormally dry years of 1899 and 1900, when the spring brought clear, cold (always 55 degrees) water from the earth to be pumped to homes, schools and plants as it served the pioneers.

McClelland's tombstone has disappeared.

The Daughters of the American Revolution, the Big Spring chapter, in 1909 erected an obelisk on the bluff commemorating McClelland and his companions and Revolutionary soldiers.

The lonely cabin on the bluff is gone.

But the spring is the same.

Locations Of Railroad Stations 50 Years Ago

The following directory of railroad stations in Lexington was compiled by George W. Ranek for his "Guide to Lexington," published a half-century ago.

"Big Sandy (Chesapeake and Ohio), rear of Phoenix Hotel, Kentucky Central, rear of Phoenix and Peck store, Cin. and Lex., Cin. and Lex. and Cincinnati and Lex. (Louisville and Nashville), corner Mill and Water streets, Cin. and Lex. Southern (C. N. O. and T. P.), South Broadway. The road now know as the 'Louisville, Cincinnati and Lex.' was chartered as the 'Lexington and Ohio' in 1834 and enjoys the distinction of being the first railroad built in the West, and one of the first built in America. It was incorporated January 27th, 1827. The strap iron rails were sold for $3 a mile, which were laid lengthwise. It is the same that the first locomotive made in the United States ran over this road. It was manufactured by B. H. Barlow, of Lexington, as early as 1827, and was built in Lexington."
HARROGATE, TENNESSEE, FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 1945.

COMMENCEMENT IS

BIG SUCCESS

Dr. Long And
Dr. Moreland

Principle Speakers

In the words of Hon. Myers Y. Cooper, “We certainly had an all-time high Commencement, with an abounding spirit of good fellowship. Each occasion seemed to be perfect.”

From President and Mrs. McClelland’s breakfast to the Senior Class on Saturday morning to Monday’s closing exercises each hour was filled with events of interest. Numerous distinguished visitors, old graduates, former students and parents of students came and stayed through the entire period.

On Saturday night, June 2 at 7:30 o’clock the Alumni Association held its Annual banquet with Crosby Murray, retiring President presiding as toastmaster. Numerous old graduates made talks and presented various classes in attendance between 1915 and 1945. At 8 o’clock Earl Hobson Smith’s “Lincoln Players” presented “Mary Wives of Windsor” in the open air theater before a large and receptive audience.

On Sunday morning at 10:30 the Baccalaureate Service was preached by Dr. Edward S. Moreland, Pastor of Walnut Hills Christian Church Cincinnati. Dr. Moreland stressed life’s challenges as (1) making Democracy live in America; (2) Preserving peace and (3) the challenge of personal adequacy. “Will we turn our backs on the world? Today is the challenge to greater living. We must feel we have a rendezvous with

vived and fortified civilization.”

The Bachelor of Arts degree was conferred on the following graduates of the class of 1945: Gladys Bradley, Harrogate, Tenn.; Margaret Jane Butler, Hampton, Tennessee; Katy Dyer, Maynardville, Tennessee; *Joseph Hugh Edds, Harrogate, Tennessee; Mary Frances Hair, White Pond, South Carolina; Inez Rebecca Henry, Lafayette, Tennessee; *Naomi Knighton, Rockford, Illinois; Alma Lucille Lambdin, Gibson Station, Virginia; Jean Elizabeth Lyon, Persia, Tennessee; Ethel Madden, Haard, Kentucky; Hazel Irene Miller, Lauraville, South Carolina; *Maurice Alexander Natanson, Brookline, New York; Mabel Esther Osborne, Blackwater, Virginia; Mary Ruth Osborne, Blackwater, Virginia; *Mildred Owenby, Blue Ridge, Georgia; Ruth Emogene Pepe, Max Meadows, Virginia; Ruth Rogers, Boyds Creek, Tennessee; *Mona Sewell, New Tazewell, Tennessee; Sidney Simandle, St. Charles, Virginia; Edith Elizabeth Sower, LaFollette, Tennessee; Sharon Jean Sutherland, Clinchco, Virginia; Anna Ruth Vannoy, Harrogate, Tennessee; *Flora Sybil Varner, Ashland, Kentucky; Mary Edith Varner, Ashland, Georgia; Mildred Williamson, Middlesboro, Kentucky; *Maga Cum Laude: *Cum Laude.

Diplomas awarded in absentia were: Ruth Amis, Johnson City, Tennessee; Frances Jane Ewing, P.O. 2-c, Brooklyn, New York; Wanda Alvera Healthy, Baltimore, Maryland; Mary Loxie Palmer, S-Sgt., Washington, D.C.; Ors Warrick, Washington, D.C.

The diploma of honor of Lincoln was given to Reinhard H. Lutkin, Columbia University, New York City, New York.

Among the distinguished visitors who attended Commencement from a distance were: E. Channing Coolidge and Newton C. Farr, Trustees from Chicago; Dr. F. W. Laffrentz, Chairman of the Board, William E. Schenk and Arthur F. Laffrentz, Trustees from New York; Col. Wade H. Cooper, Trustee, and Dr. and Mrs. Breckinridge Long of Washington, D.C.; Carl W. Schaefer, Trustee, Cleveland, Ohio; Gov. Myers Y. Cooper, Trustee, and Dr. and Mrs. Edward S. Moreland of Cincinnati; Dr. and Mrs. George Truman Carl, Chicago; Harry E. Bullock, Trustee, Lexington, Kentucky; Mrs. Olive Corruthers, Chicago; Dr. Reinhard H. Lutkin, Columbia University, New York; Mrs. Dorothy Laman Teillard, Washington, D.C.; Mr. and Mrs. Leo Gelis, Chicago; Miss Mildred Murray and Miss Elizabeth Bond, Columbus, Indiana; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Winkler and daughter, Lebanon, Indiana; Mr. and Mrs. William H. Townsend, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Coleman, Jr., all of Lexington, Kentucky, and Fletcher Hodges, Jr., of Pittsburgh.
TRANSYLVANIA COLLEGE, FOUNDED IN 1783, BOASTS TITLE "MOTHER OF FAMOUS MEN"

1784

By EVLYN WHELAN
LEXINGTON, KY. — On a common basis were the city of Cincinnati and Transylvania College founded more than a century ago.

For it was largely through the foresight, courage and wisdom of such men as Col. Robert Patterson, John Cleves Symmes and Matthias Denman that both came into being.

Col. Patterson, one of the pioneers in the wilds of the Kentucky and Southern Ohio territory in the days when the gravest dangers were to be found in the attacks of the Miami, the unprotected and uncultivated wilderness, and the rough life of the early frontier, made his way with a small band to the Blue Grass region. There he founded the fort which later became Lexington.

FIRST NEWSPAPER

As the Indians were subdued and life again could become more than a mere existence, these men looked about for avenues of culture. Hence the first newspaper in the West, the Kentucke Gazette, was started by John Bradford as he made his way across Limestone, through the hills to the Central Kentucky community. Thus also was Transylvania University conceived in the minds of Col. Patterson and his men and in 1783 the Virginia Legislature chartered the institution. However, there were no actual sessions until 1785.

In 1789 these same men endowed the first library in the West, known then as the Transylvania Library. Only a few years later to this library such men as Henry Clay, Aaron Burr, George Washington, Vice President Adams and many more sent their writings. Later converted into the Lexington Library and tragically burned, the library was indeed a step toward progress. Some of the volumes saved are to be found in the famous collection of the Transylvania Library today.

FIRST MAGAZINE

About this time, also, was the first magazine, The Transylvania, begun in the state. Since its founding it has continued to publish at regular intervals, and is today the official college literary publication. In its files are to be found the student-day writings of many of our leading writers.

These men, forging ahead from small beginnings in the wilderness, planted churches and public schools, held lectures, and used the college buildings for the benefit of the entire surrounding territory.

A short time after this, Patterson and his men, recalling the advantageous location on which Cincinnati now stands, set out to survey the land on which they had previously met the Miami during the repression of the Red's. A trail was improved between Lexington and what is now the Queen City, with a view to settling a community there. From this beginning grew a college which is known throughout the world today, and a city important in the affairs of the nation.

HOME MOVED TO CAMPUS

In the spring of 1838 the original Lexington home of Robert Patterson and his family, moved to Dayton many years ago by descendants, was returned to the Kentucky city and placed on the campus of Transylvania. Today it stands as nearly an exact replica of its original status as possible—a memorial to this man of courage.

There have been many hard years during the 160 in which the college has grown. At the time of the Civil War classes were disbanded and the halls used for hospitals and barracks for the soldiers. But through all the years it has never ceased to follow the ideal set up by the liberal-minded men who first conceived it. When frontier Presbyterianism became too dictatorial Transylvania broke away to maintain its open-minded policies.

GREAT NAMES

"Mother of famous men" is a title well earned by the small liberal arts institution which still flourishes today. Such men as Henry Clay, Thomas Jefferson, Daniel Drake (also connected with the founding of the Medical College of the University of Cincinnati), John Bradford, John Rogers Clark, Horace Holley, Isaac Shelby, Albert Sidney Johnston, Champ Clark, John Hunt Morgan, Stephen Austin, John Fox Jr., James Lane Allen, and, but recently, Senator and former Gov. Albert B. Chandler are but a few of its noted products. Innumerable political, religious and social leaders have claimed Transylvania as their alma mater.

President Raymond F. McLean, who came to Transylvania for the first time this year from Eureka College in Illinois, is leading the college under policies similar to the ones of its great founders. In expressing his working policy for the institution, President McLean stated that Transylvania must take its rightful place in the large group of small liberal arts colleges. In doing this, he continued, we are establishing an institution where the student may have closer contact with the faculty and entire student body, may thus acquire, through a broad variety of studies and extracurricular activities, a working basis for living and may train himself for leadership in the profession of his choice.

Cincinnati Times-Star Apr. 25, 1940

1883—Amphitheatre of Louisville Fair Association.

Old volunteer fire apparatus.

Old-time fire equipment.

OLD COLLEGE IN AUGUSTA, KY.

BRACKEN County, on Ohio River.
A PREACHER AND A SHRINE
REV. JESSE HEAD AND THE LINCOLN MARRIAGE TEMPLE

Lincoln Marriage Temple, Harrodsburg, Ky.

Replica of a Kentucky Pioneer Church, erected in 1931, to house the small log cabin in which Rev. Jesse Head performed the marriage ceremony of Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks.

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Lincoln Memorial University
Harrogate, Tennessee
A PREACHER AND A SHRINE

Rev. Jesse Head and the Lincoln Marriage Temple

By

J. WINSTON COLEMAN, JR.

During the formative period of Kentucky’s history, the pioneer preacher was indeed a colorful character and always an important personage in the thinly settled backwoods community. He made his calls by day and by night in all kinds of weather, preached a militant and somewhat dogmatic gospel, married the young, buried the dead and brought spiritual aid and bodily comfort to the needy members of his little flock. Such was the Rev. Jesse Head, the man who married the parents of Abraham Lincoln.

This frontier preacher was born on June 10, 1769, in Frederick County, Maryland, the son of William Edward Head, a Revolutionary soldier. Little is known of his youth and early manhood, but it is more than probable that he was apprenticed at an early age to learn the cabinet-maker’s trade. On January 9, 1789, he married Miss Jane Ramsey, youngest daughter of Robert and Susannah Ramsey, of Bedford County, Pennsylvania. At the time of their marriage, both of these young people were twenty-one years of age, the bride being exactly two months the groom’s senior.

About the year 1795 young Jesse Head migrated with his family from Maryland to Road Run, Washington County, Kentucky, a location not far from the Lincolns and Berrys. Purchasing some fifty acres of “second rate land” from Benjamin Hardin, Sr., father of Ben Hardin, noted Kentucky lawyer, he settled down to clear the ridges, till the soil and raise his family.

It was not long, however, until the young Marylander began to put his training as a cabinet-maker into practice, and he soon found such profitable employment in Springfield, the county seat, that he was obliged to spend a considerable part of his time there. By the spring of 1798, the rapid growth of his business enabled him to move into town, where he purchased two lots, erected a house for his family, a stable for his two horses and a cabinet shop for himself.

Another reason that prompted young Head to leave his farm and to establish a permanent residence in Springfield was that on January 27, 1798, he produced in court a commission “authenticated as the law requires, appointing the said Jesse Head a Justice of the Peace” for Washington County, and he shortly afterwards took the oath of office before E. Trammell Hickman. Industriously cultivating his farm, plying his trade as a cabinet-maker, holding court and handling legal matters, “Squire” Head soon became one of the most substantial citizens of the little town of Springfield.

One of the first cases that the village magistrate was called upon to try involved Mordecai Lincoln, uncle of the future President, who appeared as the plaintiff. Head found judgment against Lincoln who appealed the case. However, at the following term, April, 1798, the county court affirmed the decision of the justice of the peace.

The continual appearance of Head’s name on the order books of Washington County partially accounts for the fact that in a few years he turned the work in his cabinet shop over to other hands, several of whom were boys apprenticed to him to learn the trade. One of these lads was David Rodman, to whom Head had obligated himself by law “to find him in victuals and one pair of shoes per year” and at his freedom “to find him a joiner, foreplane, jack and smoothing plane.”

Another reason for leaving his cabinet shop was the fact that he had become a Methodist preacher. Just when his ministry began is not definitely known, but as early as 1798 he was spreading the gospel in Kentucky as evidenced by an entry (May 25, 1798) in an old book “Court Martials in Nelson County” which stated that “Jesse Head returned as delinquent is cleared off muster role, he
having a license to preach according to the rules of the sect to which he belongs."

At this time Reverend Head was about thirty years of age and had not been for the fact that he held "a license" as an accredited minister "of the sect to which he belongs" it is certain that the court martial would have ordered him to continuous service as a militiaman of the Fourth Regiment of Kentucky Militia until said "delinquent" Jesse Head would have attained the age of fifty years, at which time all members were permanently discharged.

Jesse Head's energy, integrity and sound common sense seems to have made him very popular with his fellow townspeople, for on April 3, 1802 he was elected a trustee of the town of Springfield and the following year, June 10th, he became chairman of the board of trustees. His judicial and ecclesiastical duties, however, did not prevent him from taking contract for the erection of a whipping-post, stocks and pillory on the court-house square and for other repairs on the court-house itself.*

In addition to the several activities in which he was already engaged, it seems that Head also aspired to be the village postmaster. Evidently he was unaware that it was unlawful to hold two public offices at the same time. After he had secured the postoffice appointment, the grand jury of Washington County returned a true bill upon which he was found guilty of being a justice of the peace and a postmaster at the same time.**

An entry, discovered by Dr. Louis Warren upon the order books of the Washington County Court, under date of February 7, 1803, shows that he was duly authorized by the court to perform wedding ceremonies as a minister of the church: "On motion of Jesse Head, a minister of the gospel of the Methodist Episcopal Church who made oath a testimonial is granted him to solemnize the rites of matrimony on his giving bond in three days in the clerk's office with Edward Clark son and William H. Hayes, his securities."***

One more step was taken by this pioneer preacher to further qualify him for the duties as a minister of the gospel. Under the law of the Methodist Church, a local preacher, after having been licensed for four years was eligible for ordination, and Jesse Head was "ordained" a deacon by Bishop Francis As bury, on October 2, 1805, at the Western Conference held that year in Scott County, Kentucky.**** From that date on his official marriage returns were signed: "Jesse Head, D.M.E.C" (deacon of the Methodist Episcopal Church).

These three records, meagre though they be, are sufficient to certify Jesse Head's standing and qualifications in the ministry of his own denomination and "the recognition of that standing by the civil and military authorities of the county in which he lived."*****

As a resident of the county seat at Springfield and an officer of the court, Reverend Head was seldom, if ever, long absent on a circuit and was usually available to perform marriage ceremonies. His convenient location and pleasing personality made him much in demand and a very large proportion of the couples married in Washington County prior to 1810 were united by him.

On the 10th of June, 1806, Thomas Lincoln, a small landowner and carpenter of Hardin County rode into Springfield and obtained
a license to marry Nancy Hanks. This marriage bond was signed by Thomas Lincoln and Richard Berry, who signed the document as guardian of the bride-to-be, with John Parrott, as witness. Two days later, after everything had been put in readiness at Richard Berry’s cabin at Beechland, (Washington County) Reverend Head rode out to it on his old gray mare and there, on Thursday, June 12, 1806, amid a number of friends and guests he united in holy matrimony Thomas Lincoln, aged 28 and Nancy Hanks, aged 23—the parents of the future President.

Since the Lincolns and the Hankses were Baptists, it is generally supposed that the availability of Reverend Head and the fact that he was a friend and neighbor of the Lincolns and the Berrys caused him, though of a different denomination, to be called upon to solemnize the marriage of this young couple.

The wedding of Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks was not unlike any other of these pioneer times. There was an “infare,” with much merriment and plenty to eat. Dr. Christopher C. Graham, veteran of the War of 1812, and “for many years the champion off-hand rifle shot of the world,” as well as proprietor of the famous Graham Springs Watering-Place at Harrodsburg, made an affidavit on March 20, 1882, in his 100th year, that he was present at this ceremony on Beech Fork and describes the affair: “We had bear meat; venison, wild turkey and ducks; eggs, wild and tame, so common that you could buy them at two bits a bushel; maple sugar, swung on a string, to bite off for coffee or whiskey; syrup in big gourds; peach-and-honey; a sheep that the two families barbecued whole over coals of wood burned in a pit, and covered with green boughs to keep the juice in; and a race for the whiskey bottle...”

The newly-married couple, however, did not set up housekeeping in the cabin in which they were married. Authorities agree that their first home was on a back street in Elizabethtown, county seat of Hardin County, Kentucky.

Reverend Jesse Head, like many of the pioneer preachers of his day, did not make a separate return for each marriage he performed, but sent in his record at intervals of several months, certifying a dozen to fifteen marriages on the same sheet or document. In the case of the Lincoln-Hanks ceremony, it appears on the list of marriages solemnized by Rev. Head between April 28, 1806 and April 22, 1807—all on a single page, written in a legible handwriting and signed Jesse Head using the long “S” and with the usual notation “D.M.E.C.” after his name.

For the next several years Reverend Head continued to play the dual role of preacher and magistrate and was a familiar figure on the streets of Springfield and along the dirt roads astride his gray mare riding to the outlying districts of his county. By 1810, his family had grown to nine children and the fact that he appears to have disposed of his fifty-acre farm and most of his city property indicates that he may have been, at times, hard pressed for enough money to keep his ever-increasing family together.

On October 10, 1810, Jesse Head signed his last official court order in Washington County and shortly afterward moved to the more prosperous and growing town of Harrodsburg, the county seat of Mercer County, Kentucky, some twenty-odd miles distant. Here he purchased a lot on the site of the present Hotel Harrod, nearly opposite the court-house, where he established his cabinet shop, with the making of coffins no small part of his trade.

Incidently, his first shop in Harrodsburg was adjacent to an old stone house occupied by Beriah Magoffin, Sr., father of Kentucky’s Civil War Governor. Later, the stone house was remodeled into a tavern and the Head cabinet shop was presumably removed to another part of the town.

Many years before Reverend Head was given any publicity in connection with the now famous Lincoln-Hanks wedding on Beech Fork, he was mentioned in a letter written by General Robert B. McAfee, on November 25, 1845, to Dr. Lyman C. Draper, in which it was stated: “The Harrodsburg Springs were first discovered by the Rev. Jesse Head, a Methodist clergyman, in 1806.” It is quite possible that his knowledge and belief in the future of these springs as a fashionable watering-place and his acquaintance with Dr. Graham caused him to remove his residence from Springfield to Harrodsburg.

After about a year’s residence in Harrodsburg, Head was elected (October 10, 1811) a trustee to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of George C. Thompson, a prominent citizen of the Mercer County seat. From that time to 1827, Reverend Head was elected and re-elected town trustee, and acted as chairman of the board on frequent occasions. During these years he married many Mercer couples, Dr. Christopher C. Graham, owner and proprietor of the famed Graham Springs Hotel being among those whose marriages he solemnized.

In 1830, the Reverend Mr. Head, in connection with his son, Bascom Head, a printer’s helper, established a newspaper in Harrodsburg known as The American, a Democratic organ in direct opposition to another local paper, The Union. Whether this venture was a financial success is not known, but some warm controversies arose out of this press rivalry and it is to one of these that we owe a bit of doggerel that gives us a pen...
picture of this pioneer preacher and cabinet-maker.

"There is a man in our town,
Who walks the streets in a dressing-gown;
His nose is long and his hair is red,
And he goes by the name of Jesse Head." 18

This man of Harrodsburg with his long nose and red hair had many warm and devoted friends, but he was not entirely without his enemies. One account is related of an effort either to take his life or to terrify him. As he walked down the street on his way to the court-house he was fired upon from the rear, but the bullet missed its mark. Wheeling about and facing his assailant, Head shouted: "If you meant to kill me, you are a coward, and if you thought to frighten me, you are a fool."

Few of the pioneer preachers were educated men. Jesse Head had little formal education, but he was a well-read man for his day. Ten years before his death, his library was listed for sale and it showed quite a remarkable range. There was a considerable assortment of books, mostly on Methodism, including seven volumes of church history, a like number of Wesley's sermons and two sets of Clarke's commentaries.

That this pioneer minister was in dire financial stress is clearly indicated by the offering of his books for sale. Certainly it is known that once or twice he was on the verge of insolvency and might even have been homeless had it not been for the beneficence of his son who came to his rescue, purchased his father's home and personal property and held them in trust so that his aged father and mother might have a roof over their heads as long as they lived.

Reverend Jesse Head died on March 22, 1842, at the age of 74; his wife Jane survived him by nearly ten years and died on August 30, 1851. Both of their lives appear to have been quiet and uneventful during the closing years and they were buried in the garden of their little home in Harrodsburg that the son had saved for them. Some time later their bodies were removed to unmarked graves in Spring Hill Cemetery, in the same city. 19

At the time of Rev. Head's death, Abraham Lincoln had not risen to fame nor is it likely that he had ever heard of the future President. Moreover, he had no good reason to think of Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks as any more likely to achieve fame or distinction than any other of the numerous frontier couples he had united in matrimony during the long years of his ministerial career.

For more than seventy years the record of the Lincoln-Hanks marriage was unknown, and Abraham Lincoln himself was unaware of its existence. His mother died in 1818, but his father lived to 1851. In his earlier years he seems to have had no particular interest in family genealogy. It was not until after his debate with Stephen A. Douglas in 1858 that he emerged into national prominence and found himself in need of information concerning his ancestors. Then it was only logical to look for the marriage record of his parents in Hardin County, Kentucky, where he was born, where his father had owned land as early as 1803, and where his father had lived previous to his marriage. However, it seems strange that neither Abraham Lincoln nor anyone else during his life-time thought of looking for his parents' marriage record in Washington County, Kentucky, considering the fact that Thomas Lincoln had once lived in this county where his widowed mother had resided following the death of her husband in 1786, and where his two elder brothers, Mordecai and Josiah, continued to live.

Through the years after Abraham Lincoln's death, a number of local traditions existed that the marriage had occurred in Washington County, but it remained for a Massachusetts woman, a Mrs. C. S. Vawter, to first put the matter on record in printed form.

In a letter published in the Louisville Courier, February 20, 1874, Mrs. Vawter stated that "in the year 1859, I went to Springfield, Ky., to teach and was in that neighborhood when we received notice of the nomination for the Presidency. On the announcement of the name of the candidate, all were on the 'qui vive' to know who the stranger was, so unexpectedly launched upon a perilous sea."

Upon learning that Abe Lincoln was the successful man, she continued: "A farmer remarked that he should not be surprised if he were not the son of Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks, who were married at the home of Uncle Frank Berry. In a short time the supposition of the farmer was confirmed by the announcement of the father's name. This New England school teacher further related that: "In 1866 . . . I was again in the neighborhood [Beechland] and visited the old [log] house in which were celebrated the nuptial rites above referred to . . . ."

How much of the publication of Mrs. Vawter's statement had to do with the subsequent discovery of the marriage record, may be a matter of some dispute, but the fact is that four years later, in 1878, Mr. William F. Booker, county clerk for Washington County, after a diligent search among his court records, discovered the marriage bond, signed by Thomas Lincoln and the second Richard Berry, dated June 10, 1806, together with the marriage return duly signed by the Rev. Jesse Head. Both of these yellowing court records attesting to the regularity of the marriage relation between Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks can still be seen today at the court-house in Springfield, Kentucky.

As the years went by, all of the Berry family died, their descendants became scattered and their cabin fell into decay. Eventually the property, including the neglected cabin came into the possession of Mr. W. A. Clements and his son, Walter L. Clements, of Springfield, Kentucky.

One day in the spring of 1911, Mr. N. L. Curry, of Harrodsburg, was visiting in the old Beechland neighborhood on Beech Fork and here he came across the ancient structure badly in need of repair. 22 Upon learning that this was the cabin in which the marriage of President Lincoln's parents had taken place, Mr. Curry secured permission from Messrs. Clements to allow him to remove the logs to Harrodsburg and to present them to the Harrodsburg Historical Society.

An entry upon the Society's minute book, May, 1911, recites that:

"Mr. N. L. Curry announced the gift to the Society, from Mr. W. A. Clements, of Beechland, Washington County, of logs which are in the cabin in which Lincoln's parents were married."

Shortly afterwards, the Lincoln cabin logs were carefully transported the twenty miles to Harrodsburg at a cost of $17.00 and were "removed to Mr. Lee Smock's lumber yard for safe keeping" where "they were safely housed under one of the buildings." 23

Through the cooperation of the public-spirited citizens of Harrodsburg, a fund was raised for the re-building of the cabin on a plat of ground somewhere within the bounds of the town, and in May, 1913, it was reported "that $261.00 had been spent in erecting [the] cabin on Harrodsburg Historical Society's ground, on Old Fort Hill." After several years of exposure on the new site, it became apparent that this hallowed cabin was showing signs of rapid deterioration and would in time, if left outdoors, suffer the fate of all wooden structures.

And so it happened that two years after the removal of the historic logs from Beechland to Harrodsburg, the idea was conceived to erect a shrine to enclose it, and a patriotic and generous woman, Mrs. Edmund B. Ball, of Muncie, Indiana, contributed funds to erect the building. In designing a building to shelter this historic cabin it was decided to make it as near as possible a typical example of the early brick churches in Kentucky and was patterned after the Lulbegrud Church built by pioneers in 1799 at a point about three miles west of what is now Mt. Sterling, Kentucky.

Mr. Frederick L. Morgan, of Louisville, Ky., a member of the firm of Nevin, Morgan and Kolbrook, was selected as architect for the building and the plan chosen suggests the shape of a cross with the cabin placed directly under the crossing. Above it an opening leads to a spire and belfry. Old hand-made brick, laid in Flemish bond were used in building the church walls. The luted pilasters, moulded architrave and den-
The Lincoln Marriage Cabin as it looked when it stood on the grounds of the Harrodsburg Historical Society, at Harrodsburg.

—Courtesy of D. M. Hutton

The dedication of the Lincoln Marriage Temple, as it has been named, was celebrated on June 12, 1931, the 125th anniversary of the wedding of Thomas Lincoln and Nancy Hanks, and the impressive ceremonies were held under the auspices of the Kentucky State Park Commission, of which Governor Flen D. Sampson was chairman and Mrs. James Darnell, secretary and director. Hon. William Nuckles Doak, United States Secretary of Labor under President Hoover, made the principal address of the occasion.

Upon the inside walls of the Lincoln Marriage Temple are four large bronze tablets. Two of them set forth the story of the cabin, the marriage temple, its donor and other matters of general interest to the tourist. The third one on the east transept bears an inscription written by Ross Lockridge, of Bloomington, Indiana, portraying Thomas Lincoln. The fourth tablet on the west transept contains a very beautiful tribute to Nancy Hanks from the pen of William H. Townsend, of Lexington, Ky.

For a number of years, the graves of Rev. Jesse Head and his wife Jane Ramsey remained unmarked in the Spring Hill Cemetery, at Harrodsburg, within rifle shot of the Lincoln Marriage Temple where he performed those historic marriage rites in 1806, and it was largely through the efforts of Dr. William E. Barton, noted Lincoln authority and scholar, that a movement was finally begun to raise funds to mark suitably Rev. Head's last resting place.

It was not long before the necessary funds had been raised, by donations of school children, from admirers of President Lincoln and from descendants of the old pioneer preacher. The monument erected to Rev. Head's memory is of Kentucky marble (see illustration) set on a base of native limestone. Inset in the marble, which is a deep cream color, is a handsome bronze tablet that was designed by Jules Berchen, of Chicago, an associate of Leonard Volk, sculptor, who made the famous mask of President Lincoln. Here on a balmy autumn afternoon, November 2, 1922, amid a sizeable gathering of friends, admirers and descendants of this old pioneer, his monument was unveiled with appropriate ceremonies, Dr. William E. Barton, delivered the principal address.

This monument to Reverend Head brought a belated tribute to the man whose life was spent in work among the earliest settlers of Kentucky, and who, in the conscientious discharge of his ministerial duties, left the marriage record with his own signature attached which forever removed the stigma which his enemies had zealously sought to cast upon the birth of the Great Emancipator.

FOOT-NOTES

2. Ibid., Vol. 1, p. 481.
4. Barton, op. cit., Vol. 1, p. 480. However, Mrs. D. M. Hutton, of Harrodsburg, Ky., a great-grandaughter of Reverend Jesse Head places the birth of his wife at April 19, 1772. Letter from Mrs. Hutton to the author, November 2, 1944.
5. The Springfield (Ky.) Sun, July 6, 1939.
8. Springfield (Ky.) Sun, July 6, 1939.
12. Ibid., p. 230.
17. Lebanon (Ky.) Enterprise, July 8, 1921.
LEXINGTON LANDEMARKS

TROTTER TOMB COVERED, PLANTED

If no distinctive shape stands out conspicuously in the photograph reproduced above, then that probably is good news to descendants of the Trotter family, one of the noted families of early Lexington. The family tomb, a brick vault, was several times entered forcibly by the curious—possibly because of the known presence in various sections of Fayette county of mounds built by what is believed to have been a race living here before the Indians—and as a protective measure, after the last known intrusion in 1899, it was sealed, covered over with earth and planted to keep it from attracting much attention.

C. Frank Dunn, Lexington historian, has written that the Trotter plantation extended from High street to what is now the Hollywood subdivision, and from Woodland avenue, called “Trotter’s Lane,” to the Tates Creek pike. The vault, which is in a lot at 327 Lafayette avenue, thus was approximately in the center of the Trotter land, he estimates.

During the War Between the States, Union soldiers stationed here forced an entrance to the tomb. Legend had it that when they saw the name-plate on the coffin of Brig. Gen. George Trotter and recalled the glory he had won at the battle of the Thames, Gen. Woolf, a British officer, ordered the remains removed to a new vault, which was then sealed.

Trotter had fought as a captain in an early campaign of the war. Wounded in the second engagement in which his company had a part, he returned to Lexington. Having recovered by the summer of 1813, he was authorized by Gov. Shelby to raise a regiment and lead it with the rank of colonel. Several weeks before the Battle of the Thames, Brig. Gen. Marquis Calmes, in whose brigade Trotter was the senior colonel, fell ill. He had not recovered when the American forces, made up almost entirely of Kentuckians, went into Canada, sought out the British troops under Gen. Proctor and their Indian allies led by Tecumseh and destroyed them in a smashing victory that ended the War of 1812. As far as the American Northwest was concerned. Trotter, to whom command of Calmes’ brigade had been given, was given the position of honor in the front line. He led his troops brilliantly, was cited by Gen. William Henry Harrison and promoted to general rank.

Gen. Trotter died at 37. One of the largest military corteges ever seen in Lexington accompanied his body to the burial plot on his father’s farm.

A son of Gen. George Trotter was George J. Trotter, a Lexington editor who struck a blow for the freedom of the press. The editor of the Kentucky Gazette, Thomas R. Benning, had been killed March 3, 1829, by young Charles Wickliffe for publishing derogatory articles concerning the latter’s father, Sen. Robert Wickliffe. It was quite a joke on Benning, for he hadn’t written the piece. Wickliffe was acquitted, and the editorship of the Gazette appeared none too safe a job, but George J. Trotter took it.

Trotter and young Wickliffe were the same age, 21, and had been good friends. However, three months later Wickliffe challenged Trotter to a duel. As the challenged party, Trotter specified pistols at eight feet—a mortal distance. (He was near-sighted.) The duel took place on what is now Walnut Hall farm. Wickliffe was killed instantly, at the first fire.

The lot whereon the once-conspicuous mound is now largely concealed by trees and shrubs, is the only one on the west side of Lafayette avenue, in the block between High street and Euclid avenue, that does not have a house on it. It is carried on the assessor’s books in the name of J. L. Richardson, Camby, Ind., who pays the taxes on it, the tract having been specifically excluded from the deed when the land around it was sold. He and his sisters, Miss Amy and Mary Richardson and Mrs. T. M. Bosworth, all three of Lexington, are descendants of the Trotters through their mother, who was a daughter of Dr. Samuel Trotter.
Old Theater Programs Give Ample Evidence That Lexington Deserved To Be Called 'The Best One-Night Stand In America'

Names of the great and near-great are scattered throughout play-bills from the 1860's up to the declining days of the traveling legitimate theater in the 1920's.

**Thursday Evening, May 4**

S. S. SHUBERT in Association with W. M. A. BRADY PRESENTS THE EMINENT COMEDIAN

**DE WOLF HOPPER**

(The DeWolf Hopper Company, Incorporated, Proprietors.)

IN THE MEERSHUTT'S NEW YORK BOX-THEATRE, LONDON, WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE MANAGEMENT.

**WANG**

Written by J. CHEEVER GOODWIN, Music by WOOLSON MORSE

Produced Under the Personal Direction of S. S. SHUBERT.

CAST OF CHARACTERS.

WANG, Regent of Siam .................... DE WOLF HOPPER

COB, Robert Fracassee, military instructor of Siam Troops ...................... FRANK BELCHER

PEFAT, keeper of sacred elephant .......... FRANK CASEY

LEUJET, Jean Boucher, of French garrison ........................................ FRANCIS CARRIDDE

CHOW SURY, ice-breaker .................. MACK BENNETT

PANOPIM, Cambodian armour .................. ALVINGE HOMAN

MATA, Luwia, wife of Siam ........................................ ADAM DRAEVEY

LE VEUVE FRIMOUSSE, widow of French consul of Pechu ...................................

MARGUERITE CLARK

MARIE, her stepdaughter .................. SABRY D'ORSSELLE

NANETTE, her youngest daughter ........................................... MABELLE ROWLAND

MIGNON ........................................... GLADIS HUallet

PLEURETTE ........................................... EVELYN WIGHT

JULIE ........................................... LUCILLE FALLOON

CORALIE ........................................... LUCILLE STURGES

ROMANCE ........................................... EDNA DORMAN

HUGUETTE ........................................... LUCILLE ORlich

BABBETTE ........................................... AGNES DELANEY

ALMA WARD

At Main and Spring Streets

A theater situated at Main and Spring streets in the spring of 1810 and from early newspaper accounts it must have flourished for the entertainment of the people of Lexington from 1800 or 1801. A dignified, ramshackle sort of place it must have been, since the evidence of history that references to need of its frequent repair. Music was "added" to the theater, a "musical machinery" was installed, although it was not explained just how it worked or who made it.

The building was to be used for religious meetings. It was in the summer of 1890 that the house was gutted by fire. No record exists of the fire. Nor was the location of the once-growing by the offices of the Lofton and the London News. At Main and Spring Streets

Smoke College

In 1821 Luke Usher, the actual manager of the theater, a new and larger building was erected on the site of the old one. The new building was larger and more modern in appearance. It was built of brick and had a capacity of several hundred seats. It was fitted with gas lighting and had a mechanical stage. The new theater was opened on May 4, 1821, with a production of "The School for Scandal." The first performance was a great success and the theater was filled to capacity. The audience was enthusiastic and the production was well-received. The new theater quickly became the center of social and cultural life in Lexington. It was a popular place for all ages and was attended by a wide variety of people. The theater continued to thrive and remained a fixture in the community for many years. It was later converted into a movie theater and eventually closed. Today, the site of the old theater is marked by a plaque commemorating its history.
gentleman of the stage: the Bar- 

r
ynmores, William Farnum, Dustin 

Farnum, William Faversham, 

Chauncey Cliff, Minnie Maddern 

Fiske, James T. Powers, Elsie 

Janis, Blanche Bates, Helena Mod-

jenka, Robert Edeson, Louis 

James, Amelia Bingham, Mrs. Les-

lie Carter and scores of others 

stood the boards in the theater that 

still stands on North Broadway. 

The season of 1912-13 was notable 

for the many musical attractions 

offered. The Aborn Opera Com-

pany presented "Il Trovatore" and 

"Madame Butterfly," and a long 

list of light opera performances 

included "The Pink Lady," "The 

Enchantress," "The Fortune Hunt-

er," "The Bohemian Girl," "The 

Rose Maid" and "Robin Hood.

At least three minstrel troupes played 

Lexington that season. Neil 

O'Brien, Al Q. Field and Prince 

and Dockstader brought their 

minstrel men when this type of 

performance was still highly popu-

lar.

Built In 1886

Constructed in 1886, the Lexing-

ton Opera House was the suc-

cessor to a theater that stood at the 

southeast corner of Main street and 

Broadway, a site now occupied by 

a furniture store. This earlier 

theater, which was on the second 

floor above a storeroom, was 

reached by a flight of outside 

stairs. Fire leveled the theater 

back in the 1860's.

Era Of Vaudeville

In more recent years the Ben 

Ali was a popular vaudeville 

house and offered many stars of 

the vaudeville stage. Among the 

names that appeared in lights on 

the Ben Ali marque a quarter of 

a century ago were those of Eliz-

abeth Bracken, Samuels and Olsen 

and Johnson. The bills were in-

terrupted with animal acts, com-

edy teams, acrobatic acts, singles, 

musical groups, vaudeville, magi-

cians, Swiss bell-ringers, minstrel 

men and performers who had no 
virtue act designed to please. The 
bills were changed twice weekly 

and it was the practice of many 

Lexingtonians never to miss a 

night showing on the Ben. 

After the passing of vaudeville, the Ben 

offered "tab" shows along with 

motion pictures before it became 

strictly a film theater.

Guignol Carries On

It would be an injustice, per-

haps, not to include mention of 

the Guignol, a homey little the-

ater on the University of Kentucky 
campus, in any story dealing with 

the history of the theater in Lex-

ington. Over a long period of 

years, the Guignol has presented 

light comedies and serious dramas, 

many of them Broadway successes, 

to give Lexingtonians really ex-

cellent dramatic fare. Capably di-

rected and attractively staged, the 

Guignol plays have been the means 
of providing talented townpeople 

and students an outlet for their 

special gifts. The performances 

have maintained a high standard 
of excellence and have brought 

pleasure to hundreds who cherish 

memories of plays "in the flesh."

THE FOUR COHANS played here

After the Opera House was leased 

to motion picture interests, Lex-

ington's remaining legitimate 

theatres moved into Woodland 

auditorium and it was there that 

the last of the road shows played. 

Among these were Otis Skinner, 

in "Blood and Sand," Richard 

Bennett in "The Barker," Earl Car-

roll's Vanities, and musical shows 

"Student Prince" and "Blossom 

Time."

"Blossom Time" rang down the 

final curtain at Woodland in No-

vember, 1941.

LEX. HERALD-LEADER

JAN-12-1947

Margaret Anglin

Margaret Anglin
THE SHOOTING OF GEN. NELSON, AT THE
GALT HOUSE, LOUISVILLE, BY GENERAL
JEFF. C. DAVIS.—First page.

The killing of one of our Union Generals by another one, is an event that must be deplored by every loyal person, more perhaps for its possible effect upon the discipline of the army, than from any belief that the man who took into his own hands the avenging of his own wrong, even unto the slaying of the wronger, was not fully justified in so doing.

We are all supposed to be to a decent extent, bound by the law which commands us to speak only good of the dead; but even though we acknowledge to the very extreme, the binding force of that rule, we shall find Little, Indeed, to say of General Nelson. That he was unembarrassed rough, arrogant, insolent, unaccomplished, profligate, and even obscene in almost all his language towards those over whom superior rank gave him the power to domineer; the testimony so universal, that we have yet to hear a single dissenting voice. While the whole burden of evidence stands as bruising insolence and contemptuousness in all his official demeanor, there is yet to be heard, although the man is dead, and kindly feelings toward him, would naturally be in the ascendant, one single voice to stem the tide of repudiation, and utter the first word in defense of the man who is gone.

The following account of the fatal interview, that resulted in the death of General Nelson, will give a clue to the character of the man, and show how richly, according to present lights, he deserved the sudden fate he met.

A writer for the Cincinnati Gazette gives an account of the affair in the following words:

When the alarm was raised in Louisville that the enemy were marching on that city, Gen. Davis, who could not ask his command under Gen. Buell, then at Bowling Green, went to Gen. Nelson and tendered his services. Gen. Nelson gave him the command of the city militia as soon as they were organized. Gen. Davis opened an office and went to work in mustering the organization. On Wednesday last, Gen. Davis called upon Gen. Nelson in his room at the Stahl House, in Louisville, when the following dialogue took place:

Gen. Davis.—I have the Brigade, General, you assigned me, ready for service, and have called in ignorance if I can obtain arms for them?

Gen. Nelson.—How can you have them?

Gen. Davis.—About twenty-five in my division, General.

Gen. Nelson (angrily and snappishly) — About twenty-five hundred! About twenty-five hundred! No—n—Y a regular officer, and come here to me and report, about the number of men in your command?—Is—Is—o—on, do you show him, sir, you should teach me the next call.

Gen. Davis.—General, I didn’t expect to get the guns now, and only wanted to know if I could get them, and when, and here, and how my command the number needed, would them draw them?

Gen. Nelson (ordering the room in a rage) — About 2,500. By God, I have and you from your command, and order you to report to General Wright, and I have a letter to put you under arrest. Leave your room, sir.

Gen. Davis.—I will not leave, General, until you give me an order.

Gen. Nelson.—The b—y you won’t. By God, I’ll put you under arrest, and send you out of the city — I’ll report you to the General-in-chief, and I a—v—-f—d to put you under arrest. Leave your room, sir.

Gen. Davis.—I will not leave, General, until you give me an order.

General Davis left the room, and in order to avoid an arrest crossed over the river to Jeffersonville, where he remained until the next day, when he was joined by General Burbridge, who had also been relieved by Nelson for a trivial cause. General Davis came to Cincinnati with General A蝤bridge, and reported to General Wright, who ordered General Davis to return to Louisville and report to General Davis and General Buell to bridge remains in Cincinnati. Gen. Davis returned on Friday evening, and reported to General Buell, nothing occurred until Monday evening. Wise gone to Davis, seeing General Nelson in the main hall of the Galt House, finding the officer went up to Governor Moor, and requested him to step up with him to General Nelson and witness the conversation that might pass between Nelson and him. The Governor consented, and the scene was played up to Gen. Nelson, who, on the following Thursday, took place:

Gen. Davis.—Sir, you seem to take advantage of your position today.

Gen. Nelson.—I am, sir, and I am in the interest.

Gov. Morgan.—No, sir, but I was requested to be present and listen to the conversation between you and Gen. Davis.

Gen. Nelson (victoriously):—Don’t you hear the d—-r fool talk? I then walked into the ladies’ parlor.

In the ladies’ parlor Gen. Davis returned, with a plot to push Nelson and asked for a place in the parlor. Two or three ladies were present, and asked, ‘I am ready. You, then walked up to the parlor and drew Nelson’s hand from the ladies’ parlor, and the two were face to face, and about two yards apart, when Gen. Davis drew his pistol and fired, the ball entering Nelson’s heart and causing immediate death.

General Nelson then turned to Governor Morgan, and said:—By God, if you come here also to职责.

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Hailed as one of the finest boats ever built, the luxurious J. M. White was a product of the Howard Shipyards at Jeffersonville in the Seventies. She was built by Capt. John W. Cannon, a Kentuckian, and cost about $250,000.

The Will S. Hays, named in honor of the river editor of The Courier-Journal, one of the Ohio Valley's best boat authorities, was also ornate. It was built in 1882.
HISTORIC KENTUCKY

Photo and Text by J. Winston Coleman Jr.

KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION RACE COURSE, LEXINGTON—This view taken in the late 1880s shows the grandstand and track which was located in the eastern part of the city, at Fifth and Race streets. The Kentucky Association for the Improvement of the Breeds of Stock was organized by a group of horsemen who met July 29, 1829, at Mrs. Sanford Keen’s Tavern (now the Phoenix Hotel); their purpose was “to improve the breed of horses by encouraging the sports of the turf.” A tract of land was purchased from John Postlewait in 1838, and from that date the Kentucky Association began its long career as one of the most noted race tracks in the United States. Henry Clay and John C. Breckinridge were active officers in the Association for years. Other noted horsemen associated with the track included James A. Grinstead, Maj. B. G. Thomas, Alexander Keen Richards, John Harper, Gen. Abe Buford, Sen. James R. Beck, R. Atchison Alexander, Dr. Elkhorn Warfield, Capt. Thomas J. Bush, James K. Duke, Oliver Keen, John Brand, Willa Viley, Chariton Hunt, John M. Clay, Gen. Leslie Combs, Sen. Jo C. S. Blackburn, Maj. H. C. McDowell and Col. Milton Young. Many famous horses ran over this track, including Aristides, Lexington, Longfellow, Ten Broeck, Scottish Chief, Glencoe, Gray Eagle, Dick Sinefeton, Collier, Angora, Grayfoot, Wagner, Red Bill, Zenith, Waverly and Miss Foote. In 1872, a large wooden grandstand (as shown) was erected and the track widened; new stands for the judges and timer were put up. In 1889, the wooden grandstand was razed and a commodious one of steel and brick erected. Racing continued off and on for some years until 1935, when the old track went out of business and the grandstand was torn down to make way for the federal housing project which now occupies the site. The two iron-gate posts, with “K.A.” on them, were placed at the Keeneland Track entrance on the Versailles Pike, opposite the Blue Grass Airport.

Cornering The Market

During the heyday of steamboat traffic, about 1850, the Belle Key was a popular liner in the Louisville-New Orleans trade. As the enlarged canal around the Falls at Louisville was not yet in operation, Portland was the practical head of navigation for the lower river commerce.

One trip of the Belle Key from Louisville to New Orleans made steamboat history. Every passenger and all freight were booked clear through, with no way business accepted.

Captain Key, owner and master of the Belle Key, had arrived from the South to find two boats ahead of him, loading to leave for New Orleans within 36 hours. As another boat was right behind him, he considered that his chances for a profitable trip were small, so after consulting with his agent he decided to make a swift run down and grab everything he could carry on his upward trip as he expected to find no other competition at New Orleans.

Announcements were immediately posted in all public places that the Belle Key would leave at 5 p.m., without any freight, but with all the passengers she could carry, promising to put them in New Orleans inside of five days. When the word got about town, wagons and drays loaded with freight for New Orleans commenced rolling down the levee. Passengers already booked on other steamers cancelled their reservations and came over to the Belle Key.

With more than a hundred tons of freight and her cabins full of long-distance passengers, the Key left the wharf amid cheers and whistles. All the way down she was reported as “splitting the river wide open” and her commander’s confidence was fully justified. He not only made the trip unequalled in speed for the distance at that time, but found no other Louisville boat in harbor at the Crescent City. So he got all the freight he could steam the Mississippi with coming north, and his subsequent trips south were always with a boat load of contented passengers.

Lucille Gerber, Cannilton, Ind., from "Perry County, A History," by Thomas James De La Hunt
Hardin Will Head Historical Markers Selection Committee

Bayless Hardin, secretary of the Kentucky Historical Society, Frankfort, yesterday was named chairman of a sub-committee charged with the selection of locations for 20 historical markers to be erected on Kentucky highways.

The appointment was made at a meeting of the Kentucky Historical Markers Committee at Carps Coach House. Ed Wilder, secretary of the Lexington Chamber of Commerce, is chairman of the sub-committee on design.

Members of the general committee present yesterday were: Mrs. W. T. Fowler, Lexington; Daughters of the Confederacy; J. Winston Coleman Jr., Lexington; Kentucky Society, Sons of the Revolution; Dr. Winona Stevens Jones, Lexington, state regent, Daughters of the American Revolution; Eugene Stuart, Louisville, Filson Club; Mrs. Abram S. Gardiner, Horse Cave; Daughters of 1812; Harry W. Cooke, Harrodsburg, president, Kentucky Junior Chamber of Commerce; Ed Wilder, secretary, Lexington Board of Commerce; Glen F. Weinman, secretary, Blue Grass Automobile Club; Mrs. William Breckinridge Ardery, Paris, Colonial Dames of America in the Commonwealth of Kentucky; Bayless E. Hardin, Frankfort, secretary, Kentucky Historical Society; Mrs. J. Kidwell Grannis, Flemingsburg, president, Colonial Dames of the Seventeenth Century and representing the Garden Clubs of Kentucky; Mrs. Hugh T. Russell, Ashland, state regent, Daughters of American Colonists; Dr. J. T. Dorris, Richmond, Pioneer National Monument Association; Mrs. W. T. Lafferty, Lexington, Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs and W. P. Ringo, Frankfort, director, division of traffic engineering, Department of Highways.

Eugene Stuart of Louisville served as general chairman. The meeting adopted the policy of marking first those outstanding historic sites not now marked which are of general interest. Special attention will be given to sites of earliest Kentucky stockades and forts, churches, schools and taverns. A list of 60 markers already in place, to be subject to maintenance by the Department of Highways, was presented.

The committee, named upon request of Highway Commissioner John Keck, is to select and place a priority on historic sites in Kentucky. The department has agreed to purchase and erect the markers as a part of its recently inaugurated tourist promotion campaign.

"Interested Kentucky historians are requested to file with Mr. Hardin suggestions for markers in line with the policy adopted today," Mr. Stuart said. "It is also desired that societies which have already placed markers make formal request of the Department of Highways for their maintenance. Many of the present markers are in bad condition and should be given attention."
KENTUCKY ALL OVER
by EDWIN FINCH

COHORTS OF THE DEVIL

One of the most vicious and merciless gangs of guerrillas that operated during the Civil War was that led by William Clarke Quantrill. This mob was most active in Missouri, Tennessee, and Kentucky.

One of their depredations in Kentucky is known as the "Sunday Bluecoats." On New Year's Day of 1865, Quantrill, with about 30 men, crossed the Mississippi River at a point known as the Devil's Elbow, and made his way through Tennessee into Kentucky.

On Sunday, January 22, 1865, the band arrived at Hartford, in Ohio County, where they posed as Federal troops hunting for guerrillas. Just beyond the town they stopped at a farm to inquire for Lt. Andrew Barnett, saying that they desired him to guide them through a stretch of the county. Barnett went with them, as did W. B. Lawton, a Union soldier from Indiana, who had been visiting his family at Hartford. Lawton thought he would get safe conduct by joining them. They had not traveled far when they were overtaken and joined by William Townsley, a discharged Federal soldier.

Three miles from Hartford, as they rode through a stretch of timber, the guerrillas hanged Townsley, and nine miles farther they disposed of Lawton in the same manner. Some 16 miles from Hartford, Andrew Barnett was shot while the band were fordng a stream. Frank James was accused of this diabolical murder.

It is said that a man named Axton had also gone with this group, but returned to Hartford because his horse went lame. Either through Axton or by some other means, the murders became known back in Hartford. The incident aroused such terror in the community that Andrew Barnett's father could get no one to accompany him to look for the body of his son and went alone.

Early in the morning of May 10, Quantrill and his gang were at the Wakefield farm in Spencer County, near Taylorsville. It was a rainy morning and they were loafing around the barn. Quantrill was asleep in the hayloft. Suddenly a body of some 25 mounted Union soldiers bore down on the surprised guerrillas. The freebooters hastened to get their horses and escape. Quantrill's horse became excited and broke away; Quantrill attempted to mount behind one of his men, but was shot in the back. The bullet paralyzed him from the waist down. Two other members of the gang, Glasscock and Hockansmith, were shot and killed.

Quantrill was taken to the Wakefield home and a doctor was called. He pronounced slight hope for the infamous gang leader.

The next day Captain Terrill, his captor, obtained a farm wagon and took Quantrill to Louisville, where he turned him over to the Provost Officer at General Palmer's headquarters. From there he was taken to a military hospital. He died on June 6, 1865, and was buried by the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth at St. John's Cemetery.

In December, 1887, the grave was opened and the bones of Quantrill were taken to Canal Dover, Ohio, his birthplace, for reburial.
**Random Book Talk**

By Fred G. Neuman

"The British Invasion of Kentucky," a monograph by Dr. Winston Coleman, Jr., one of the state's leading historians, is a fascinating reading of an almost forgotten chapter. It comes from the Winburn Press, Lexington, Ky. Dr. Coleman's researches have taken him into many odd and curious places. He is always discovering new facts concerning old subjects, and latest contribution to the fund of Kentuckyana shows he is still very much on the job.

**LOOKING BACKWARD**

BY R. LEE DAVIS

Do You Remember—

When a south Broadway street car got beyond control of the motorman, and dashed down Broadway hill, colliding with an east-bound Chesapeake & Ohio passenger train that was passing the crossing at the time, killing the motorman and injuring more than a dozen passengers, among them Auctioneer George A. Bain?

When the first motion picture, Edison's "Great Train Robbery," was exhibited at the old frame auditorium in the center of Woodland park?

**Trotting Track Grandstand**

**Your Red Mile Track**

The present grandstand at the Kentucky Trotting Horse Breeders Association track on South Broadway has nothing on this one for ornamentness, although this one was built of wood and the present one of steel and concrete. The property then was known as the Fair Grounds and the stand was in keeping with the colorful layout that marked the seat of the Bluegrass Fair. This grandstand was razed in 1891.

**Henry's Mill Road**

(Newtown Pike)

for contents of this letter. See next page:--relates to a Negro slave boy Charles, hired by David Sutton & Son, to work in their hemp factory on the...
Lancaster Nov 14th 1832

Mr. Thomas B Scott

Your boy Charles had been in a very delicate state of health for some time past and for the last two months he had not been able to do any work for me. I think he has the consumption. I think you had better send him home now while the weather is good as it might be injurious to send him at a later time when the weather is not so good. I could give him a horse and send him home in that way. But I think it best for you to send for him.

I Sutton

By FC

Note: the slave Charles died; Scott sued Sutton & Son for $600 damages; Sutton & Son won the suit.

See: Scott vs. Sutton & Son, Fayette Circuit Court, file 779, Mar. 13-1833
Lexington was somewhat of a "hick town" when this picture was taken about 1870. The photographer was looking east on Main street toward Limestone street. At right, the four-story skyscraper, still standing, was the St. Nicholas hotel, built by C. B. Wilgus. Beyond, at Limestone street, is the Phoenix hotel, which burned May 11, 1878, and beyond it is the old Main Street Christian church, on the site of the Union Station. The St. Nicholas hotel later was called the Florentine hotel, has since been known as the Leonard and the Lexington hotels and now is the Henry Clay hotel. Parnell was entertained there in February, 1860, before the Phoenix hotel had been rebuilt.

There were few buildings on the campus of the Agricultural and Mechanical College (now the University of Kentucky) when this picture was taken in or shortly before 1887. The building with the cupola is the Administration building. To its left is the men's dormitory, now White hall, and in the left background is the president's house, now the Women's building.
LEXINGTON LANDMARKS

When Chief Justice George Robertson, of the Kentucky Court of Appeals, came to Lexington in 1838, he acquired Rokeby Hall, a mansion set in spacious grounds at the southeast corner of High and Mill streets. His front yard ran down to High street, and Mill street ran along the side of his premises, marking the west boundary.

Now, like several other old houses, it has been given an entrance on the side, the yard having been cut into lots and buildings erected between it and the street it formerly faced. The front part of Rokeby Hall—for the huge mansion has been cut into two houses— is 314 South Mill Street. The present entrance, seen in the accompanying illustration, was on the west side of the front portion. What was the rear part of the big house, now separated from the original front by an open space left by removal of the middle portion, is the Mill-street house next door, numbered 318.

Justice Robertson, a native of Mercer county, had practiced law in Lancaster. He had been sent to Congress from the district that included Garrard county, serving two terms and resigning when elected a third time. He refused a number of offers of appointments—as attorney general, as governor of the Territory of Arkansas, and as American minister to first three South American countries—and another, against his will, the voters of Garrard county sent him to the Legislature, and he became the speaker of the house. He consented in 1828 to act as secretary of state, on condition that he would be relieved as soon as possible. The same year he became a justice of the Court of Appeals, and the following year became chief justice, an office he held until 1848 when he resigned despite the governor's protests.

In 1834, Justice Robertson had been named professor of constitutional law, equity and international law at Transylvania University. The next year he bought Rokeby Hall and moved to Lexington, evidently deciding it would be more convenient to be near the campus and make occasional trips to Frankfort for sessions of the high court than to live at the capital and travel more frequently to Lexington to deliver lectures to the law students at Transylvania.

Although a few may disagree, it seems that most historians have come to the conclusion that it was Rokeby Hall, rather than the Bodley House at the northwest corner of Second and Market streets, which Sam Long, a Lexington construction contractor, built for two Merino sheep.

According to "The Merino Sheep Bubble" (New York, 1884), the fantastic speculation which caused Merino sheep to sell for unbelievably high prices, began in 1815 or 1816, after the treaty of Ghent. A Boston man imported half a dozen from the sheep from the South of Spain. Their fleeces were of the finest texture, and it was believed the use of such wool would enable American manufacturers to produce broadcloths and other woolen fabrics of a texture that would excel the best products of English mills. The first sheep imported, which had cost $1 an apiece in Andalusia, sold at $60 a head. That was merely a starter. By the winter of 1816, despite the fact that 1,000 more had been imported, the price had gone up to $1,200. During the winter it reached $1,500, and in the spring of 1817, good-looking rams were bringing $2,000 apiece, easily.

The sad was one of those unbelievable speculations which occasionally have occurred in other kinds of livestock—notably, Short horn cattle. In the fall of 1817, a Merino buck and ewe sold for $8,000.

Sam Long, the builder of houses, particularly admired a buck and ewe owned by Samuel Trotter, one of the wealthiest men in Lexington. He repeatedly asked Trotter to set a price on them, but without success. Eventually when the two met one day and Long renewed his pleading, Trotter said Long might have the sheep if he would build a house of the type Trotter had in mind. "Draw your plans," said Long, "and I'll give you an answer." Trotter later handed over a set of plans for an immense house, which he specified was to be built by the highest standards of quality, on a full acre of ground, the whole to be enclosed by a costly fence. Long agreed.

By the time Long had finished the house, using the best materials and the greatest care—and not forgetting the fence—the boom had collapsed and the sheep were not worth more than $20 each. Long was out "at the very least, $15,000, which was a great deal more money than it is today.

Nevertheless, Sam Long carried out his part of the bargain, accept-
Cox’s Station

By Annie K. Johnson

The oldest settlement in Nelson County is Cox’s Station, on Cox’s Creek. This settlement was made by several brothers, three of whom, Col. Isaac Cox, Lt. Col. Gabriel Cox, and Lt. David Cox, were officers of Virginia militia.

Leaving their homes in Yohogania County, formerly Augusta County, Virginia, accompanied by eight other families and their servants, they made their way to the wilderness known as Kentucky County, later Jefferson County, and finally Nelson County, Virginia; the last named county having been formed by the Legislature of Virginia in 1784, the fourth to be erected. Cox’s Station is represented on the map made by John Penson, in 1784. Today may be seen portions of the grand old stone fort which they built as a protection from the Indians for themselves and the surrounding country. Here it was that George May, the first surveyor for Jefferson County, opened his office in November, 1782.

Col. Isaac Cox has not received from historians of Kentucky the recognition to which he is entitled. The court records of Virginia show that he was most prominent in all public affairs of the day. He was an officer of Colonial Militia in 1754; was a Colonel during the Revolutionary struggle, and contributed great financial aid to the fight for freedom. Coming to the home of his adoption, he was one of the early Trustees of Louisville, was presiding Magistrate of the Quarterly Court, was the first Representative from Jefferson County to the Virginia Legislature, and was County Lieutenant of Jefferson. From 1785 to 1787, he was a member from the new County of Nelson to the two conventions which sought to separate Kentucky from Virginia and to form it into an independent State.

In 1788, he was killed by Indians and his body terribly mutilated. Of this unfortunate occurrence I have positive proof contained in an old letter; but, strange as it may appear, only one history has made a bare mention of the fact, notwithstanding he was at that time serving as the first Judge of Nelson County.
Old Lexington Country Club House Burned

The Lexington Country Club building, above, burned Oct. 19, 1925, and was replaced by the present club house.

Lex. Leader June 30, 1938

Typical Livery, Sale Stable

The Benjamin B. Wilson Livery and Sale Stable on North Mill street, where the Wilson Machinery and Supply Company building now is, was one of the many livery stables operating in Lexington 50 years ago. When a newspaper reporter of that time had covered the courthouse, city hall, hotels and livery stables he had almost all the news obtainable, as well as pointers on the races and the "low-down" on politics.

S. Winston Coleman
Community Cornerstone 1976
Greater Lexington Area Chamber of Commerce
Copy of award
Same paper - same date

Building Of Nottnagel Flour Mill On Walnut Street Still Standing

Fifty years ago the Nottnagel and Brother's flour mills occupied the building at 150 Walnut street, now used by the W. S. Welsh Printing Company. This mill was owned and operated by two brothers, L. H. and F. A. R. Nottnagel, who came to Lexington from Philadelphia about 1872 to visit their cousin, L. N. Walton, who at that time was engaged in the milling business with J. B. Roddick at the Walnut street location.

Roddick, a millwright, had been sent to Lexington to install machinery at the mill, then known as J. M. Hocker and Company, and owned by Mr. Walton, Thomas Bradley, B. J. Thomas, J. M. Hocker, James Woolfolk and Horace Craig. Liking Lexington, Roddick decided to remain here and, in 1870, purchased the property from the Hocker company.

A partnership was formed with Walton, one of the former owners, and the firm continued in business until it was purchased by the Nottnagel brothers in February, 1873.

The original mill, a frame structure, burned in 1874 and was replaced by the brick building now standing.

In an old deed, the property is described as located on the waters of Town fork of Elkhorn. Until 1885, when the newer roller process of flour making was installed, both wheat and corn were ground on stones, the flour being sifted through a fine silk cloth.

The output of the Nottnagel mill consisted of white or patent flour, graham flour, mill feed of various kinds and corn meal. In addition to the wholesale and retail trade it did a large exchange business, in which farmers and others brought in grain and received flour and meal in trade.

Fred Nottnagel died in 1892 and his brother, L. H. Nottnagel, continued the business until his death in 1901. The following year the property was sold to Veal and Sharp and later to P. J. and A. S. Gormley.
VISITORS draw to Kentucky by horse-racing events in September and October often remain to relish the food of the State. At the many social events which accompany the Fall season they find it served to the usual custom in the manner and by the recipes of generations of Kentucky hostesses.

Probably no place in the world harbors more true stories and fanciful legends dealing with the cooking, the serving, the eating of food than does Kentucky. In the "good old days," groaning tables were literal facts, not figments of the imagination.

The great feasts of four to six hours' duration are of the glorious past. They required old ham, chicken, lamb roast and other meat concoctions; light jellies in their special dishes, dark jellies in their containers, many pickles and relishes, several kinds of salads, a most intricate dessert with white cake, chocolate cake and fruit cake. But today born Kentuckians still have a zest for good and plentiful food. Many Kentucky hostesses serve with the meat course apple jelly and blackberry jelly or quince jelly and grape jelly, and with the frozen dessert a white cake and a dark cake.

Probably the highest place in the taste of the epicurean Kentuckian is held by old Kentucky hams. These hams must be at least in their second year of preservation, they must have come from a hog home-raised and home-killed by a connoisseur, and they must have been cured in just the right way. The ham from the left side of the hog is considered the more desirable, not because the right leg might be toughened from muscular exertion but because the left leg carves to better advantage.

The hams, after having been covered with salt, are hung along the rafters in the smokehouse, and there for from three to five days a smudge fire is kept burning in order that the meat may be sufficiently "smoked." The fire in made of corn cobs and hickory bark or sawdust to give the ham the proper flavor. The ham then hangs in the smokehouse for at least the better part of two years.

The person who selects an old ham for cooking is always supposed to smell it; an ice pick is inserted into the ham near the bone where the spoliation begins.

Old ham and beaten biscuits are almost sacred dishes to Kentuckians. They are served on high days, at festivals, at weddings, on birthdays and at anniversary feasts or on other special occasions when distinguished guests are present.

Sour or smoked turkey is a rare delicacy. The dressed turkey is smoked by the same process as is the ham; it, however, is baked and eaten within two months after the smoking process.

Fried chicken, garnished with fried mush, is another almost ritualistic food in Kentucky. Young spring chickens weighing from one and a half to two and a half pounds when dressed should be selected for frying. A large chicken past its youth should never be fried. The chickens are cut up with a knife at the joints, and the breast is cut through the middle in two pieces. A chicken should not be cut up for frying into four parts with sharp-squared edges by using poultry scissors. After the chicken has been cut up it is put in cold salt water for an hour and then drained and put in the refrigerator for at least five hours.

The pieces of chicken are seasoned with salt and pepper and dredged in flour or white corn meal. The pieces are then fried in a quarter of an inch of hot lard in a covered skillet on top of the stove for about twenty minutes. They must be turned with a fork and fried until they are brown on both sides. The chicken is then removed to another skillet or to a roaster and a very little water is added. The receptacle is covered and put on the back of the stove to steam and simmer for from forty-five minutes to one hour.

Barbecues and burgoo picnics are famous in the annals of Kentucky political gatherings and other meetings. Trenches are dug and lambs, beaves and pigs are roasted over fires in these trenches. The cook, who is a specialist in his line, slices the meat and serves it with bread, and a delicious cajou dressing sprinkled on the meat with a rag wound around a stick.

Burgoo, also made by special cooks, each of whom believes himself to be the Burgoo King, is a thick vegetable soup with lots of beef and chicken in it. This soup is cooked outdoors in huge iron kettles over a wood fire, and is served in tin pint cups. Burgoo and barbecued
A Trio of Pioneer Bicyclists

Corn breads are important in Kentucky households. Always the Kentucky housekeeper has had on her table at least two kinds of bread: corn-meal muffins, corn sticks, batter cake, dodgers, spoon bread, pan corn bread, hot-water corn bread, or hoecake and beaten biscuits, soda and butter-milk biscuits, rarely baking powder biscuits, or light rolls. Often there would be corn-meal muffins, beaten biscuits and light rolls or "Sally Lunn." Both of these latter are made with yeast. Corn bread in Kentucky is made with white, coarsely ground corn meal. Never, never are sugar and wheat flour used in corn bread. Water-ground corn meal and water-ground whole wheat flour have still a market in Kentucky and are still used with delight.

An early visitor in Central Kentucky wrote of the citizens of Lexington, "There is a distinct and striking moral physiognomy to this people; an enthusiasm, a vivacity, and ardor of character, courage, frankness, generosity that have developed with the peculiar circumstances under which they have been placed."

We know that all art forms reflect the people who produce them and that, in turn, the people reflect the art forms. Dining in Kentucky is an art, and as an artistic expression it has been created by and, in turn, it creates the vivacity, ardor, frankness, generosity—yea, even courage of the people of the Blue Grass State.

Daring Young Men of the '80s

Above is one of the best tintypes submitted to The Herald when it invited its readers to bring in their "old family album" pictures for possible use in the newspaper. It shows Dr. Charles Bruce Smith, of Millersburg; John McClimontock, of Lexington, and C. W. Howard, of Millersburg and Lexington, standing beside their "bikes." It was submitted by Mrs. Smith, who said she wasn't sure when the picture was snapped, but thought it was about 1885—and that the trio shown above owned and rode some of the first bicycles brought to the Blue Grass.

Lex. Herald - Feb. 28, 1937

1861 — The Peytona was one of the Speed Kings of the Ohio River during the 60's.
Jockey Club Met At Postlethwait's In 1797
And Has Met There Continuously For 145 Years

Postlethwait's Inn—forerunner in unbroken continuity of the Phoenix hotel at Lexington—has a glamorous history that dates back over a century and a quarter, lacking but five years of being coeval with the birth of the State of Kentucky itself. Building was begun by Capt. John Postlethwait in 1797, who purchased a brick house near Adam Steel’s house, but it was designed as a tavern originally.

There is nothing further known of Postlethwait’s inn of 1797, but the following advertisement in the Gazette of Aug. 11, 1794, fully describes the property:

To Be Sold
A LOT OF GROUND
In Lexington; situate
At the corner of Main and Mulberry streets; containing forty feet front and thirteen pales and a half back, with an elegant BRICK HOUSE, forty by thirty, two stories high, four rooms below and three above, a convenient Cellar, a Stable and other necessary houses. For terms see RICHARD STEEL near Lexington.

ADAM STEEL

Steel (as he spelled it in the next issue) either found no buyer or changed his mind. On Nov. 15, 1794, he began advertising To Be RENTED—A large BRICK HOUSE, at the corner of Main and Lime Stone Streets, 30 feet by 40, calculated for a Store and Tavern, etc.

John and Samuel Postlethwait came from Pa., and began as merchants in Lexington in 1794, in a brick building they erected which was later razed at No. 140 West Main Street. They purchased Adam Steele’s “large brick house” early in 1797, describing it as being at the intersection of Mulberry Street and “Boon’s Road,” as Main street east of Lime stone was known for several years. Daniel Boone had cut a road from Boone’s station, now the town of Lebanon, into the half-century deeds to property now located on East Main Street called that thoroughfare a succession of “Boon’s Station Road,” “Boone’s Station Road,” and “Boonesborough Road.”

The Gazette announced that the Jockey Club met at “Messrs. Postlethwait’s” on Oct. 17, 1797. The “Jockey Club” has met at Postlethwait’s and its successors continuously for 145 years since. The Thoroughbred Club of America held its regular meetings in the “Thoroughbred Club Room” at the Phoenix until interrupted by war changes recently.

Postlethwait inn was described by a Lexington historian 60 years ago as originally “a low, rambling log building. Like Captain Postlethwait began in 1800. Unfortunately, most all historians since have adopted erroneous description, although a little research would have shown that it was a brick house. In 1797, Capt. Postlethwait, with a glowing description, advertised the inn for sale Dec. 16, 1798.

The Postlethwait brothers probably had decided that their “Public House” was too far “out of town” to survive competition. Only one road passed their door, and that was “Boon’s Road,” built by Daniel Boone for the use of himself and family, who resided at Boone’s station and none of whom probably ever stopped at a tavern in early days, although if they had all accepted such a habit, they were too numerous that Postlethwait would have prospered with their business alone.

Joshua Wilson, of “Bairdstown” (Bardstown), leased the history in 1814 but relinquished it on Jan. 19, 1812, to Captain Postlethwait. Aaron Burr, on his first visit to Kentucky, was a guest at Wilson’s inn, and travelers invariably praised the hospitality highly during the Wilson regime. Wilson spent $150 or $200 on an adjoining brick house, furnishing an additional frontage of 40 feet, which Postlethwait sued Wilson’s heirs for and obtained. The two buildings constituted the inn that burned in 1820, fronting 60 feet on Main street at the corner of Limestone.

Samuel Keen, who maintained his residence and operated a “rope walk” on Main Street, at the corner of present Rodes avenue, purchased the famous tavern in September 1817. He died a few years later and it was at “Mrs. Keen’s,” managed by the widow, that General Lafayette was received by the town trustees and stayed in May, 1825.

Captain Postlethwait re-purchased the property, “now occupied by Mrs. Keen as a Tavern,” July 1824, but did not occupy it from the widow, Mrs. Margaret U. Keen, until Feb. 2, 1827. The deed filed in the “Phoenix” name was given to it after it had been destroyed by fire March 3, 1820, and had been rebuilt by Keen.

Among the victims of the 1833 cholera plague was Captain Postlethwait. The tavern then passed to Captain G. Lewis Postlethwait, son of the famous innkeeper, and he took into partnership John Brennan, who later purchased the son’s interest.

Brennan used the name of Phoenix hotel, but retained Postlethwait’s name as well as his own on the signs he erected. The many succeeding owners kept the name of Phoenix hotel, fitting enough inasmuch as it again burned May 14, 1873, and was rebuilt.

The stock of the Lexington and Ohio Railroad, later acquired by the Louisville and Nashville, was sold in two hours in the old hostel-ry’s lobby one day in February 1830, and the banquet celebrating the driving of the first spike by Governor Thomas Stonehammer Metcalfe in October, 1831, was later held in the Phoenix inn.

Among the many notable people who have been guests of Lexington’s most famous hostelries were John Turbin, the Marquis de Lafayette, Louis Philippe, President Monroe and Andrew Jackson, Governor Isaac Shelby, Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, General Santa Anna (who lay ill there several days attended by the renowned Dr. Benjamin Winfield Dudley, the Earl of Derby, the king of Hawaii and many other notables.

The close of Kentucky’s Sesquicentennial year will find the Phoenix hotel taken over completely by the United States Army for “the duration.” The first contingent moved in during September. But that’s quite in keeping with its history—veterans have regathered in Postlethwait’s, and its successors, from the Revolutionary War, “Madrone’s” and Anthony Wayne’s campaign, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the War Between the States, the Spanish-American War and World War II. During the War Between the States, it was headquarters for both sides at various times, between its capture by the Confederates and its occupation by the Federals. Doubtlessly, in the future, it will welcome World War II veterans.

Colonizing Kentuckians

A party of Kentuckians left Lexington March 19, 1872, for Pawnee Rock, Kansas, where they planned to form a Kentucky colony under the auspices of Captain Jackson, president, and H. C. Bryant, secretary. The party arrived safely and, according to the Kentucky Statesman of April 5, found the land fertile and suitable for homesteading.

Lexington Herald-Leader

Lex Leader
Nov. 22, 1912.

Lexington Leader
Page 22

Lexington Herald-Leader

Lexington Leader
Nov. 22, 1912.
Town Of Lexington
In 1789 Described
By Lord Carleton

Lexington was somewhat of a pioneer metropolis a century before The Leader was established, according to a letter written by Lord Guy Carleton to Lord Sidney in 1789, in which the former gave his "Observations upon the Colony of Kentucky." The letter was published by R. C. Ballard Thurston, president of The Filson Club of Louisville, in a Filson Club paper.

Lord Carleton gave the size of Kentucky towns of that day as: Louisville, 200 houses; Danville, 150 houses; Lexington, more than 200 houses; Harrodsburg or Harrodsburg (Harrodsburg), nearly 100 houses; Leestown (Frankfort) approximately the same number as Harrodsburg Town and Boonesborough (Boonesborough) more than 120 houses.

Boonesborough seems to have made a brave stand at becoming a permanent town, according to this, but there is not a vestige of the remains of this historic settlement today. Most historians make no further mention of Boonesborough after 1778, when it was besieged for nine days by nearly 500 Indians who were inspired by the British to try to wipe out the settlers in Kentucky.

"Lexington," Lord Carleton's letter stated, "is situated upon a small stream and contains more than 200 houses, a handsome courthouse built of limestone." This-Fayette county's first courthouse, was succeeded by a larger structure in 1806-08, and Lexington, always up-to-date, installed a new courthouse in 1816, the face of which still is preserved in the Lexington Public Library.

The First Presbyterian church building here pictured in a pen-and-ink drawing by Robert Griffitt, Herald-Leader staff artist, was erected in 1870-72 and was occupied by the congregation in the spring of 1872. It was designed by Cincinnati Shryock, an artist of unusual ability and a younger brother of Gideon Shryock, master architect of Morrison hall and other notable Kentucky buildings. Cincinnati, at the time of his death in January, 1888, was an elder and clerk of the Session of the church he had planned.

The First church, regarded as the oldest congregation still in existence in Lexington, is the outgrowth of the Mount Zion Presbyterian church that was organized under the leadership of the Rev. Adam Rankin, a native Pennsylvanian who had been reared and educated in Virginia, in October, 1784. This was but a year after the foundation by the Rev. David Rice, in what is now Mercer county, of the first Presbyterian congregation established as a regular church within the confines of Kentucky.

The location of the original meeting house of the Presbyterians here is obscure, although, according to Samuel M. Wilson, Lexington historian, author and attorney; an unverified and persistent tradition associates it with a site at or near the southeast corner of Walnut and Short streets, now marked by an historical plaque.

After a rupture in the congregation, provoked by the extreme views of Mr. Rankin on the subject of Paulson, and his renunciation of the authority of the Transylvania Presbytery, members who differed with him acquired from the trustees of the town that part of the public square bounded by Main and Short streets, Cheapside and Mill streets, and there erected a building that was used until about 1806. The congregation then purchased a lot at Broadway and Second streets and built a church that was first used in the summer of 1808. This remained the place of worship until 1870, when the property was sold to a group previously identified with the old Main Street Christian church. Out of this grew the present Broad Street Christian church.

The Southern Presbyterians, as they had come to be known, then purchased property on Mill street and erected the building pictured above by Mr. Griffitt.

Dr. Robert Whitfield Miles, minister of the church, is the 156th man to hold the pastoral during the 151 years past. Perhaps the most noted of all the clergymen during that period was the Rev. Robert J. Breckinridge, who held the office from 1847 to 1853.
McMurtry-Designed Cottage In Old Cemetery

The sexton's cottage in the old Episcopal cemetery on East Third street, here shown as sketched in ink by Robert Griffitt, Herald-Leader staff artist, was designed more than a century ago by the noted architect, John McMurtry, whose other works include Ingleside and Loudoun, examples of Gothic Revival style, and Botherum, in Classical Revival. The cottage has been termed by Prof. Rexford Newcomb of the University of Illinois as "perhaps as choice an example as any" of Gothic Revival architecture.

The old burying ground in which the house is set has been called with some justification "the Westminster Abbey of Lexington," for within its four acres were placed the bodies of men and women who were the city's most prominent citizens and whose names endure yet.

Here, on time-worn, broken stones, are the inscriptions of John Grimes, the artist; John Posey, his son, Lewis, the tavern keepers; Col. Thomas Hart and Matthias and Mary E. Shryock, to mention but a few.

Over the grave of the Shryocks there was erected a small Grecian temple, the work of their son, Gideon, who also designed the Old Capitol at Frankfort and Morrison Hall here.

In the cemetery is the grave of Franklin Combs, eldest son of Gen. Leslie Combs, and the inscription states that he was assassinated in 1844 at the age of 20 by "a cowardly villain named George O'Brien, in Point Coupee, Louisiana," and that "the sod of grass on which his head reposed when he died is now growing at the head of his grave."

Until a few years ago, the bones of Sauveur Francois Bonfils, early Transylvania scientist, lay in the cemetery. They were removed in 1839 to a vault at the college, where also are the remains of Constantine Samuel Rafinesque.

Among those buried in the cemetery was at least one Negro, the Rev. London Ferrill of the First Colored Baptist church, who, during the cholera scourge of 1833 remained in Lexington to minister to the dying and, with the "worthless King Solomon, to bury the dead.

Long overgrown with weeds, the cemetery soon is to be restored by Christ Episcopal church and will be maintained as an historical shrine.
at the southeast cor. of Walnut and Short sts., Lexington, Ky.
Razed: 1908. MORTON HIGH (see next page) then built on this site.
Same site. It was torn down about 1920, Sears, Roebuck
on this site today (1920). Most likely on W. Main St., S. side.

J. Winston Coleman, Jr., Litt.D.

No. 7 of the old Kentucky and South Atlantic Railroad.