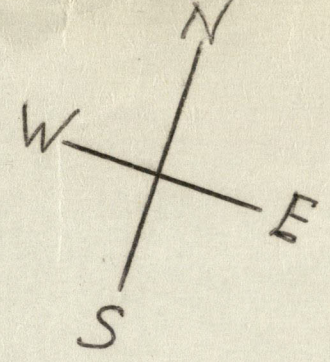


April 17 1832  
 Belleville: Division of  
 unsold lots, small + out lots  
 sworn by Robert Cooper J.P.  
 Order Book #1 page 162

37

W.H.H. 6



W.H.H. 5

William H. Henton left Oct. 1831  
 Court appointed commissioners to  
 divide lots in Belleville April 17, 1832  
 W.H.H. = William H. Henton Commissioners  
 were Thomas Matlock, Thomas Jones  
 and Milton V. Hensley.  
 H.J. 3 H.J. 1

Stop "19" Road

William H. Henton  
 Out lots 4-5-6-8

Washington Street

Cumberland Road

Cumberland Street

Market Street

Ohio Street

Cumberland Road To Indianapolis

W.H.H. = William H. Henton

Sq. 11: 5-8-7 Sq. 7: 2

Sq. 6: 5-6 Sq. 12: 1-6

Sq. 4: 1-2-10-11-12 Sq. 13: 10-12

Sq. 14: Lots 1-2-3-10-11-12

Sq. 3: 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12

Out lots 4-5-6-8

Academy 1853

Short Street

Market Street

South Street

Lafayette

Church Street

Grave Yard

To Monrovia

Herron House Road

Homer Johnson  
 (Instead of Lazarus B. Wilson?)

Out lots 1-2-3

Sq. 11: 3-4-9-10

Sq. 6: 2 Sq. 10: 2 All of Sq. 2

Sq. 1: 3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10

Sq. 14: 4-5-6-7

Sq. 11: 3-4-9-10

DH = Obediah Harris

#1 in Sq. 13

Out lots 7-9-10-11

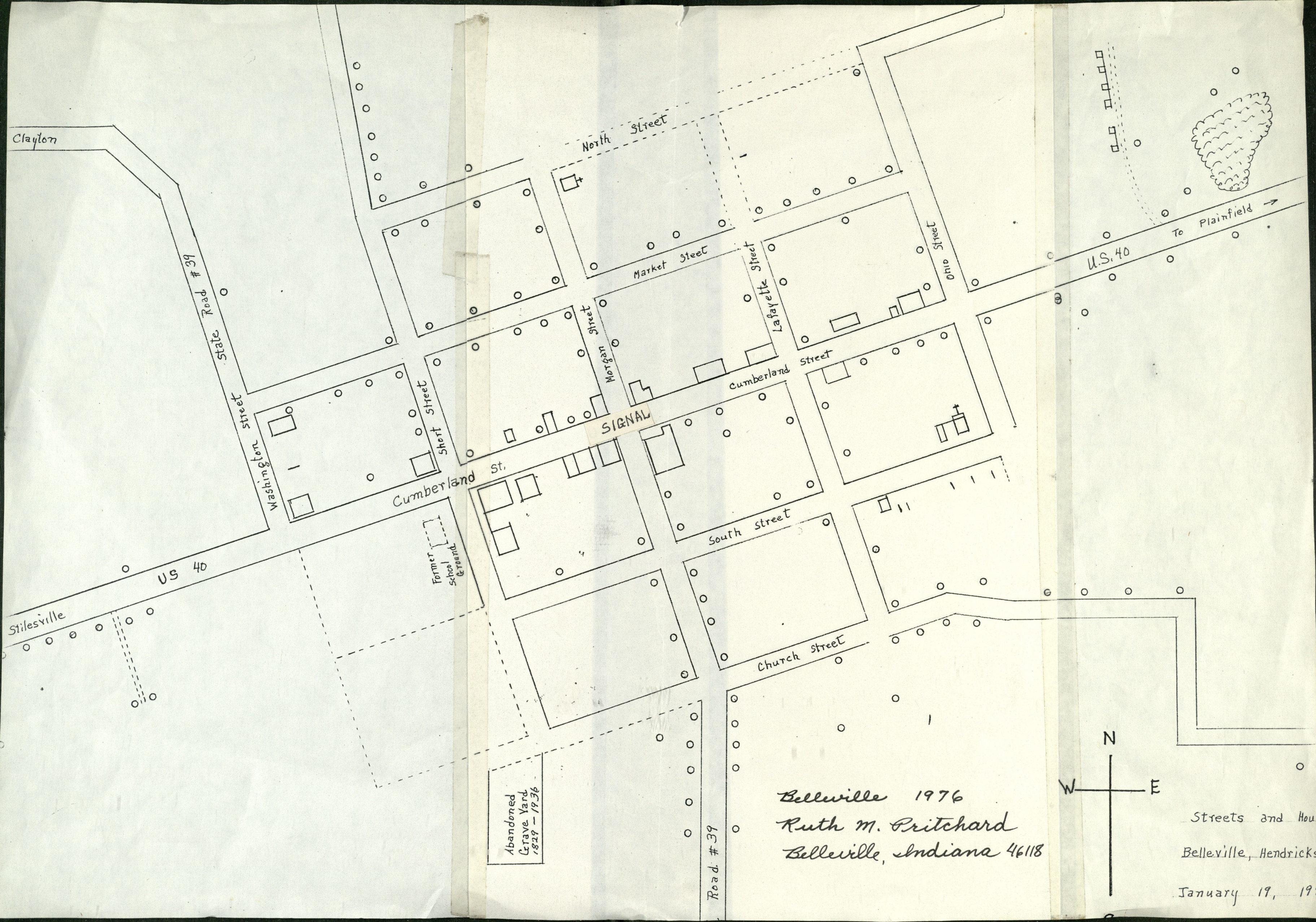
Sq. 5: -8 Sq. 6: 1-3-4-8-9

Sq. 8: -4-5-8 Sq. 13: 1

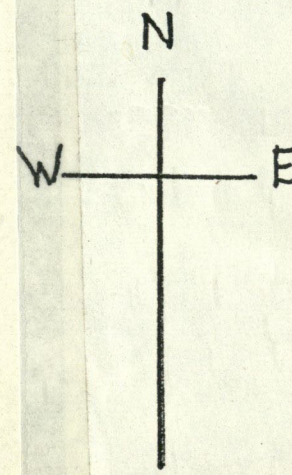
Sq. 16: 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11

Sq. 15: 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12





Belleville 1976  
Ruth M. Pritchard  
Belleville, Indiana 46118



Streets and Hou  
Belleville, Hendricks  
January 19, 19



BELVILLE

BELLVILLE

BELLEVILLE

-1829-



a  
Collection  
by  
Ruth Mitchell Pritchard



The State of Indiana }  
VS. } Indictment for Manslaughter  
Samuel K. Barlow }

Be it remembered that on the 2<sup>nd</sup> judicial day of the Hendricks Circuit Court the above cause came on for trial and hearing and a jury being impannelled and sworn and Thomas J. Matlock was produced and sworn on the part and behalf of the State of Indiana and after being examined in chief by the attorney for the State, defendant by his counsel on the cross examination of said witness asked him if the deceased mentioned in said indictment had not told the witness a few days previous to the day on which the wound was given by defendant that the deceased had just returned from the Southern country and that he had ~~been~~ left his saddle bags at the house of his mother some 8 or 10 miles from the residence of the family of the said deceased where the said wound was afterwards given, at the same time of leaving said saddle bags informing his mother that she must have his saddle bags ready at a minutes warning for that he the deceased would probably have to leave the country in haste which question the court on motion of the attorney for the state would not allow said witness to answer on such cross examination to which the defendant by his counsel accepts & asked that the same might be signed, sealed and  
signed.



made a part of the record in this case which was done accordingly and be it remembered farther that on the trial of the above cause that the defendant set up as a justification that if said blow & wound which caused the death of the deceased was given at all it was given in the defense of the wife and family of the deceased who were in imminent danger of losing their lives and receiving some great bodily harm from the deceased who was at the time the blow and wound was given beating the wife as alledged by the defendant with a dangerous weapon and that he was called on by the the family while the deceased was beating his wife to come in and take deceased off under this defence the said defendant produced one David Matlock and others to prove to the court and jury by said David Matlock witness that the deceased two days previous to the blow and wound being given that he the deceased told witness he meant to drive his wife from his house (from which house the said deceased had been absent for a year & had just returned to the country but not to his house) and if she would not leave he would whip her to the holler (?) - and offered to prove other threats of the deceased relative to his family and wife, made previous to the day on which said blow was given, and the defendant was then and there offered to be proved.



by defendants witnesses which testimony under the above defence the court on motion of the attorney for the state refused to permit said testimony to go to the jury to which the said defendant by counsel excepts and prays that the same as well as the first above written motion be signed sealed & made a part of the record in this cause which is done accordingly.

B. F. Morris seal

James Downard seal

Samuel Jessup seal

On Back Side

State of Indiana  
v. S.

Samuel K. Barlow

Bill of Exception

Filed August 25<sup>th</sup>  
1827 Levi Jessup  
Clerk



State of Indiana } Hendricks Circuit Court  
Hendricks County } February Term, in the  
year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty seven. 1827

The grand jurors for the State of Indiana empannelled, sworn and charged to enquire within and for the said body of the said county of Hendricks in the name and by the authority of the State of Indiana, upon their oath present, that Samuel K. Barlow, late of the said county of Hendricks, yeoman, not having the fear of God before his eyes, but being moved and seduced by the instigation of the devile on the sixteenth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty six with force and arms, at the county of Hendricks aforesaid in and upon one George Matlock, feloniously, wilfully and unlawfully did make and assault and that the said Samuel K. Barlow with a certain axe of the value of two dollars which the said Samuel K. Barlow, in both his hands then and there held the said George Matlock in and upon the hinder and upper part of the right thigh of him the said George Matlock then and there feloniously, wilfully and unlawfully, did strike, giving unto him the said George Matlock, then and there with the said axe by the stroke aforesaid, in manner aforesaid in and upon the hinder and upper part of thigh of him the said George Matlock one mortal wound of the length of five inches and of the depth of four inches of which mortal wound, he the said George Matlock on



and from the said sixteenth day of October aforesaid did languish, and languishly did live until [and upon the twenty fifth day of October in the year ~~of~~ ~~the~~ last aforesaid, to wit at the County of Hendricks aforesaid and then and there that is to say] on the said twenty fifth day of October in the year last aforesaid, at the county aforesaid he the said George Matlock of the mortal wound aforesaid, died. And so the jurors aforesaid upon their oath aforesaid, in the name and by the authority aforesaid, do say, that the said Samuel K. Barlow him the said George Matlock in manner and by the means aforesaid, feloniously and unlawfully did kill and slay contrary to the form of the statute in such case made and provided, and against the and dignity of the State of Indiana.

James Whitcomb  
Prosecuting attorney for the fifth judicial Circuit

State Vs. Samuel K. Barlow Indictment Manslaughter  
a true bill, John Hannah foreman of  
the Grand jury Filed in Open Court  
February 24<sup>th</sup> 1827 L. Jessup Clk.  
witnesses

Thomas  
Curtis Hussey  
James Downard  
David Carter  
Thomas J. Matlock  
v Elizabeth Walker  
Thomas Irons  
James Heron

Nancy Kitchen  
Thomas Walker, Sen.  
Joseph Dunn  
Oli Moses  
Jonathan Wyett  
Robert Cooper  
William Walker  
Jacob Kennedy

Plea — Not Guilty



## Belleville Laid Out

The Cumberland Road was surveyed through Hendricks County, Indiana in the early eighteenth-twenties. The road was cut through by 1830.

William H. Henton, Abediah Lincher and Lazarus B. Wilson laid out Belleville in 1829 in the Hendricks County wilderness. This town was also on the great Cumberland Road, the first national east to west highway. Travelers plowed through spring mud, endured summer dust, struggled over winter's frozen terrain, but still they came. <sup>Location on the National Road promoted rapid growth and made it</sup> Belleville ~~became~~ almost an early day boom-town.

Within a few years there were three blacksmith shops, two general stores, a drug store, two cabinet shops, a flour mill, a woolen mill, a saw mill, two cooper shops, a gun shop, a tannery and five or six inns.

William Henton built the first house and had the first store in Belleville. In October 1831 William Henton left town owing money to several men. He left in company of Samuel Wick, who returned in a few days with power of attorney to settle Henton's affairs. He put Mrs. Henton out of her house and sold merchandise from the store. Wick left Belleville and Polly Henton returned to her house.

Court appointed commissioners divided the unsold lots of Belleville.

Polly Henton got a divorce from William in April 1834.

Edmund Cooper added eight lots to the west side of town December 22, 1834.

William Naylor added eight lots on the south east side May 6, 1837.

small Another Cooper addition was made on the west side December 27, 1838. This was twelve lots and eight larger out-lots.



\$100 - 3-11-1834    Lot #4 sq. 5    blocks 3 & 4    outlots 1-2-3  
Rolly Henton to Levi Jessup

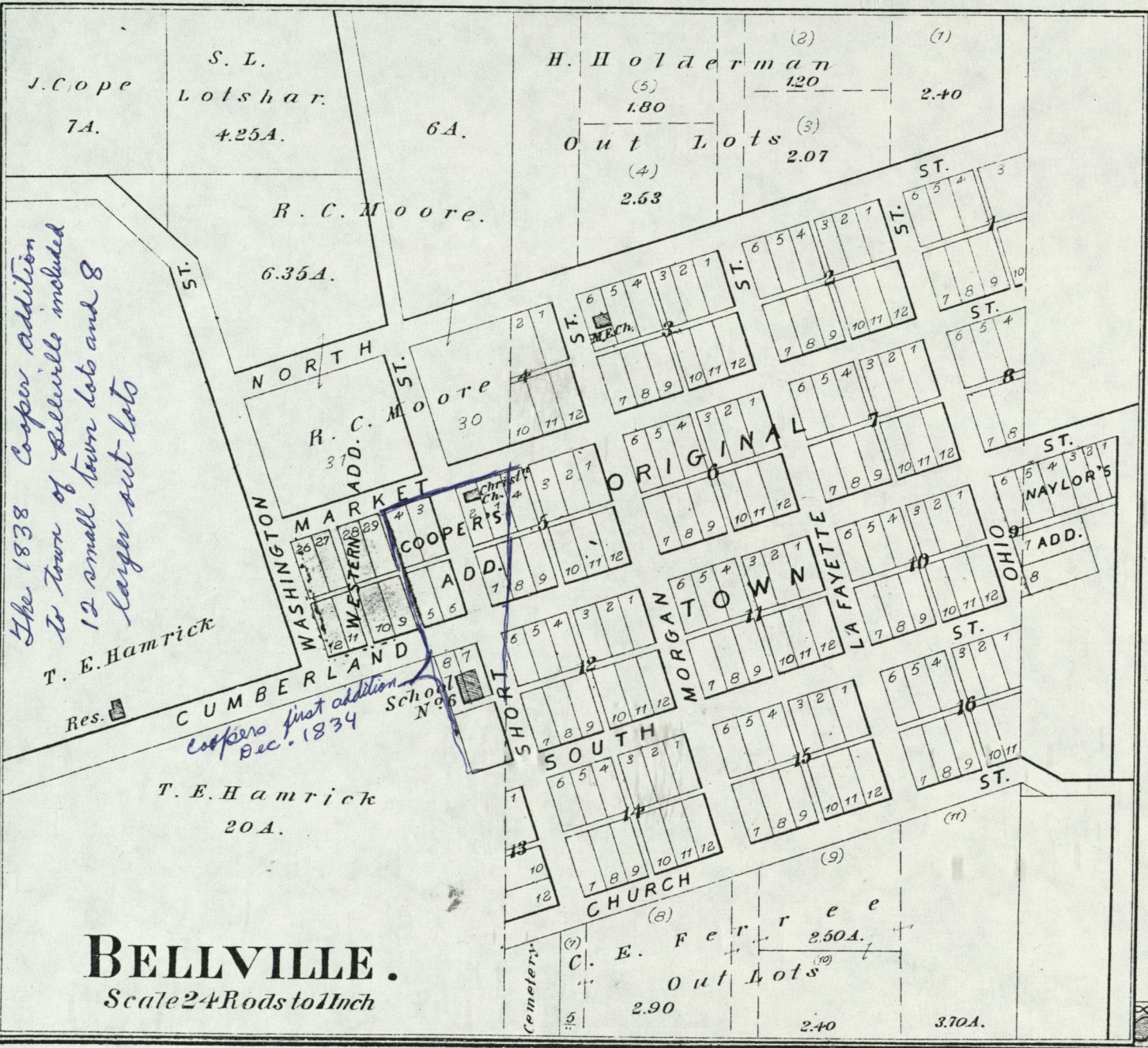
~~Belleville~~ proprietors were William  
H. Henton, Abediah Harris and Lazarus  
B. Wilson, ~~the town~~ <sup>Belleville</sup> was laid out in  
1829 in the Hendricks County wilderness  
but it was also on the great Cumberland  
Road the first national east to west  
highway. Travelers plowed through  
spring mud, endured summer dust,  
struggled over winter's frozen terrain,  
but still they came. Belleville was <sup>almost</sup> an  
early day "boom-town".

Within a few years there were  
three blacksmith shops, two general  
stores, a drug store, two cabinet  
shops, ~~a~~ <sup>a</sup> flour mill, a woolen  
mill, saw mill, two cooper shops,  
a gun shop, a tannery and five  
or six inns.

(insert)



J.P. & Hal  
 J. P. Burns 40  
 J. J. Fatter 40  
 J. J. Hendrick 40  
 J. M. Daniel 40  
 L. Rice Hrs. 80  
 C.H.  
 W. Duncan 40  
 Corliss do novan 40  
 R.1 E.



The 1838 Cooper Addition  
 To Town of Bellville included  
 12 small town lots and 8  
 larger out-lots

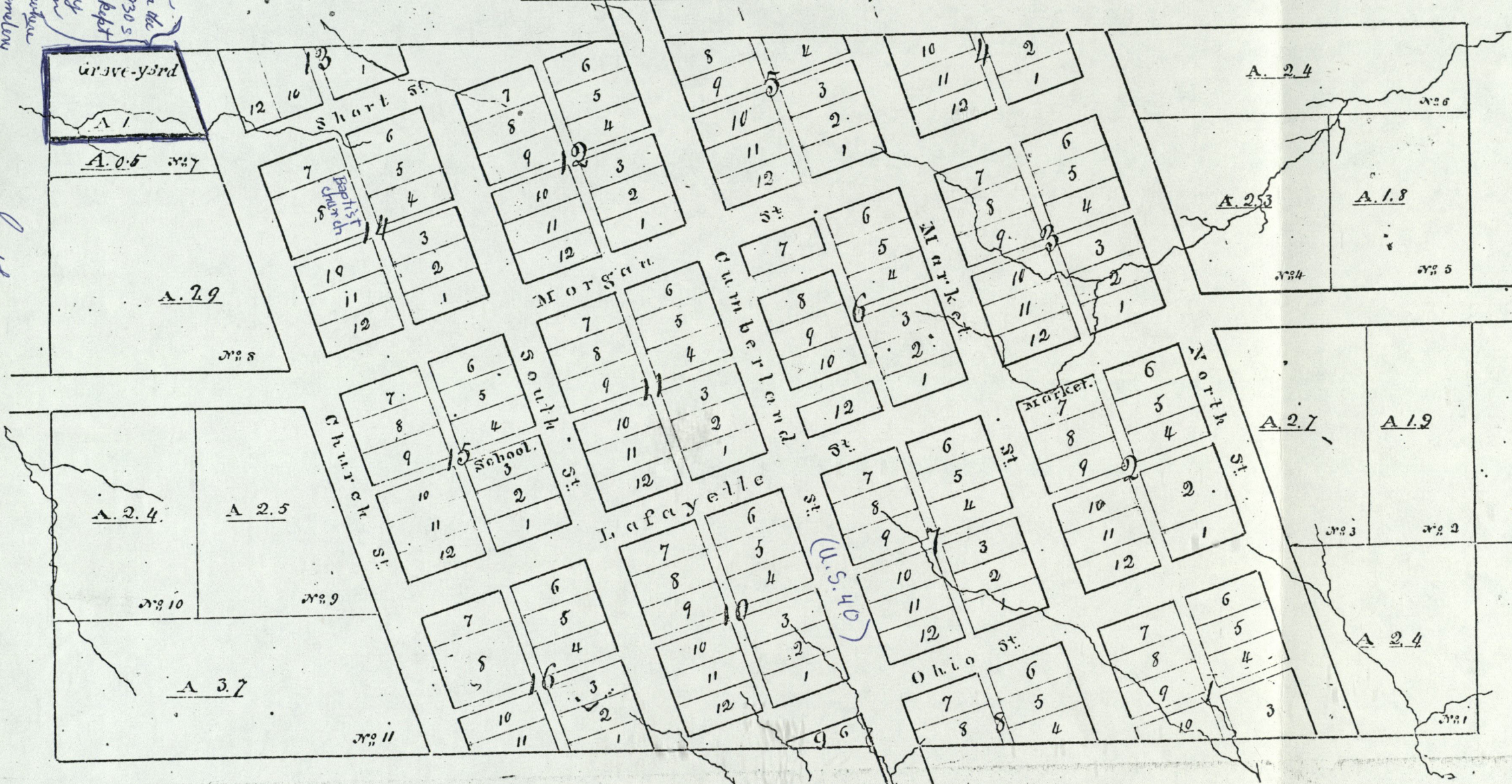
Cooper's first addition  
 Dec. 1834

**BELLVILLE.**  
 Scale 24 Rods to 1 Inch



most

stones were removed from the cemetery in the 1930's  
no record was kept  
we doubt many  
graves we can  
find elsewhere  
are in this cemetery



South

North

East

Feet:				
60	260	280	#	66

Feet:

Streets are 70 feet wide, and cross each other



## Belleville Postmasters

Milton W. Hensley	12-29-1831
Robert Cooper	4-8-1833
John E. Johnson	4-21-1836
James S. O'Dell	3-8-1837
John E. Johnson	2-13-1838
George Langster	8-7-1838
James S. O'Dell	1-12-1839
George Langster	9-27-1844
John E. Johnson	5-6-1846
Clayton J. Swindler	6-15-1846
Horner F. Burger	9-20-1860
Telemichael T. Bennett	3-22-1872
John Hammond	8-16-1872
Charles W. Steward	11-29-1876
William J. Cope	8-8-1878
John W. Riley	2-1-1887
William J. Cope	6-30-1890
George W. Miller	5-24-1893
David W. Hubbard	6-8-1897
Lilla C. Miller	5-21-1898
Mabel Lane	5-13-1901
Bessie M. Breedlowe	5-21-1902
P.O. discontinued	10-14-1902
Mail sent to Clayton	10-31-1902



Mr. John Wiley

Clay County  
Indiana

Please be careful  
and hand this  
to J. Wiley



(7 o'clock night)

Belville February the 14<sup>th</sup> 1838

Dear sir

I reached home at 6 o'clock safe, sound and well though but my feelings are not very pleasant at this time 1<sup>st</sup> unpleasant because I have to ride again to night and 2<sup>nd</sup> because I am extremely mad. Just before I got home this evening all three of the Johnson boys joined my brother (Ridson) for the purpose of whipping him. No other person being present they had a fair chance tho they did not hurt him much.

If I understand correctly he boxed them all out and run two of them. I am too much agitated to ask the particulars of this assault.

I have kept always out of fights but I am now in one. The Johnsons have to be whipped and badly whipped and every man that takes their part in this matter. I am willing to take them all in a bunch and the old woman thrown in.

I send you your money in this letter

I am with respect yours &c

S. G. Moore



From The 1850 Census - Bellville

Thomas J. Jones, 24 Druggist worth \$650 b Ind.  
wife Elizabeth 21 b N.C. Sarah J. 1 b Ind.

David E. Carter 33 Physician b. N.C.  
wife Adeline E. 24 b. N.C.

Mason Bruner 42 Hatter worth \$200 b. Ky.  
Margaret Bruner 34 b Ind Robert J. 8 b Ind.

Powell Gibbons 27 R. Physician worth \$200 b Ky  
Caroline Gibbons 27 b. Ohio Harvey 25 b. Ky.

Thomas Wilson 27 B Physician b Ind  
Elinor Wilson 25 b. Ind Walter  $\frac{1}{12}$  b Ind.

James W. Matlock 36 merchant worth \$700 b. Ind.  
Sarah Matlock 30 b. Ky  
James H. — 10 Nancy J. — 3  
Mary C. — 8 Charles —  $\frac{3}{12}$   
Caroline W. — 5

Joseph Herron 46 farmer worth \$1200 b Ky.  
Louisa 38 b Ohio Caroline 12 b. Ind.  
Mary Elizabeth 8 b. Ind Juliet Josephine 3 b. Ind.  
Smith Herron trader b. Ky.

Thomas G. Wilson 25 Wagon maker b. Pa.  
Elizabeth 19 b Pa. Clara A. 1 b. Pa



1846-1869

Names in John Millers Tan. Yard Book - Belleville

Armstrong, Abel	Carter, John	Ellis, Paton R.	Hiatt, Benjamin
Balden, Enos	Carter, John S.	Ellis, Polly	Hiatt, Harmon
Bales, Beter (Bowater)	Carter, N.	Ellis, William	Hill, Clark
Banty, Corneles	Carter, Oliver	Elmore, Moses	Hogens, Josiah
Barker, Anna	Carter + Wmphis	Epperson, Larkin	Hopwood, Furdenan
Barker, Daniel	Carter, Samuill	Fansler, Harbert	Hopwood, Moses
Barker, Martin	Carter, William	Fansler, John	Horniday, Simon
Barker, Orlando	Case, Simon P.	Farmer, William	Hunt, Cyrus
Barker, Samuel	Chambers, William M.	Finley, William	Hussey, John
Barker + Clighorn	Claghorn, William	Fowler, George	Hussey, Judier
Bartholomew, Benjamin	Clark, William	Fleishman, George	Irons, John
Belles, Isaac	Coble, George	Fletcher, Nicholas	Irons, Thomas
Boughman, William	Colding, William	Fuldz, Andrew	Jackson, Armstred
Belles, William	Collins, Thomas	Gillen, John	Jackson, Ira
Bentow, James	Cook, Milton	Goen, James	Jackson, Shadel
Bishop, Joseph	Cook, Nathing	Green, James	Jackson, Man
Blalock, William	Cooper, Edmund	Guin, Seth	Jelf, J. + Eagon
Blair, Abraham	Cornet, John	Haden, James	Jessup, Samuel
Behanan, John	Cotney, James	Hadley, Elias	Johnson, J. E.
Behanan, Sam	Coverdale, R.	Hadley, James B.	Johnson, John
Bray, Allen	Cozine, Garret	Hadley, Noiah	Johnson, L. A.
Bray, George + Alden Enos	Crofford, English	Hambrick, John	Jones, James R.
Brill, John	Crofford, Moses	Hammond, George	Kaare, James
Brill, William	Cutshall, James	Hanner, Thomas	Lairmore, Morgan
Brown, Preston	Cutshall, James W.	Harlan, William	Lambert, Henry
Brummigen, Simon	Cutshall, John	Harless, W. C.	Learn, George
Bryant, George	Daessinge, W.	Harling, Jesse	Little, John
Bryant, John	Davis, Evin	Harper, Allen	Little, William
Buchanan, John	Davis, Joshua	Harper, C.	Lockhart, Thomas
Buchanan, M.	Davis, Thomas	Harper, Daniel	Lockhart, William
Buchanan, Mordica	Day, J. B.	Harper, Sis	Lotcher, Samuill
Burgess, James	Day, Noah	Harrison, John	Lovel, George
Burgess, Samuill	Dickerson, Morgan	Hartsock, Nelson	Man, Meruvel
Burges, Thomas	Downs, William	Hendrix, Lindy Myra	Marker, Curtis
Burkes, - - - - -	Duffee Michael	Hendrix, Milton	Marker, William
Burnett, Lycander	Edmonson, Benjamin	Herren, George	Marshall, Joshua
Bustell, William	Edmonson, Frank	Herron, Joseph	Mason, James
Carmical, Larison	Egon, James	Herring, Esariah	May, William
Carmical, William	Elliot, H. C.	Herring, Jackson	McClure, Arthur
Carter, Ira	Ellis, Patten	Herring + Parker	McClure, Jane ?



*Names In John Miller's Tann Yard Book, Belleville*

McCormack, Albert	Pickett, Joshua	Ruster, William	Vineyard, N.B.
McCormick, Samuel	Pierce, Andrew	Ruster, William, Jun.	Wagner, Alfred
McCormack, Vincent	Pierce, Andrew Jr.	Sanders, John	Walker, Samuel
McCormick, W. A.	Pope, James	Saventier, Joseph	Wals, William
McCracking, William	Plainfield	Saventier, William	White, Dugan
McCurdy, .....	Pope, James N.	Seacra, Ligy	White, John
McCurdy, James	Pope, Jefferson	Scott, Sandy	White, M.
McGarrard, .....	Potts, Andrew	Selch, Peter	White, Samuel
McFerson, .....	Potts, Thomas	Shepard, Samuel	Williams, Nathan
McFerson, Bron	Rower, Winsen	Shepard, .....	Williams, Riley
McMullen, John	Ragan, William	Short, Young	Williams, S.C.B.
Mendenhall, Jonathan	Ragan, Z. L.	Simmons, Josephus	Wills, Amos S.
Merideth, John A.	Reade, Tilberry	Slaughter, Pleasant	Wills, Stuerd
Merideth, Nathan	Readmon, Jacob	Smith, George	Wills, Washington
Miles, John	Rennard, Joel	Smith, Jefferson	Winson, Joseph
Miles & Banta	Richard, Daniel	Snodgrass, Benjamin	Winsterd, Frank
Miller, Michel	Richardson, Daniel	Snodgrass, Benjamin Jun.	Winsterd, Frank
Mills, Josiah	Richardson, John	Snodgrass, James	Woodard, Benjamin
Mills, Josiah	Richeson, Green	Snodgrass, Nathan	Worell, John
Mills, Joseph	Right, James	Springfield	Workman, Alfred
Mitchell, Samuel	Rinearson, John	Stockton Account	World, Josephus C.
Montgomery, Jerry	Riley, Jr.	Stockton, Robert	Worrell, James
Moore, John	Ritzel, Daniel	Stockton, Sellers	Worel, Richard
Moore, J. B.	Ritzel, David	Stockton, Thomas	Wright, James
Moore, Risdon	Roads, Adison	Strong,	Wright, Mary Jane
Mull, John	Roads, George	Sutgrove, James	York, Barney
Mull, Thomas	Roberts, Benjamin	Swindler, Harrison	York, Nathan
Newlen, David	Roberts, Benjamin	Taylor, Arch	York, William
Nesley, Hiram	Rogers, Henry	Taylor, John	Young & Burges
Ostorn, Harding	Rumels, Chesney	Tinker, Abediah	
Ostorn, Jobe	Ruster, Allen	Townsen, William	
Page, Preston	Ruster, Elia	Umphus & Carter	
Paterson, John	Ruster, James	Ungles, W. J.	

The first representative of the Miller family to come to Hendricks County was John Miller, who was born on March 16, 1793 in Baurtetaunt County, Virginia, and died on January 17, 1875.

John Miller enlisted in the army at the age of 19, under the command of Captain E. Sherman, Virginia Militia. He was discharged after the War of 1812, and came to Hendricks County in 1822.

Several years after John purchased the acreage about a quarter-mile east of present-day Belleville, he constructed a brick home on a hill. In a valley at the foot of the hill, across the road from where the house stood, he constructed vats in which he tanned animal hides to be used as leather for clothes and shoes. Water for the vats was supplied from springs on the property.

John Miller traded \$1,000 worth of tanned hides to endow a chair in the old Asbury College for Boys at Greencastle (now DePauw University), providing a perpetual scholarship for his male heirs.

*The book from which the above names were taken was for years 1846-1869 inclusive. John Miller is buried in the Shrons Cemetery east of Belleville.*



## AN OLD WORKBOOK ON CABINETMAKING

AGNES MCCULLOCH HANNA

Work sheets from foreign cabinetmakers were used in our country in very early days, but this home-made workbook, written in 1856 by William H. H. Johnson, a young Indiana cabinetmaker, for his personal use, has few parallels. It was found some months ago by Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Millikan of Indianapolis while they were looking over family papers stored for many years in Mr. Millikan's family home near Monrovia, Indiana.

William H. H. Johnson, born in 1837, was the son of Dr. Lawrence and Edith Rolls (or Ralls) Johnson. The first members of the family to come to Indiana were Isaac and Mary Cool, who obtained a grant of land in Marion County, three miles east of the "Donation," in 1821. With them, from Princeton, New Jersey, came their married daughter Elizabeth, with her husband, David Johnson. Their son Lawrence went to medical school in Cincinnati soon after they arrived in Indianapolis.

Dr. Lawrence Johnson was graduated shortly after 1826 and went almost at once to the newly organized town of Belleville, Hendricks County, Indiana, where he practiced medicine. In 1834, he married Edith Rolls, and to them seven sons and daughters were born. "Willie" (William H. H. Johnson), born in 1837, began in 1856 to work first for McCurdy and later (1857) for Bland, cabinetmakers.

As the workbook<sup>1</sup> was for his own use, he made no attempt to watch the uniformity of spelling. He sat down measures and methods of procedure; he wrote down formulae for staining and removing stains from furniture; he set forth schedules of wages for various classes of workmen, and

<sup>1</sup> The workbook is 4¾ x 7¼ inches, contains forty-eight ruled pages, and is bound in dark tan leather reinforced by coarse thin binder's board. The inside of the covers are not faced with leather. The matter scratched on the top half of the outside of the front cover in ink has almost reached the stage of illegibility. This cover-page carries the following:

Belleville  
Indiana  
U S  
Amer

William H. H. Johnsons  
Book, Belleville  
Indiana  
Bought in 1856

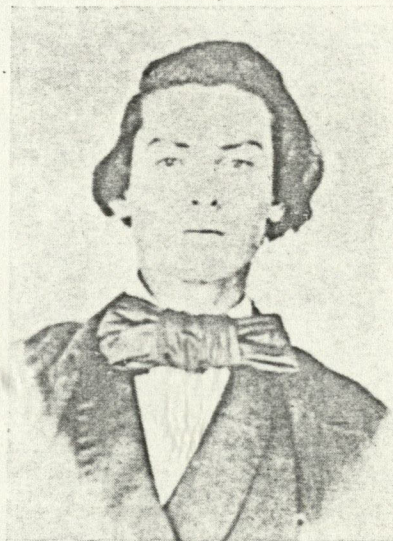


on pages 38-39, making use of the ruled lines of the notebook, he drew pictures of furniture that he had aided in constructing. Interleaved with his furniture notes are verses to one or more young ladies of his acquaintance and other rhymes, denoting a deeply emotional nature, and revealing that he was not too happy in the work of his hands.

He left the cabinetshop to study medicine—possibly, he recognized his failing health—in March, 1859. Two months later his father wrote in the family Bible: "Willie died at 1 A.M. May 25, happy in the Lord." His notebook was preserved by the doctor-father (Dr. Lawrence Johnson), and, after the latter's death in 1871, his widow (Edith Rolls Johnson) took it with other family papers to her daughter's home near Monrovia. There she lived during the rest of her life with her daughter, Mrs. Eleazer Bales Millikan, and her husband. After Mrs. Millikan's death on May 25, 1938, the notebook was brought to Indianapolis with family letters and records.

Last winter, Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Millikan, knowing of my interest in Indiana cabinetmakers, allowed me to see and make use of some of the notes. It is a great pleasure to know that this unusual book is to be placed by Mr. Millikan in the Indiana History Division of the State Library. The

*Tombstone in Clayton  
Cemetery 5-25-1859*



WILLIAM H. H. JOHNSON



notes and photostatic reproductions of the drawings are unusual and valuable. I am sincerely grateful for the opportunity to edit the contents of this booklet for publication in the *Indiana Magazine of History*.

### [The Workbook Entries]

#### Belleville Indiana

January the 4 1856 new year

Beadsteads common ones turned posts mortus 21 inches from the bottom short rails 4 ft. long ons 6 ft. tenent  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch long.

Stands Common ones posts 2 ft. 4 inc long single drawer side rails 15 inc long back and front rails 17 inches long with  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inc tenent the front rails being the top one  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inc wide the bottom one 1 inc wide leaving 4 inc drawer between the side rails being  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches dressed up with gides  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch wide. dollar for making

#### Stands double drawers

the same hith [height] of comenes [commonest] ones side rails 10 inc wide and 13 inc between shoulders front rails 15 inc between shoulders  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inc tenent top rail  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch wide the other to [two] 1 inch wide top drawer 3 inches the bottom one 4 inc

#### Bellville

Dec 23 1856<sup>2</sup>

fancy Stands. posts 9 in long with a turning of 2 in at the bottom front rail bottom one 1 in wide 4 in drawer top rail inch and one  $\frac{1}{4}$  wide fourteen inches between shoulders end rails 12 inches between shoulders tenents 1 inch long posts  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in square pillars as uprite peaces inches long 4 inches square at the bottom with turning 2 inches and taper from it up to the top too [two] inches turned tenent on each end bottom peise according to pattern with scroll feet

#### Bellville

January the 24 1856

Burows [Bureaus] Common ones 3 ft. 10 inch high. for [four] drawers. from the bottom to the rail 8 in and  $\frac{1}{2}$  long. bottom rail inch &  $\frac{1}{4}$  wide. 8 in drawer. then inch rail. 7. & 6. & 9. inch drawer top rail 1 in &  $\frac{3}{4}$  wide gides 10 in nomber. 2 inches wide, with 13 in &  $\frac{1}{2}$  between sholders.  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch tenent. end rails bottom one .8 inch wide. top one 7 inches wide, with  $1\frac{1}{4}$  in tenent on them. plowed  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in the rails so as to let the pannel in. back rails 5 & 6 inches wide scant one sixteenth of an inch longer then the front rail and the end rails must have a shoulder on both edeges

#### Bellville Ind

May 1. 1856

#### Burows full coll [columns?]

Posts 3 ft.  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inc High from the bottom to the first rail 8 in rail  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in wide then 8 in drawer rail 1 in wide and then 7 in drawer

<sup>2</sup> This entry, from the second page, is dated Dec. 23, 1856, and is followed by the entry from the third page, dated Jan. 24, 1856. Mr. Johnson frequently left blank pages, some of which he used for later entries.



1 in rail then 6 in drawer with a fals [false] rail  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch wide then 1 in rail 4 in wide that is it runs back 4 in then 7 in drawer top rail 2 in wide end rails bottom one 8 in wide top one 7 in wide with gides 2 in wide tablet to reach from the top of the post down below the fals rail and when dressed up must be left as thick as the post is wide. posts when dressed up 3  $\frac{1}{2}$  in wide 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  in thick end rails 13  $\frac{1}{2}$  in between shoulders tenents 1  $\frac{1}{4}$  in long rails 2 ft 11 in between shoulders back paneled in and back rails top one 5 in wide Middle one 4 in wide bottom one 6 in wide top one plowed in the under side middle one both sides bottom one top edge with a hansh of  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch at the top edge and the others allso [sic].

---

Bellville

April 5 1856

How to make Safes the posts 4 ft 4 in High x 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  in wide 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  in thick with to [two] front rails 2 in wide Side rails bottom one 5 in wide top one 4  $\frac{1}{2}$  in wide and the others 2 in wide back rails top one 4 in the other 5 in and it must be put up 1 in higher then the other side-rails, so as to give room for the bottom to go in by cutting a place in posts large enough to let the bottom slip through it and there must be gides plowed and nailed on for the bottom to slide through into the front rail which is ploughed the doors they must be long enough to fill up between the rails the top stile must be 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  in wide so as to fill up the difference between the top front rail and the bottom of the top side rail which is 2 in from 4  $\frac{1}{2}$  in leaves 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  which is the width of the top door stile then mesher [measure] the distance between to [two] of the end rails which will give the distance between the door stiles so as to have them all to range with each other and the bottom end rail which is 5 in wide and the bottom front rail 2 in wide of corse the bottom door stile must be 3 in wide for 2 from 5 leaves 3 which is the width of the door stile in order to made it eavin with the side rail so as to make all the rales Come eavin. and the front rails must be 2 ft. 11 in between shoulders with 1  $\frac{1}{4}$  in tenent

---

Bellville Indiana

Staining for Wood

To stain wood red take two ounces of brazil wood, and two ounces of potash; mix them with a quart of water and let the compisition stand in a warm place for several days, stiring it occasionally; with this liquor made boiling hot, brush over the wood, till the desired depth of colour is obtained. then with another brush, brush over the wood while yet wet, with a solution of alum in the propotion of two ounces of alum to a quart of water

2 for a pink or rose red add to a gallon of the above infusion of Brazil two additional ounces of the pearlashes and use it as was before directed, but it is necessary in this case to brush the wood over with the alum water. by increasing the propotion of pearlashes the red may be rendered yet paler; but it is proper when more than this quantity is added to make the alum water stronger; or use double the quantity of Potash.



for a less bright red dissolve an ounce of dragon's blood in a pint of spirits of wine, and brush over the wood with the tincture till the stain appears to be as strong as is desired; but this is, in fact, rather lacquering than staining<sup>3</sup>

---

May the 3th [sic] 1856

Bellville

How to lay off a Coffin bottom according to measurer that is the length foot 7 inches wide head 8 in wide across the shoulders from 18 to 20 as the case may be in grown [grown] persons end peases [pieces] about 11 or 12 inches long the sides 5 in longer than the bottom and the top about 10 in longer than the bottom so as to give plenty room to put on the top

---

Bellville Indiana

March 16th 1859

Commenced work for McCurdy at the Cabinet trade the 2 day of April 1855 worked till May the 6th 1856, which was the Close of one years work for which I received \$60 dollars half in Store and other Cash and spent all and was in debt 53 cents at the Close of the year.<sup>4</sup>

---

Bellville Indiana

one years work to a Close the 6th of May 1856 for which years work I received \$60 dollars half Cash and half in the Stores and I Spent all of the 60 dollars and was in debt \$1.35 Cents at the Close of the Year 1856 Wm J

---

to Stain wood purple, take one ounce of logwood and two drachms of brazil wood; boil them together in a quart of water over a moderate fire. when one half of the fluid is evaporated, strain the decoction and brush it several times over the wood after the wood is dry, brush it over with a solution of a drachm of pearlshes in a pint<sup>5</sup>

[Transferring dark pictures]

on dark painting give too [two] Cotes of white paint just large enough for the picture varnish it and let it dry and then [then] varnish it again and put on your picture and let it dry and when dry

---

<sup>3</sup> This entry is followed by: "transferred to page 19."

<sup>4</sup> The next entry appearing on page 17, which had nothing to do with the young cabinetmaker's trade, reads: "I would be thine when storms arise and Tempests brake through the Sky to cheer the [thee]."

<sup>5</sup> This entry is followed by a poem, entitled "lilly dale," which runs to four stanzas and a chorus. The first stanza and the chorus follow:

"It was a calm still night  
And the moons pale light  
Shone soft ore hill and dale  
When friends mute with grief  
Stood around the death bed  
Of my poor lost lilly dale

"O lilly, sweet lilly dear lilly dale  
Now the wild rose blossoms  
Ore the little green grave  
Of my poor lost lilly dale"

<sup>6</sup> This is evidently a description of a method of transferring a picture on paper or cardboard to painted and varnished wood.



dampen it a little and than rub it untill the paper is all off and the picture will be plain

---

to Stain oak a mahogany Color

Boil togeather brazil wood and Roman alum and before it is applied to the wood a little potash is to be added to it. a sutible varnish for wood thus tinged may be made by dissolving amber in oil of turpentine mixed with a small potion [portion] of linseed oil

to stain beech wood a mahogany Colour break two ounces of Dragons blood in pieces and put them into a quart of rectified spirits of wine let the bottle stand in a warm place and shake it frequently. when disolved it is fit for use

---

Stain for musical instruments

Purple. Boil a pound of Chip [ped] logwood in three quarts of water for an hour than [then] add four ounces of pearlash and two ounces of indigo pounded

---

Bellville Indiana  
General Explanations

- 1 all men working by the day to be paid according to their average wages by the piece to find their one [own] Candles
- 2 tables to be meshered on the top for length and width.
- 3 all kind of drawer work in single carcasses or eny work to represent the Same to mesher on the widest carcase
- 4 all drawers to start without locks except bureaus and Secretaries if not Specified in the preamble
- 5 no lock [?] plates to be let in except Secratary falls or writing falls
- 6 all drawers to be blocked except small drawers in headwork
- 7 all bureau backs to Start with one pannel it two pannels no addition
- 8 making patterns and shaped Colls [Columns] to be propperty of the Journeymans or the prices of making them to be Settled exclusively between the Journeyman and employers.
- 9 filling up worm or knot holes repairing shakes or cracks reducing slabs sawing veneers Cock beads to be paid according to time
- 10 all staining to be paid for according to time
- 11 all round tables when veneered to measure the same as round drawers fronts per inch. when not specified in the preamble and to be paid according to table of venearing on rounds. all pellow and claw tables to Start with Casters
- 12 all Sofas to Start with Castors
- 13 no Castor plates to be let in except paid for according to table of brass work
- 14 putting on looking glas plates to be at the risk of the employer
- 15 all work made by Journaman to be finished in the bench room and not to be taken apart for the Convenience of the polisher or put to geather after him
- 18 all work considered to be done in a workmanlike manner and when not such to be paid for accordingly



- 19 veneering staves on the round to be double the price of flat Staves  
in loo [low] table bills

---

Belleville Ind.

Feb the 8 1857

Receipt for making ink.<sup>7</sup>

take a drachm of nitric of Silver (lunar Costic) dissolve it in a glass mortar in duple its wait [weight] of pure watter add to this solution 10 drops of nitric acid this is the Ink in another glass vessel dissolve a drachm of salt tarter in 7½ oz of water this is usually named the liquid Pounce with which the linin is wet Previously to the application of the Ink.

---

Receipt for graining

take white zink and mix it with vinegar<sup>8</sup>

---

Commenced Reading Medicine at Fathers on the old farm 3½  
Miles wes [west] of Bellville<sup>9</sup>

<sup>7</sup> Above the date of this entry, Mr. Johnson wrote the words "to mark linin." He no doubt intended his heading to read "Receipt for making ink to mark linen," but inadvertently omitted the main words. The text of the entry bears out this inference.

<sup>8</sup> A poem of four short stanzas, "Departed Friends," follows this "Receipt for graining." The date is December 24, 1858. Under the same date, there is a second poem with the simple title, "Marion," which should have been "Marian." The three stanzas reveal a germinating love that was unrequited. The third line of the first stanza seems to mean "Come and kiss the [thee] Marion's rose."

"Spirit of the Summer breeze  
Wherefore Sleepest though [thou] in the trees  
Come and kiss the marions rose  
That on marions boosom blows

"Come and fawn about her hair  
Kiss the fringes of her eys  
Ask her why she looks so fair  
When she heedeth not my sigh

"Tell her murmuring Summer air  
That her Buty's all untrue  
Tell her she should not seam fair  
Unless she be gentle too

"Wm. H. H. Johnson"

<sup>9</sup> This brief entry, which indicates the purpose of the young cabinet-maker to turn to medicine for a career, is succeeded by two stanzas labeled "Friendship wishes." This poem is in turn followed by seven lines without rhyme or title, under date of March 23, 1858. One may guess that it was meant for a description in lighter vein of a young woman in whom there was an interest, though it was not serious:

"Extraordinary fair hair  
Forehead riseth in a round  
Eye brows black and hair thin  
Little distance between the eye brows  
Eyes nether too little nor too big inclined to black  
A picked [piqued] chin reasonably full of flesh  
A face of hansom propotion rather inclined to fat."



Bellville Indiana  
receipt

Jan. 12, 1857

to remove White spots from varnished furniture

White spots on varnished furniture may be removed by rubbing them with a warm flannel [cloth] dipped in equal parts of Spirits of turpentine and Sweet Oil

---

Commenced to work for Bland the 13th of october [1857?]

---

Receipt for making Ink

take one oz ounce of Prussian Blue  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce oxalic Acid 4 quarts of rain water Put the above mentioned articles in the water Cold and shake it up well before use

---

To Make Red [Red] Ink

take three pints of stale beer rather than vinegar and four ounces of ground Brazill wood simmer them together for an hour dissolve half an ounce of gum arabic in it then strain it through a flannel [cloth] and bottle it up (well stopped) for use. to prevent ink from freezing put a glass of brandy into it and to prevent it from turning mouldy put a little salt in it<sup>10</sup>

---

<sup>10</sup> The heading for another entry followed, "Tincture of Cantharides," but the entry was never made.



(7 o'clock night)

Belville February the 14<sup>th</sup> 1838

Dear sir

I reached home at 6 o'clock safe, sound and well though but my feelings are not very pleasant at this time 1<sup>st</sup> unpleasent because I have to ride again to night and 2<sup>nd</sup> because I am extremely mad. Just before I got home this evening all three of the Johnson boys joined my brother (Ridson) for the purpose of whipping him. No other person being present they had a fair chance tho they did not hurt him much.

If I understand correctly he boxed them all out and run two of them. I am too much agitated to ask the particulars of this assault.

I have kept always out of fights but I am now in one. The Johnsons have to be whiped and badly whiped and every man that takes their part in this matter. I am willing to take them all in a bunch and the old woman throwed in.

I send you your money in this letter

I am with respect yours &c

S. G. Moore



Mary Tanner Gilmore Jelf  
Belleville's Refugee of The War of 1812

This is one of many interesting stories connected with Belleville residents. This Mary Tanner Gilmore Jelf was a great grandmother of the late nationally known William Gilmer Bray, United States Congressman from Indiana and retired Colonel of United States Army.

Mary Tanner was born October 10, 1798 and was living in the vicinity of Detroit when General Hull surrendered to the British during the War of 1812. Mary was rescued by a French fur trader and was presumed to be the sole survivor of her whole family.

Some years later Mary Tanner was in Johnson County, Indiana, where she married William Gilmore. They lived near Bargersville for a while before coming to Belleville where the name appears to be "Gilmer" rather than "Gilmore".

Hendricks County Voting Records show that William Gilmer voted in Belleville April 7 and August 4 in 1834 also in April and August 1835 and August 1, 1836.

William Gilmer engaged in some kind of construction work, possibly bridge building, until his death (date unknown). The widow Mary and daughter Lucy Jane Gilmer remained in Belleville.

Lucy Jane Gilmer married Edward W. Bray, November 5, 1840, in Belleville. Edward W. and Lucy Jane Bray were grandparents of U.S. Congressman William Gilmer Bray. William G. Bray was a retired Colonel of the United States Army. He died June 4, 1977.

Mary Tanner Gilmer married Joel Jelf of Belleville, December 22, 1845. The ceremony was performed by the widely known Presbyterian Minister, Rev Samuel Mitchell. Mary Tanner Gilmer Jelf remained a staunch Methodist and when she died April 30, 1876, she was buried in the Methodist Cemetery at the Salem Meeting House four miles south and east of Belleville.

The Honorable William G. Bray supplied this information.

Ruth Mitchell Pritchard

William Gilmore purchased lots one and two in square 15 from Levi Jelf 1934, for \$25 Book 3 page 255 in the town of Belleville December

William Gilmore purchased lot #8 in square #6, Belleville from Adolph Harris May 4, 1833 for \$40.00 Book 2 page 492



# 20th Century Explorers Rediscover Importance Of Hawaiian Islands

## Captain Cook Arrives In Hawaii

At dawn Sunday, Jan. 18, 1778, two worlds came together for the first time when English sailors from His Majesty's Ships Resolution and Discovery under the command of Captain James Cook sighted two high islands.

The islands sighted are believed to be those of an extensive but hitherto unknown chain of high volcanic islands located in the middle of the Pacific and called by their inhabitants "Hawaii."

That headline and "story" on the front page of the Honolulu Advertiser greeted my wife and me on the morning of Jan. 18, 1978 — 200 years to the day after the great explorer's historic discovery.

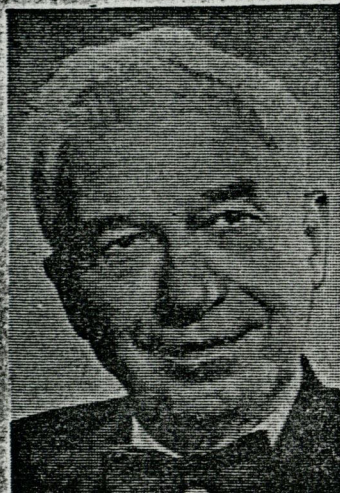
Unlike Captain Cook, Mrs. Bray and I could claim no unusual discoveries on our latest trip to Hawaii. But, like the seagoing hero, we were still engaged in bringing worlds together — the Occident and the Orient, the practical West and the mysterious East, worlds that since Cook's voyage have mingled on those vital mid-Pacific islands.

As participants in the first seminar in an annual series on "Pacific Prospects in Global Perspectives," we were to learn just how vital Hawaii is, both to the United States and to the world. Our stay at the Center for Cultural and Technical Exchange Between East and West was to impress upon us Hawaii's importance not only as a strategic location and a treasure chest of resources, but as a junction — a true melting pot where Americans and Asians mingle and discover each other's worlds.

FOR HAWAII HAS stood to the peoples of the Pacific and Asia as a beacon of friendship and concern from the United States. Since it became the 50th state in 1959, it has helped unite us to the isles and shores touched by the vast Pacific, which contains 45 percent of all the waters of the Earth. It has brought their strong peoples, their interests and problems to America.

We have learned much and have much more to learn in this great melting pot of the races. If there is any place that can bring men together in peace and cooperation, it should be in Hawaii.

The seminar in which Mrs. Bray and I participated is an example of the East-West Center's — and all of Hawaii's — role as a catalyst in bringing together the best of the cultures of the great Pacific.



WILLIAM G. BRAY

Representatives, most of them present or former legislators, from 10 countries — Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Australia, New Zealand, Indonesia, Papua-New Guinea, Singapore, Western Samoa and the U.S. — gathered with the center's multinational staff.

WE DISCUSSED such subjects as communications for developing nations and for aiding international understanding; cultural identity and expression; environmental issues, stressing the interdependence of environmental systems, and resources and inequities in their distribution and consumption.

The panel discussions fostered free and enlightened exchanges of points of view, experiences and suggestions — all remarkably practical and "down to earth" — in an atmosphere of respect for each others' opinions, entirely free of bitterness.

Such exchanges are invaluable if the United States is to maintain the key role it has accepted in the Pacific. And I couldn't help but marvel at how far America's understanding of that vast area has progressed since my boyhood, when tales of romance and mystery, illustrated by sketches of the imaginary "wild man from Borneo," made up the bulk of my knowledge of the area.

THE UNITED STATES has been involved with Hawaii for more than a century. As a developing sea power, America sent trading and whaling ships across the waters of the Pacific throughout the 1800s, culminating in the annexa-

(This article was written by William G. Bray, a former Republican congressman from Indiana. Bray, who served in the Pacific in World War II and helped establish the U.S. military government in Korea, has traveled extensively and written often on world affairs.)

tion of Hawaii in 1898. In those days when sea travel far eclipsed land journeys for speed, California gold miners — the original '49ers — found it easier to send their children to the Punaho School in Honolulu than to East Coast schools for their education.

But the average American wasn't too concerned about Hawaii until Dec. 7, 1941 — the day the Japanese Navy attacked Pearl Harbor. And my interest in the Pacific took a much more practical turn nine days later, when the battalion in which I was a tank company commander was ordered from Fort Benning, Ga., to Manila in the Philippines. We arrived in Hawaii Jan. 7, 1942, and at that time could go no further.

Throughout four years of war, our American youth passed through Hawaii on their way to those many far-flung Pacific islands. Names like Bataan, Corregidor, Wake, Midway, Guam, Tarawa, Iwo Jima, Bougainville and Kwajalein became household words in the United States. American soldiers and marines fought all over the Pacific, from the rugged mountains of New Guinea to the malaria-infested jungles of Guadalcanal.

HAWAII PERFORMED bravely and well for America in those years. Although many Hawaiians then were of Japanese descent, not a single instance of disloyalty to the United States in that time has been established. An entire regiment was recruited from Hawaii and sent to fight in Italy, where those soldiers — many of Japanese extraction — received a higher percentage of decorations for valor than any other regiment in the U.S. Army.

America's ignorance of the Pacific showed in many ways throughout the war. My battalion was part of the force ordered in January, 1944, to take the Marshall Islands with Kwajalein atoll as our goal. I was amazed to learn that the U.S. Navy had to use old New England whaling charts of the 1840s to guide our transports safely through the atoll.

Coming out of the war, the United States could no longer afford to overlook

the Pacific. We were three of the great Pacific the Mariannas (where U.S. possession since 18 and the Carolines — ex than a million square sea. We have fought Korea and Vietnam. Japan change from a a valued ally.

The United States do continue to have a close interest in the Pacific Hawaii's heterogeneous Orientals. Polynesians we have the ideal situa training and research much-needed understa and mutual good for Pacific.

IN JULY, 1942, three relieved from active m my family on a trip beautiful island of H clouds of war. We we National Cemetery of opened in Honolulu's P an ancient volcano co vegetation and colorful wild beauty that defies

Ernie Pyle, the fan reporter who was ki Pacific island of Ie SH at the National Cemet had known Ernie at I and a Hoosier publish friend of Ernie Pyle him my impressions c wrote.

The echo of the l Pyle died in Punch B of Sacrifice of the an great calm seemed to resting place and the t to give a silent be done" to the thousa that great Pacific Wa

Back of Punch Bow ally swirling clouds Mountains. Ahead lay the limitless expanse That same Pacific wa that little island far Shima, where Ernie bullet, and at the san ocean washes sho that he held so far

So it is altogether should rest here in th of humanity where t color or creed and a nized for what he is w



William Gilmer Bray died June 4, 1979.  
C.1 Sunday March 5 1978

THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

# 18th Century Explorers Rediscover Importance Of Hawaiian Islands

## Cook Arrives In Hawaii

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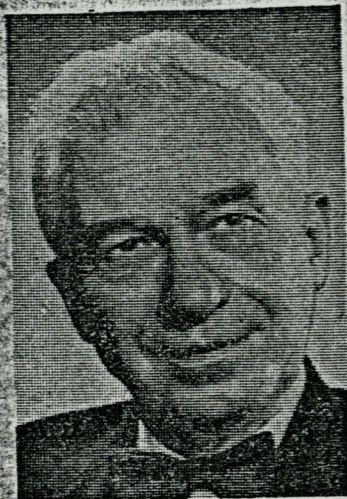
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ts in the first seminar in on "Pacific Prospects in ives," we were to learn Hawaii is, both to the d to the world. Our stay r Cultural and Technical en East and West was to Hawaii's importance not ic location and a treas- ource, but as a junction ng pot where Americans gle and discover each

I HAS stood to the peo- fic and Asia as a beacon d concern from the Un- e it became the 50th state elped unite us to the isles ed by the vast Pacific, 6 percent of all the wa- th. It has brought their their interests and prob-

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Coming out of the war, the United States could no longer afford to overlook

the Pacific. We were named trustees of three of the great Pacific island chains — the Mariannas (where Guam had been a U.S. possession since 1898), the Marshalls and the Carolines — extending over more than a million square miles of land and sea. We have fought two Asian wars in Korea and Vietnam. We have helped Japan change from a wartime enemy to a valued ally.

The United States does have and must continue to have a close and progressing interest in the Pacific and Asia. And in Hawaii's heterogeneous population of Orientals, Polynesians and Occidentals, we have the ideal situation for the study, training and research that can build the much-needed understanding, cooperation and mutual good for all in the vast Pacific.

IN JULY, 1949, three years after I was relieved from active military duty, I took my family on a trip to observe the beautiful island of Hawaii without the clouds of war. We were there when the National Cemetery of the Pacific was opened in Honolulu's Punch Bowl Crater, an ancient volcano cone where tropical vegetation and colorful flowers produce a wild beauty that defies description.

Ernie Pyle, the famous World War II reporter who was killed on the small Pacific island of Ie Shima, was reburied at the National Cemetery's dedication. I had known Ernie at Indiana University, and a Hoosier publisher who was a close friend of Ernie Pyle asked me to send him my impressions of the ceremony. I wrote:

The echo of the last taps for Ernie Pyle died in Punch Bowl Crater, the Hill of Sacrifice of the ancient Polynesians. A great calm seemed to envelop this sacred resting place and the trade winds seemed to give a silent benediction of "well done" to the thousand who had died in that great Pacific War.

Back of Punch Bowl were the continu- ally swirling clouds over the Koolou Mountains. Ahead lay Diamond Head and the limitless expanse of the calm Pacific. That same Pacific washes the shores of that little island far to the west, Ie Shima, where Ernie died of a sniper's bullet, and at the same time that same ocean washes the shores of the homeland that he held so dear.

So it is altogether appropriate that he should rest here in this great melting pot of humanity where there is no race or color or creed and a man can be recog- nized for what he is worth.



## Belleville Masonic Lodge

The Masonic Lodge was organized in the old Academy Building in 1847. The first officers were: Joseph Herron, Wilford J. Ungles, Joseph Lawhead, J. W. Hardin and D. E. Carter. The Masons bought the A. O. O. F. Lodge Hall when the Odd Fellows moved to Clayton. In 1915 the Masons moved to their new hall in Cartersburg.

## Belleville A. O. O. F.

This lodge was organized in 1859 by John Gilleland, Dr. Leray H. Kennedy, James T. McCurdy, J. S. Reagan and Dr. Risdon Charles Moore. About 1893 they built a hall on lot seven in block 7. They purchased this ground from Stephen R. Mays. When they moved to Clayton the property was sold to the Masons. About 1915 Andrew C. Stout and Banker Kelley bought the building and moved it to the east edge of Belleville. Years later Gordon Ross remodeled it into a dwelling.

One of the many meetings held in Belleville was a Theological Debate about 1842. This was reported by Col. Ariel Draper and printed in an Indianapolis paper.

The Indiana Constitutional Convention of 1851 provided for free public libraries — one in each Township to average about three hundred volumes each. The Liberty Township Library was housed in the store of W. C. Banta, a dealer in groceries and general produce. In 1868 Mr. Banta was paid \$25.00 by the trustee, John Harrison, for keeping the library.



## Belleville Gravel Road Co.

Belleville Gravel Road extended from Springhill to cross roads two miles west of Belleville near residence of Robert Pearson.

Stock \$ 4000. 160 shares at \$25 each  
March 23 1864

### Subscribers

1. Jesse Faulkner, Belleville
2. John Miller, Belleville
3. Enoch Lindley, Belleville
4. Isaac Chew, Belleville
5. Henry W. White, Belleville
6. Thomas W. Davis, Belleville
7. J. J. Hamrick, Belleville
8. Isaac O. Riley, Cartersburg
9. Homer J. Berger, Belleville
10. William Carmichael, Belleville
11. John O. Kennedy, Belleville
- 12. Joel Jelf, Belleville
13. John G. Cantley, Belleville
- 14. Mary Jelf, Belleville
15. Robert Bono, Belleville
16. Joseph Scott, Belleville
17. Samuel Little, Plainfield
18. James N. Pope, Belleville
19. Jesse Hockett, Plainfield
20. William J. Cox, Belleville
21. J. W. Davis, Belleville
22. Joseph Winson (Winsted)? Belleville
23. Judiah Hussey, Belleville
24. L. C. Moore (Dr. Risdon C. Moore) Belleville
25. William Turner, Belleville



# Belleville Gravel Road - Page 2.

26. I. W. Jackson - Belleville
27. Jacob Kennedy, Plainfield
28. Cyrus Hunt, Belleville
29. C. W. Hunt, Belleville
30. John Miles, Belleville
31. Robert Pearson, Belleville
32. Jimmie M. Cook, Belleville
33. H. Cook, Belleville
34. J. G. Wilson, Belleville
35. John Bohanan, Belleville
36. Mafinmillion White, Belleville
37. Milton Cook, Belleville
38. Elongo Hunt, Belleville
39. Thomas J. Kirtley, Belleville
40. Samuels Mills, Belleville
41. William R. Rushton Belleville
42. Young Short, Belleville
43. Edward Crawford, Belleville
44. Alpheus Townsend, Belleville
45. Samuel Lotshar, Belleville
46. Allen Jackson, Belleville
47. William H. Hussey, Clayton
48. Leroy H. Kennedy, Belleville
49. George Hammond, Belleville

The National Road was maintained in this way for a number of years. Men hauled gravel from the west branch of White Lick to surface this section of the National Road. There was a toll gate at each end of this section and one at the east end of Belleville

The Danville Union April 10, 1879 -  
Belleville in. - There were a number of applications for toll-keeper. Mr. James Winstead retains this position.



Belleville 1865

Leroy H. Kennedy, Physician and Surgeon

Risdon Charles Moore, Physician and Surgeon

Jno. Kennedy & Co., Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries etc.

William Carmichael, Dealer in Dry and Fancy Goods

<sup>HOTMET</sup>  
H. F. Burger, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries etc.

W. C. Banta, Dealer in Groceries & General Produce

A. Bland, Cabinet Maker & Wheelwright

J. A. Doan, Cabinet Maker

L. G. Wilson, Carriage Maker & Proprietor Union Hotel

H. J. Swindler, Proprietor Steam Grist Mill

John Miller, Proprietor of Tannery

Cyrus Hunt, Resident Farmer

J. H. Davis, Resident Farmer

Baptist Church — lots 8 + 9, block 14

Christian Church NE corner lot 6, block 5

Methodist Episcopal Church lots 5 + 6 block 3

Academy



Belleville Ind  
Apr. 4<sup>th</sup> 1865

Mr Geo. Allen

Dear Bro

I just have word  
from bro Hill that our quarterly-  
meeting will be on the 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>  
instead of on the 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>. You will  
please give notice at Wesley-Chapel  
next Sunday. There will be a good op-  
portunity of spreading the report so  
as all may know it in time, as Bro  
Goldman is to preach for you at  
that time.

Please don't fail to get the notice  
to W-C by next Sunday morning.

I want to see you at quarterly  
meeting.

Your Brother in Christ

Luther W. Walters

The Brother Goldman was  
Rev. Henry D. Goldman from the  
Springtown Methodist Church.



H.P.

As the quarterly-meeting comes  
on your preaching day, announce  
that there will not be preaching  
till 3 weeks later. — at that time I am  
to preach Frank Orwins Childs Funeral

It was announced that I would  
preach Tho<sup>s</sup> Rustons funeral at Salem  
on the 23<sup>d</sup> that will be put off 3  
<sup>later which will be on the 14<sup>th</sup> of May</sup>  
weeks. Have that announcement  
made at your church.

Yours

L.H.W.

The Salem Methodist Church and  
the Wesley Chapel Methodist Church were  
on the Belleville circuit and served  
by the same pastor.

Postpone a funeral?



## Belleville Churches

The church was an early institution in any frontier community. Just so the Church and its influence was a directing force in Belleville for much over a century. The last two or three decades, however, sports and pleasure have effected a change in attitude toward the Church.

The first church in Belleville was the Regular (Primitive) Baptist. The congregation had been constituted at the home of Elder William Pope in March 1824, where they had begun meeting in 1823. This church occupied lots eight and nine in block fourteen in Belleville in 1831. Charles Vertrees, William I. Matlock and Archibald McMichael were early trustees. Loss of several members to the new church in Clayton in 1854, caused a decline and the Belleville Baptist church was defunct in 1874. It was torn down by 1885.

The Methodist Episcopal church acquired property from Philip May, November 12, 1835, for \$25. This was the north half of lots five and six in block three in Belleville. William Naylor, James McClure and Joseph Bishop were the first trustees. The Methodists bought property adjoining the church on the south, April 22, 1837. This was their first parsonage. Their second parsonage was on the south side of Cumberland street on lot one in block ten. Rev. Dayton Harvey was the first pastor to live there in 1886. This second parsonage was the scene of the widely publicised murder of Thurza Oyler Henshaw, January 10, 1896.

The Christian church was organized in Belleville about 1839 and the meeting house erected on lot two block five in the Cooper addition. An early wedding there was that of John Miles and Elizabeth Hollingsworth, April 5, 1840. This congregation was active for approximately fifty years. Fate of the building is unknown. It seems



to have been gone by 1900. Deed record book # 153 pages 527 and 528 names Charles Lowshue as grantee and the Belleville Christian Church by Indiana Christian Missionary Association agent the grantor in deed record book # 154 page 109.

Another Baptist group began meeting in Belleville about 19 and later bought lots ten, eleven and twelve in block ten. The first name chosen was Belleville Baptist Temple. For a short time they called themselves First Baptist Church of Belleville and now is known as Belleville Bible Baptist Church.

A congregation of Bible Believers organized in December 1969. They chose the name of Belleville Bible Church. They held services in the Belleville Fire Station, then in private homes before they purchased the Salem meeting House south east of Belleville from South Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church in September 1977.

The newest church in Belleville is the Church of Christ. They met at the Paul Thomas home 10-2-1977 eight months. On June 1 1978 they occupied the building which they purchased from Karl Kehrein, Jr. These lots are in block 6 facing W. S. 40.

More about the Christian Church.

Elder Samuel Rogers, a Disciple of Christ Evangelist, was passing from Ohio through Indiana to Missouri on a Missionary Tour about 1839-1840. In his autobiography he wrote of passing through Indianapolis and going on to Belleville. Here, in concert with his dear friend Brother Lockhart who resided at Belleville, he conducted a meeting which lasted several days. This Brother Lockhart was Elder Thomas Lockhart who helped start all the Christian churches in Hendricks County except two.



T. 16 N.

*J. C o p e*

7A.

S. L.  
L o l s h a r.  
425A.

6A.

*R. C. Moore.*

6.35A.

Н. Н о л д е р м а н

(5)

1.80

0 u t L o t s <sup>(3)</sup>

(4)

2.53

(2)

(7)

120

2.40

NORTH

R. C. M.  
37

ARKET

COOPER

DD.

ORIGINAL

6 5 4 3 2  
M O R G A N T O W N  
7 8 9 10

Church of Christ 1978

5 4 3  
NAYLOR'S

7 ADD

- Present Baptist Church

T. E. Hamrick

Res.

CUMBERLAND

School  
No 6

10

SOUTH

CHURCH  
(8)

(8)

(7)

$C|.$   $E.$

$F_e r$   $r$   $e$   $e$   
 $2.50 A.$   
 $Out\ In\ots^{(10)}$

2.90

240

370A

# BELLVILLE.

*Scale 24 Rods to 1 Inch*

Belleville Churches



## Schools in Belleville

The first school building in Belleville was a log structure which was soon replaced by a frame school house of unknown dimensions. It was however large enough to accommodate the common branches and an academy (The Belleville Masonic Lodge was organized in the frame academy building in 1847.) This location was lot 3 in block 15. about 1830.



*See back page*

## BELLEVILLE ACADEMY

About the first thing that engaged the thought of the primitive Hoosier, after he had felled the forests around his cabin, and scared the wolf and bear from his door, was the education of his children. With his full share of that noble trait of American character, self-sacrificing devotion to posterity, he set about to build a shelter wherein the spiritual nature of his child might keep apace with the muscular hardihood acquired in clearing, improving and cultivating the virgin fields of our State.

The primitive Hoosier school-house with its gaping fire-place, stick-and mud chimney, puncheon floor and seats, greased paper windows, bunch of beech switches, and all of the paraphernalia that went to make up the school organism of early days, was, doubtless, not the most inviting place for the spiritual development of the child, yet it was the best the times afforded; it was as good in its way as this splendid building is at this time, the best under the circumstances.

Away back in the '30s or '40s the good Hoosier fathers of this community began war upon the strongholds of ignorance by erecting a fortress of learning like the one described above; later this log house was supplanted by a frame building which stood in the southeast part of this town, about a square east and a few rods north of W. C..

Swindler's saw mill; When the Academy was built, this frame building was moved to Cartersburg, and now stands in the northeast part of that place--just as you go down the hill toward the bridge.

Early in the '50s--'51 or '52, perhaps--the question of building and maintaining an Academy agitated the minds of the people of Belleville and vicinity, and through the earnest efforts of a number of public-spirited men, such as Dr. L. H. Kennedy, John Miles, Thomas Irons, James Hadley, Dr. R. C. Moore and others, a stock company was formed. This was entirely a private enterprise, as there was no law at that time for building and maintaining a public school. The entire capital of the association was to be \$5,000. a single share \$25.. The articles of association were written by a lawyer of Danville named, Witherow. Through the earnest and persistent efforts of Dr. L. H. Kennedy, now of Danville, enough shares were subscribed to make the erection of a building sure.



One of the largest stockholders in the association was John Miles who subscribed 12 shares of \$300. Early in 1853 the work on the new building was begun, and on the night of July 23, 1853, the structure was dedicated by Gov. Joseph Wright with all the ceremony incident to such occasions. But school did not open in the new building for four months after its completion.

A few days before the dedication, a young Kentuckian named L. M. Campbell, who had come to Indiana to seek his fortune and his fame, opened a school in the frame schoolhouse, mentioned above. This school continued under Mr. Campbell until November following when a partnership was formed with Prof. J. R. Woodfill of Ripley Co. Indiana, by which Messrs. Woodfill and Campbell were to conduct a school and each have equal responsibilities and equal profits. So on the 21st of November, 1853, Mr. Campbell marched his entire school from the old frame to the new brick building and with Mr. Woodfill began the first term that was ever taught in the Old Academy.

After teaching eight days, Mr. Woodfill had to return to Ripley County on account of sickness in his family, and the responsibility of the entire school rested on Mr. Campbell, then a youth of twenty years. With that energy and self-reliance that rides over difficulties, young Campbell put himself to the task, held the school intact for a number of weeks--though the number of pupils was constantly increasing--and on the return of Woodfill the term of three months was finished, after which Mr. Campbell repaired to Danville and hung out his shingle as a lawyer.

Prof. Woodfill again had charge of the school in 1854, assisted by a Mr. Reece and Capt. W. C. Mitchell, of Clayton. The attendance was constantly increasing, the enrollment having reached nearly 200, 40 or 50 of whom were from other parts of the county and state. The course of study widened also. Latin, Greek, ancient, medieval and modern history, higher arithmetic, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, philosophy and chemistry were all taught, besides the common branches.

In 1855 or '56 the school was in charge of Messrs. Bassett and Davis, and still maintained its reputation.

From '56 to '58 Mr. Davis and Samuel Banta, a brother of Mrs. Dr. Moore, conducted the school and carried a heavy course of study.

Mr. Bonney, now a Baptist minister of Plainfield, assisted by Miss Allie Banta, now Mrs. Moore, had charge of the School, and was followed in 1860 by J. N. Scearce, afterwards county examiner and editor of the Hendricks County Union. Nathan Scearce, now of Danville,



had charge in 1861.

But already the mutterings of war were heard in the land. John Brown, that forerunner and pioneer of one of the greatest reformatations that has occurred in the last eighteen hundred years, together with his 21 companions, had been murdered in Virginia. The torch that was soon to touch the first gun that was fired on Fort Sumpter was already in traitor hands.

Secret plots for the destruction of the Union were rife. The life of "Honest Abe" who held "malice toward none, and charity for all," was threatened.

With this condition of affairs the school waned. The integrity of the Union and the honor of the flag must be maintained. Many a noble youth who might have made his mark in the field of science or letters, turned from his study table and offered up his life on the field of battle. He changed the student's coat for the soldier's suit of blue. He turned from the flickering flame of the student's lamp to the red glare of the campfire and the cannon. He turned from his assaults upon the strongholds of ignorance to an assault upon the fortresses of slavery. The lessons of patriotism and loyalty which had been inculcated into the minds of the students of the dear old Academy during the decade preceding were now turned to good account. The school waned--but slavery died.

The school was in charge of Oliver Lindley in 1862. And in 1864 Edw. Lotshar, son of our respected townsman, Samuel Lotshar, had control. Ed Lotshar was afterward a prominent business man in Cincinnati, and is now deceased.

Prof. A. J. Johnson, the son of Mr. Johnson who lives about a mile and a half north of here, was principal from '65 to '67. Prof. Johnson was afterwards county examiner, and is now, I believe, superintendent of the schools of Milton, Ind. The school has never had a more faithful and thorough teacher than Prof. Johnson. W. C. Banta was principal in 1867, followed by J. H. Orear in '68 and J. A. Thomas in '69.

Prof. Boisen and Brovard had control in 1870. Prof. Boisen had been an instructor in Harvard University, and Prof. Brovard is now president of the State University of California.

Mr. William Short, now a prominent farmer and stockman near Webster City, Iowa, was principal from 1872 to 1874. Mr. Short was one of the best disciplinarians the school ever had, and he was re-



spected for this and his thorough instruction. Many of the men of the present day will vouch for Mr. Short's ability to handle large boys.

In '74 and '75 Miss Rachel Holten, afterward wife of Alfred Hadley, was principal, followed by a Mr. Weaver in '75 and '76 and Dr. Thompson of Monrovia, Ind. in '76 and '77.

One of the best thinkers that was ever in the school was James R. Ragan, a graduate of the State Normal School and afterwards principal of the Richmond Normal School. Mr. Ragan served in 1877 and again in 1879. He is now a lumber dealer in Nebraska.

Mr. A. E. Rogers was principal in 1878. Mr. Rogers has since served in this county two terms as county superintendent, and is now a teacher in the Clayton schools.

Robert A. Bayne, at present superintendent of the schools at Hoopston, Ill. had charge from 1880 to 1882. Mr. Bayne's ability as an instructor and his courteous manner added much to the usefulness and attractiveness of the school.

Mr. Bayne was followed by G. W. Brill a lawyer now of Danville and once deputy prosecutor of Hendricks County.

Next came G. W. Peyton in 1883. Mr. Peyton is now in the insurance business in Indianapolis.

The writer of this paper has had charge of the school since 1883, except one year 1887, during which W. J. Shirley, now deceased, was principal. The writer also served as assistant to Mr. Peyton in 1883, and taught a select school in the spring of 1884.

We have now traced a line of the teachers of the school, with its periods of prosperity and adversity, but we have almost neglected the dear old building. But there it stands, ever fresh in our memories; there it stands with its honest front, its wide, glaring windows, its large, airy, inconvenient rooms, the sheltering place of many a noble thought, lesson, and principle; there it stands with its moss-grown, tottering walls, cracked and decayed, still clinging together as if loath to give up the conflict. Well and good had it done its work; tenderly, piece by piece, the old shell was taken down during the bright days of early summer and laid quietly away. The fittest eulogy that can be pronounced upon it is, that during the frosts and storms of nearly a half century, it was the sheltering place of hundreds of young men and young women, who went forth from its portals, equipped and sustained by their educational course.



quicken and energized by that spiritual strength that fitted them to face the stern realities of life.

Ere I close one thing must not be forgotten. In yonder belfry hangs the old bell, bought nearly fifty years ago by the ladies of this town and vicinity with the proceeds of a festival given by them on the night of the dedication of the Academy building.

Year after year it cleared its rusty throat and sent forth its glad chimes through frost and snow, rain and sunshine, to call the youth together in the old building. Soon again it will begin to work for this new structure.

I have somewhere seen the statement that the vibrations emanating from a sounding body never cease moving, but go on and on, farther and farther, widening and widening, forever. May the influences, lessons and principles given in this new building be like the chimes of the old bell, not stop with our own community, but go on and on, out into the furthestmost parts of the earth, doing good wherever they go.

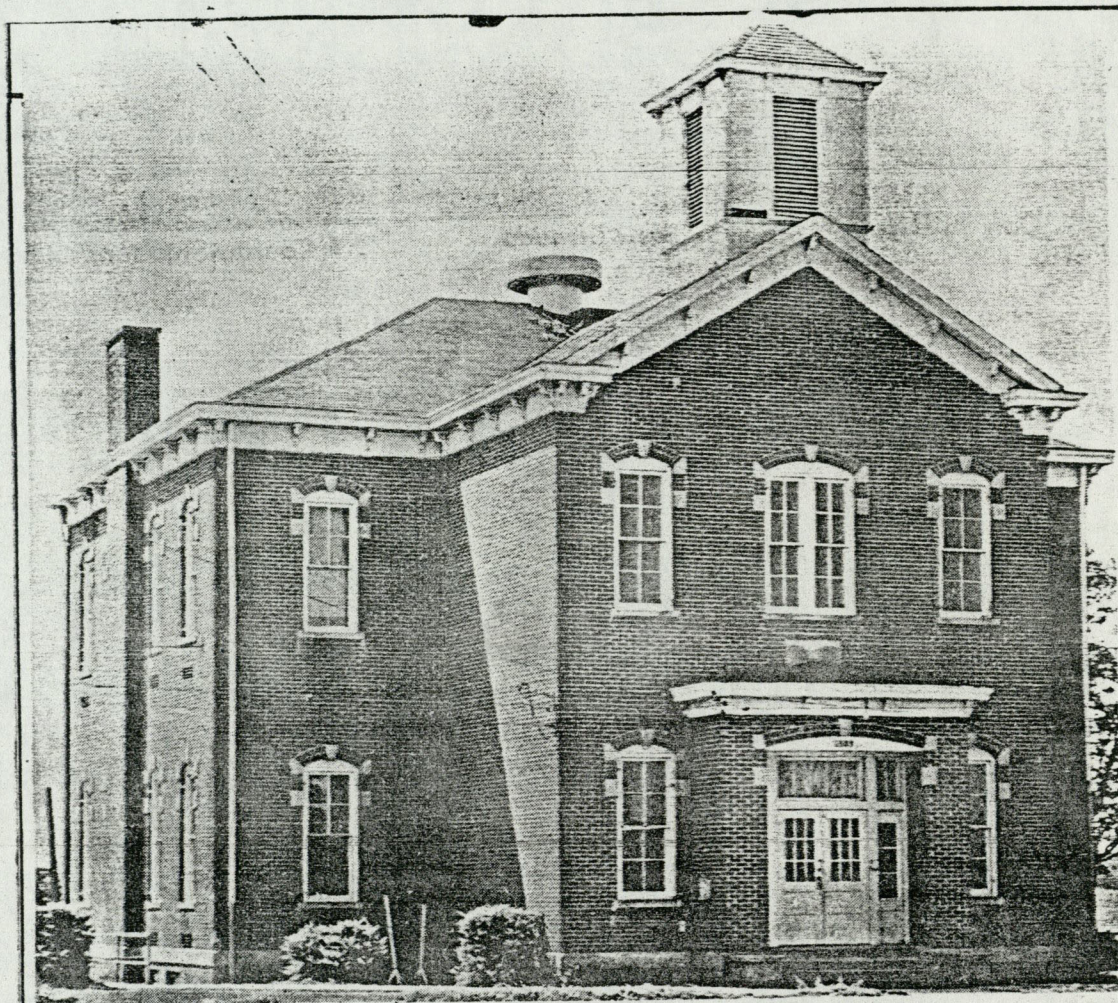
The old building lived a life of usefulness; may the completion of this new one, so economically and substantially built, usher in an era of better thoughts, then with Holmes we can say:

"Build thee more, stately manions, oh my soul,  
As the swift seasons roll!  
Leave thy low-vaulted past,  
Let each new temple, nobler than the last  
Shut thee from Heaven with a dome more vast,  
Till thou at length art free,  
Leaving thine outgrown shell by life's unresting sea!"

Edward Barrett

*There was a Belleville academy before 1853  
The Masonic Lodge #65 was organized in the  
old frame building of the Belleville Academy  
in 1847.*





### RETIRING BELLEVILLE SCHOOL HOUSE 1889 - 1964

After 75 years of service this school house in Belleville is being retired with the expansion of the Mill Creek School Corporation. Having once housed a high school, junior high and all eight elementary grades, the two story brick building is being replaced as the new Cascade High School will leave the old Amo, Stilesville and Clayton high school buildings left for the lower grades.

1964 Plainfield Messenger



*A good description of Belleville about 1833*

JOHN IRONS, FIFTH COUNTY CLERK, TELLS HIS STORY

Danville, Indiana  
May 16, 1864

Dr. Levi Ritter

Dear Sir. Two years ago, I made you a promise that I would write out a short biography of my life to accompany a likeness you had taken of me to frame as a memento of the fifth clerk of Hendricks County.

I was born in the county of Washington in the State of Indiana on the fifth day of August 1819 A.D., of parents who were poor in all things, save health, morality and resolution. Soon after my birth my family moved into Lawrence county where it remained two years and then removed into Morgan county where we lived amid chills and fevers, near the mouth of Stott's Creek, four years when growing weary of ill health we for the last time removed into this county. Consequently I can safely put my self down among the first settlers.

The summer I became ten years old found me down with Rheumatic Fever from the effects of which I have never recovered; although in the course of two years I had so improved in health as to be able to share the toils and sports of other boys of like age. At the age of fourteen I was placed by my father in the little dry goods shop just started in Belleville by Alfred M. Lyon and William T. Matlock, where I was initiated into the art of and mysteries of measuring prints and tying up coffee. And here for the benefit of the present and future posterity among fashionable females, let me state that at that time it took  $6 \frac{1}{2}$  yds of  $\frac{7}{8}$ th print to make a common woman's dress and 7 yards for those who went the tip of the Beau Monde in and around Belleville. With the firm of Lyon and Matlock I remained six months at a cost to it of my board and a palm leaf hat worth then about  $37 \frac{1}{2}$  cents.

The winter following I went to school and learned about all there was in Pike's Arithmetic under the tuition of James S. Odell then a young country school master but now an old man and a denizen of Plainfield with three sons in the 7th Ind. now "on to Richmond".

On leaving school I went into the store of Wilford J. Ungles who was also a merchant of Belleville with whom I remained six months when I had to leave and go home on account of a second attack of Rheumatism. This lasted from August when I again entered Mr. Ungles' store where I remained until the next May when I went to keep accounts for my father and John Miles who had on their hands a heavy job of work on the cross cut canal at the mouth of Birch Creek in Clay County. I returned home in July and in a month again took to crutches on account of the great plague of my life but on the approach of cold weather I threw aside my crutches and for the third and last time went into the store of Mr. Ungles where I remained until the next summer when I again went home with the Rheumatism. Like the other, this spell lasted until November when I recovered sufficiently to go into Banta & Matlock's store, who had commenced business in Belleville the spring before and with whom I stayed until they quit business in April 1840. The next month my father took his then new and only



son-in-law and my self in partnership with him under the name of Irons & Sons and brought a heavy stock of goods to Belleville. This firm only lived to February 1842 when owing to the uncertainties of the pork trade it went under. My father being the responsible man of the firm then took the business into his own hands and sent me as super-cargo on a small flat-boat loaded with pork to New Orleans. This, remember, was in the first half of the year '42 when the prices of labor and all kinds of agricultural products touched bottom. On reaching New Orleans I found Pork at from four to six dollars per barrel, bacon three cents and lard three and one-half cents. The bacon or rather bulk pork I had left at Natchez in the care of the pilot, Wm. Naylor, to be smoked and sold there and had only taken from Natchez the lard and barrel pork. These items I stored in a commissions house with instructions not to sell for three months but the merchants being a set of scoundrels sold before I left the city as they so reported three months afterwards and of course only paid the prices of May instead of those for September which would have made a difference of nearly 1000 dollars. That fall I called on them to see about it, but as I had failed to give my instructions in writing or before a witness it had to go so. The lesson they taught me then of the commission trade proved to be of great worth afterwards for my father kept in the pork trade for ten years and made money more or less every time save one.

In the summer of '44 I took the spell of Rheumatism which in four years doubled me into my present delightful shape of three pannels of worm fence, then anchylosed my hip joints and the joints of my back, neck and jaws and then left me in pretty fair health and with vim enough for me to run for and be elected twice as clerk of Hendricks county. The first time in 1851 and the last in 1855.

My education had been of but a limited character had I left off seeking seeking it where the commonest sort of country school teachers left-off with their tutorship. But when the school master ceased work with me, I commenced the biggest and most important portion of my education. Candles being of far too much importance in our family to read by, I studied my lessons by the light of burning chips and bark. After going to "keep store" as the country people called it, I made it a point to read every night and often, when my book proved interesting, one o'clock had found me up and reading. Among other things I made it a rule to remember the name of the book and its author and here would advise all who wish to talk intelligibly with others on books and literature to observe the same rule. Nor have I ever received as true the statement of any author whether profane or Sacred that would not stand of itself upon the closest cross examination. When a statement has neither philosophy nor reason in it the thing is not true and it is wonderful what an imense number of lies there are in books received as truths and to be again taught as truths by unthinking people.

Yours Doctor with respect.

John Irons



# Rumor Recalls 59-Year-Old Murder

*Plainfield Messenger*  
December 3 1953

## Facts Gleaned About Finding Gun Imbedded In Tree In Yard At House Where Notorious Event Occurred

A reporter for the Messenger has spent many hours during the past few days in an effort to confirm or refute a story which has been going the rounds in Plainfield. It concerns the finding of a gun imbedded in a tree, reportedly the weapon used by William E. Hinshaw, convicted of the murder of his wife, Thirza, almost 59 years ago while living in the parsonage of the Belleville church.

Convicted on circumstantial evidence, Hinshaw appealed his case to the Supreme Court, which confirmed the lower court. To this day, according to Judge John A. Kendall of the Indiana Appellate Court, that case is cited more in criminal law and points of evidence and procedure than any other in Indiana.

The facts as finally obtained are these:

A large maple shade tree was cut down in the yard at the house

(Continued on Page 8)



# Rumor Recalls 59-Year-Old Murder

infield Messenger, Thursday, December 3, 1953

## RUMOR RECALLS MURDER (Continued from Page 1)

which was the former parsonage. That is, it was cut down about five years ago by Morris Johnson, who then owned the property and resided in it.

There was a gun found imbedded in the lowest fork of the tree, which had evidently been there a long time as the tree had grown around it and a squirrel's nest had been made in a cavity above it. Much of it was rusted away but it was easy to determine that it was a revolver.

It was discovered when sawing the tree and some who learned of it were of the opinion that the murder gun had never been found and that it was, in all probability, that gun.

In an interview Tuesday Mr. Johnson, who lives in a new house a block or two away, told the reporter that he could point out a bullet hole in the lower panel of a door in the house and Mrs. Johnson said there was a stain on the floor in the bed-room, which even paint would not cover, but neither knew where the gun came from nor why a story should be started about it at this particular time.

But, the one person who perhaps remembers the Hinshaw murder case, better than any other living in Hendricks County today, is Otis E. Gulley, Danville attorney, 86 years old, who was the young Prosecuting Attorney at the time called upon to prosecute his first murder case.

Told of the gun story, Mr. Gulley said that he could definitely refute the claim that this was the murder gun. It had been introduced in evidence, made an exhibit, sent to the Supreme Court with the transcript of the case and later returned to Hinshaw's family on a petition filed with the Supreme Court following its final decision in the case.

Mr. Gulley still has in his possession the black walnut window sill cut from the woodshed on which blood stains played a major part in convicting Hinshaw. It was shown in the trial that superficial self-inflicted wounds from which he was bleeding slightly had dripped blood on the window sill as he tossed his trousers, bill fold and the gun into the yard in an attempt to back up his story that his wife had been murdered by would-be robbers.

The case was one in which the entire country was interested and metropolitan dailies even carried stories about it. It was written up not too long ago in True Detective Magazine and older residents of the county can well remember hearing stories about it in their early child-

hood.

At the time it happened Hinshaw was serving the Belleville, Cherry Grove and Salem churches and had a wide following throughout those districts. Some there are living today, who still believe him innocent; others think he got his just dues but all agree it was a case which went down in history.

A search of the records reveals many interesting things and a story from the lips of Mr. Gulley concerning his memories of the case would hold the rapt attention of old and young alike.

Taken from the record the facts are that the murder was committed January 10, 1895, Hinshaw was indicted by the grand jury May 24, 1895; the trial was held during the September Term, 1895 of the Hendricks Circuit Court and the verdict was rendered and filed October 2, 1895. J. A. McClain was foreman of the jury which brought into court the following verdict: "We, the jury, find the defendant, William E. Hinshaw, guilty of murder as charged in the indictment and recommend that he be imprisoned in the State's prison during life". David Hadley was Clerk whose file stamp was affixed thereto.

One hundred names had been drawn from which to impanel a jury and the following men were members of the jury as it was finally accepted by both sides: William Hunt, Clay township; Stephen Fowler, Union; Allen Weddle, Union; Alexander Surber, Middle; Richard L. Dillon, Middle; William Leach, Union; Coleman G. Surber, Middle; Baxter Vestal, Guilford; Jerry McClain, Washington; Alexander W. Swearingen, Guilford; Fielding Huddleston, Lincoln and C. C. Higgins, whose address did not appear of record.

John V. Hadley was presiding judge and witnesses listed on the indictment as having appeared before the Grand Jury included Dr. A. M. Strong, Dr. T. F. Dryden, Benj. Cornwell, Eva Worrell, Elisha Marker, William East, Wm. J. Cope, James Winstead, Mary East, W. C. Swindler, Thos. F. White, S. R. Mays, John Oyler, Minnie Hull, Mrs. Sarah C. Oyler, Ed Staley, J. C. Walker, Mary White, Samuel G. Campbell, Lizzie Miller, Roscoe Winstead, Ellen Miller, A. J. Staley, C. M. Callahan, Sampson Tincher, Mary Tincher, Jennie Marker, Nettie Mays, Emma Haverick, Charles Mays, Thomas Haverick, May Winstead, Mr. Hull and Dr. Wiest of Winchester. **Hamerick**

The Hon. James McCabe of the Indiana Supreme Court wrote the higher court's decision in April 1897, which appears in Vol. 147 of the Indiana Reports, a decision

which at the time, says Mr. Gulley, was reported to have been criticised because of its sarcasm and which was reported also to have been mellowed somewhat before the other judges would concur in it.

However, it stands today as history and has proved to be a decision on which many other cases have been decided. It reads like fiction and any who enjoy a good murder story might ask their lawyer friends to let them read it.

Particularly interesting, said Mr. Gulley, were many incidents in the case which did not appear in the record but which he remembers well. One, for instance, was the insistence of Hinshaw's friends that he be allowed to testify before the grand jury, the state's final consent and Hinshaw's appearance as he entered the grand jury room. He was a man of extreme ego and a flashy dresser. He came into the room garbed in a Prince Albert coat, striped trousers, a white necktie and dramatically holding his derby hat. His hair, red in color, was as slick "as a peeled onion". Looking around the room, he said "What, do you gentlemen not have a looking glass in here?" Again,

says Mr. Gulley, his friends had given him a rocking chair and he sat in the court room rocking and reading a newspaper during the time the jury was being impaneled.

Hinshaw, now dead, was paroled by Gov. Durbin, violated his parole and Gov. Durbin's last official act, was the revocation of the parole. He was returned to prison, paroled by Gov. Goodrich, and later, shortly before he died, was given an unconditional pardon by the same governor. Hinshaw was a native of Randolph County in which the then governor was also a resident.

The house, in which the murder was committed, stands on the southwest corner of Road 40 and the first street running south as you enter Belleville from the east. It has been remodeled at various times during the intervening years.



# Old Murder Clews Found In Statehouse Recall

THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR | SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1962 | SEC. 2—PAGE 7

By Edward H. Frank

A woman's nightgown and a razor-slashed red nightshirt—important evidence in one of the state's most famous murders that occurred 67 years ago—were uncovered last week in the dark and dusty Statehouse basement.

It was 1 a.m. on the snowy night of Jan. 10, 1895, when the sounds of gunshots and the cries of "murder" pierced the stillness in the village of Belleville, just west of Indianapolis in Hendricks County.

In the street lay the Rev. William E. Hinshaw, seriously wounded with 17 razor slashes and two pistol wounds in his body.

A few feet away, in the doorway of the parsonage,

was the minister's beautiful, 26-year-old wife, Thurza, dead of a bullet wound in her head.

Hinshaw claimed that his wife had been killed and he wounded by robbers, who invaded the parsonage while they were sleeping.

But others doubted Hinshaw, and subsequently the well-liked minister, with an unblemished record, was indicted for the murder of his wife.

IN NEWSPAPER lingo, the murder contained "everything"—a beautiful wife, "another woman", wealth and prominent families.

And the affect was to split the community of Belleville and neighboring Danville in-

to two outspoken groups — those stoutly asserting his innocence and those firmly convinced of his guilt.

The murder made headlines throughout the nation and Indianapolis newspapers devoted thousands of words each day from the time of the killing until the conclusion of the trial on Oct. 2, 1895.

The minister's nightshirt and his victim's nightgown were found in the musty Statehouse basement by John Healy, a clerk in the office of Mrs. Alice C. Whitecotton, clerk of the Supreme and Appellate courts.

Along with these grim reminders of the famous killing, Healy also found the

2,000-page transcript of the four-week trial, briefs, petitions and other legal documents of the case.

The nightshirt and nightgown were found stuffed inside an old filing cabinet in a windowless storage room.

The case records even contained detailed maps of Belleville and the parsonage

where Hinshaw and his wife lived.

How could Rev. Hinshaw, a former schoolteacher and member of a prominent and wealthy Randolph County family, have killed his young wife of eight years?

TO THE very end, Hinshaw claimed he didn't.

There were witnesses who said they had seen two strange men walking near the parsonage shortly before the murder.

There were neighbors who claimed Hinshaw and his wife were the "perfect" couple.

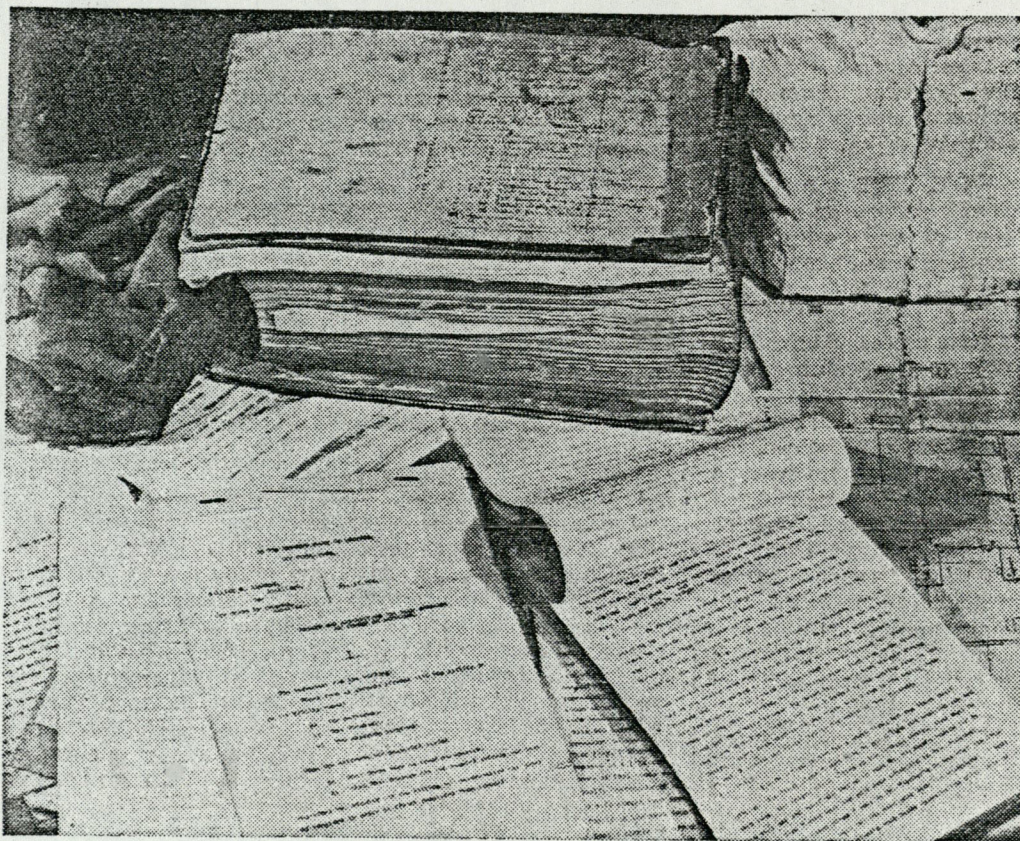
And it was pointed out, that on the night of the murder, Hinshaw had preached about the evils of murder.

A famous Indianapolis private detective, H. C. Webster, was called in on the case and Webster soon uncovered damaging evidence against the minister.

REV. HINSHAW claimed his wife was shot by the robbers as she lay sleeping in bed. She then staggered to the doorway where she died, according to the preacher.

But the evidence showed Mrs. Hinshaw was clad in undergarments, not the white nightgown that was found hanging in a closet. This was an indication that she was shot before going to bed.

The direction of the bul-



EXHIBITS AND RECORDS OF FAMOUS 1895 HINSHAW MURDER CASE  
Nightshirt And Nightgown Found In Dingy Statehouse Basement



let that entered her brain showed it would have been nearly impossible for a robber to have shot the woman if she was in bed.

But the most damaging evidence of all was the revelation that there was "another woman" in the minister's life.

The minister's alleged

mistress, a Miss Allie Ferree, had been seen emerging several times from the rear of the parsonage during the early morning hours when Mrs. Hinshaw was not in Belleville.

And the preacher had been seen going clandestinely by the back way into Miss Ferree's home on several occasions.

IN ADDITION, there was evidence to show that Rev. Hinshaw frequently would rush home from a preaching trip, leaving his wife in the town where he had preached and then returning to pick her up the next day.

When Detective Webster revealed this evidence, he was faced by a howling mob who screamed that their beloved minister could not be guilty of such immoral conduct.

But on Sept. 4, 1895, Rev. Hinshaw was brought to trial in Hendricks Circuit Court, with the state charging that the defendant had killed his wife because she had discovered his unfaithfulness and was threatening an exposure that would destroy his future.

The state claimed that Rev. Hinshaw had shot his young wife as she lay in bed, and, afterwards, placed her in the doorway. The minister's wounds were

self-inflicted, the state charged.

The case went to the jury at 2:30 on the afternoon of Oct. 2. The guilty verdict was returned exactly two hours later.

Rev. Hinshaw, then 33 years old, was convicted of second degree murder and sentenced to life imprisonment at the State Prison at Michigan City.

The Indiana Supreme Court, by a 4-0 ruling, upheld the conviction on April 2, 1897.

THE MINISTER remained

in prison, despite vigorous attempts by his family to get him paroled, until Jan. 3, 1921.

Capt. Ralph Howard, who retired from the State Corrections Department two years ago after 57 years of service, was employed at the State Prison when Hinshaw served time.

"I recall that man quite well," Capt. Howard said.

"I was born in Randolph County and worked for his brother at one time," Howard said.

HINSHAW was a model

prisoner, according to Howard. He worked in the prison hospital and also as a clerk in various prison offices, Howard said.

When the minister received his final parole in 1921, he reportedly moved out West. It is believed he died several years ago.

But the events surrounding that snowy January night 67 years ago when the cries of "murder" awoke the citizens of Belleville to a raging dispute, lingers on in Indiana crime annals.



# CASE OF THE PHILANDERING

## PREACHER

Box No. 370

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g. Height 5-10	Head width 15.5	Left Mid. F. 11.4		Periph. 2. 4. 4. 4.	Apparent Age
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ank 94.3	Right Ear 7.0	Left Forearm 46.2			Trade Minister

Remarks Incident to Measurement



DESCRIPTIVE

Incln. rec. sl.	NOSE	Profile	Ridge Recti	Ears Lge.	Beard lt. m. red	
Height m			Base ch. sl.	Root chl.	Hair "	
Width M. Bd			Height	Projection	Breadth	Teeth reg.
Peculiarity			lg	m	m	Complexion Florid
		Peculiarity		Chin. cont. reg.	Weight 180	
					Build m. heavy	

Measured at Michigan City, Indiana 190

By

THE REV. WILLIAM E. HINSHAW  
Record From Indiana Prison Files



# Comin' Back To Belleville

By GEORGE W. LONGMIRE.

Now the time of year is comin',  
And I wander back again  
To the old home town of Belleville  
To see my old friends comin' in.  
To this grand old celebration  
Where we gather once each year,  
And my steps begin to quicken  
When I see I'm gettin' near.

Now I see the smoke a curlin'  
From the chimneys among the trees,  
And I hear the birds a chirpin'  
And the hummin' of the bees  
Then my heart begins to patter  
And a weakness in my knees  
Just imagine how a feller  
Then will watch his "Q's and P's."

For I'm comin' back to Belleville  
Where I spent my boyhood days  
Though I may be somewhat older  
And been many miles away,  
And my steps are not so nimble  
And my hair is turnin' gray,  
But I'm home among the boys  
On this celebration day!

Now I hear the band a-playin'  
In the shade beneath the trees,  
And I hear the banjo plinkin'  
And the fiddle squawk and wheeze.  
There is joy in this old music  
As it floats upon the breeze  
And I feel my feet a-shufflin'  
To the music among the trees.

Now I see the smilin' faces  
Of the ones I used to know  
But I find there's some that's absent  
Ones I loved so long ago.  
They have gone beyond the river  
Where the chilly waters flow,  
And I can not ever meet them  
In this old town here below.

So I'm comin' back to Belleville  
On each celebration day,  
There's no tie that binds me stronger  
And no hindrance in the way,  
Come and meet your friends and loved ones  
Come and with us spend the day  
For we soon shall meet in Heaven  
On our last Home-Coming Day.

SQUARE DEAL PRESS, PLAINFIELD, IND.



## Belleville's Business

Belleville's location on the National Road, promoted rapid growth. By the eighteen-forties, Belleville had five or six hotels, three blacksmith shops, two general stores, a drug store, two cabinet shops, a cradle (reaping) factory, two cooper's shops, Miller's Tanyard and a saw mill.

Soon afterwards there was George W. Glaze's gun shop, a woolen mill, grist mill, planing mill and a combined blacksmith - buggy shop.

Belleville had several teachers and a number of resident physicians. Some of these were Bradley B. Bartholomew, Lawrence Johnson, Smythe G. Moore, his brother Risdon Charles Moore, David E. Carter, Powell Gibbons, Leroy H. Kenneday, Asa M. Strong and a Dr. Mc Clure.

Belleville was for many years a stage coach and freight wagon stop. The two toll gates were important when the National Road depended upon support and maintenance from the local gravel road companies. An interesting note on roads comes from minutes of the Masonic Lodge when Plainfield was denied a petition for a lodge because it was too near Belleville with a good plank road all the way.

Construction of the railroad north of Belleville in 1850 slowed growth and soon reversed progress. The three hundred inhabitants in their fifty dwellings, seemed to <sup>be</sup> dreaming of past better days or waiting for future brighter ones. Belleville survived and later rallied with the expansion of automobile travel and truck transportation. In the nineteen-fifties from eighteen to twenty big trucks could be seen parked in Belleville where their drivers were getting their breakfast.

Through the slow years, Belleville had at least two stores selling groceries and some general merchandise. One later such merchant, George W. Miller was also a druggist for twenty-five years. Thomas White built a store and after several years



Andrew C. Stout was the groceryman in this building. Charles Coopider is remembered as the proprietor of an early roadside sandwich shop and service station. The Belleville mower business now occupies the site of the Coopider building.

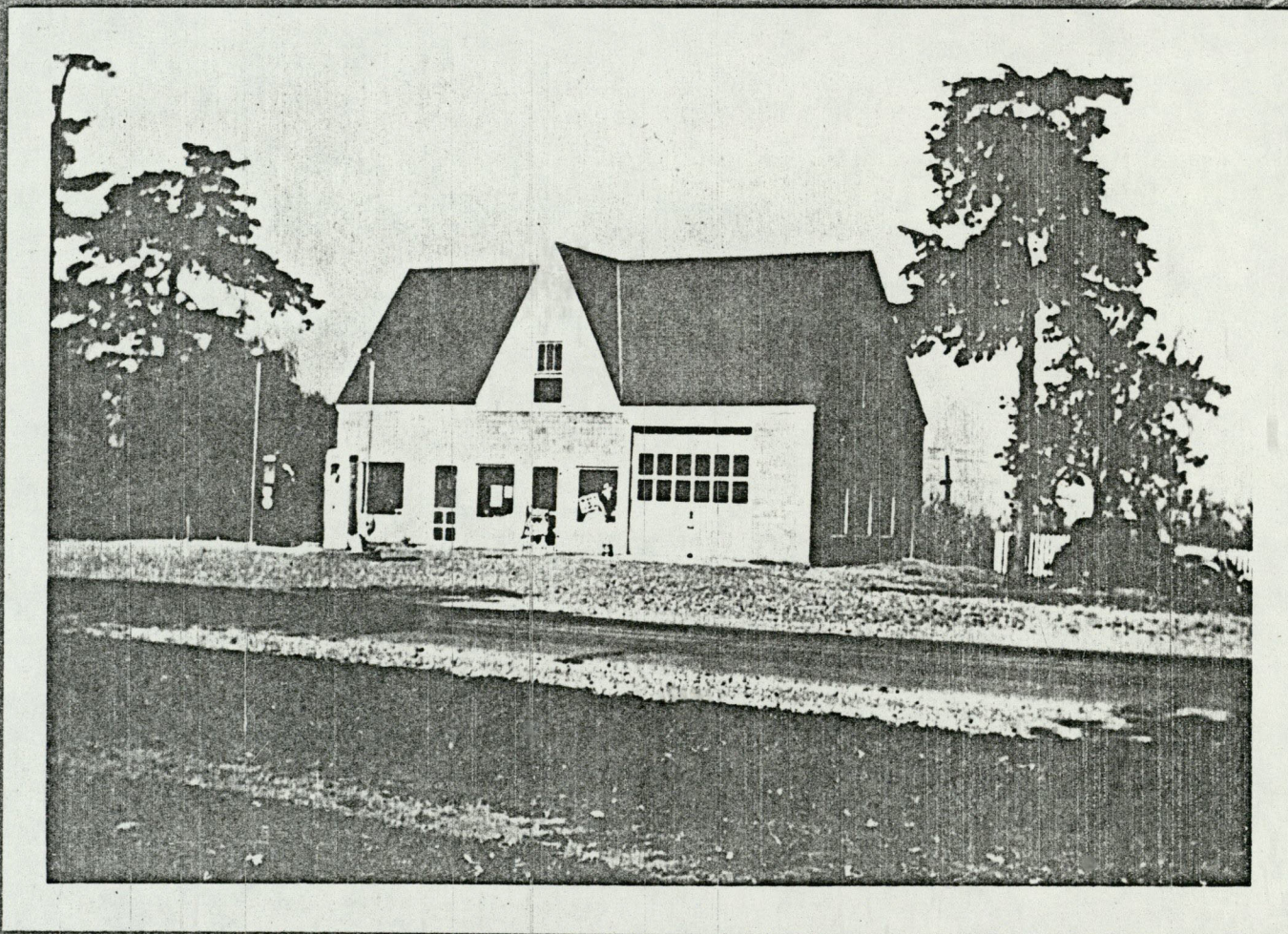
Maude Arnold's Friendly Inn results from a cafe started there about 1938 by Stacy and Alice Lambert. Virgil and Alma King operated the Friendly Inn several years after the Lamberts. (see page 465 History of Hendricks County 1976)

Some other present day business are Bell Inn, Piza Parlor, Gibson's Service and Grocery, Kennedy's seasonal produce market, Kehreins Apple Sales House, B. + J. Fire Service with Phillips 66 Station, Shell Service Station, Automobile Body Shop, a second hand store, Payn's Antiques, Hayden's Antiques, Mc Brides Variety Store, Marwin Stantz's Woodworking Shop, Pool Room, Elsa Trivett's Beauty Room, Charles Herron's Barber Shop and Woods Paint and Decorating, owned and operated by Jerry L. Woods.

See page 141 of History of Hendricks County 1976 for the stories of the Pop Corn King and of Belleville Saw Mill prepared by Wendell S. Lambert. For Belleville's only fifty-year business see the next few pages on the Low Apple Business. (The name "LOW" rhymes with the word "Cow").

Belleville population in 1979 was 387. There were one hundred thirty-four houses, six apartments and six mobile-homes.





FRIENDLY INN, BELLEVILLE, c. 1936-38.



## "MY CONTACT WITH HENDRICKS COUNTY"

By Rev. John Warren Hanger

I have been asked to write this for The Hendricks County Historical Society library a record of people, incidents and circumstances known to me through my contact with Hendricks County, Indiana.

My first contact with Hendricks County was about 1901. I was sent to attend DePauw University and serve as a student pastor at Belleville, Cherry Grove, and Stilesville. Among these I came to know well were Nelson Woods and family, George Woods, Fay Masten, Shelby Cooper and wife. He was a well known local preacher in the Methodist church. They had a very large family, a all of whom were vital to the life of that church. At Stilesville was Uncle Elihue Coble and his sons, Willie, Jim, Lee, and a daughter, Laura. Uncle Elihue was a one-armed old Civil War soldier, who usually said instead of "good-bye", or "so long"----"Trust in the Lord and keep your powder dry." Years later I was called back to a funeral with burial at Stilesville. Someone came to the cemetery to tell me that Uncle Elihue was dying and wanted me to come to see him. I found him breathing his last. I had a few words with him, prayed with him, and said, "Well, Brother Coble, trust in the Lord and keep your powder dry". The old man smiled as he closed his eyes for the last time. In Stilesville was Everett Roberts, who operated a private bank and seemed to be making money. He accepted good naturedly the nickname "Bricky", which his townsmen had good naturedly given to him. He had bought from a super salesman a metal brick plugged with pure gold. According to the salesman he was about to get caught with it and would take something less than \$1000 for it. He was using it to keep his bank door from swinging with the breeze. I found in Stilesville: Delph Humes, Gales Robertson, a Mr. Fincher, a leader in the GORB Baptist Church, Phil Cree, the 600 pound fat man who travelled with a circus, and many conspicuous and well known men and women. In this vicinity I found a most unusual and interesting farmer, Joe Hollingsworth..He was a local preacher in the Methodist Church, highly respected for his sincerity and character and widely known for his ability to express himself so that no one would fail to understand what he was trying to say and yet in most unexpected language. I was invited to his home one time for a birthday dinner in his honor. He had two married daughters whose husbands I had never met. When his sons-in-law arrived, in whom he delighted as much as they delighted in him, he proudly brought them in and introduced them to me. He followed the introduction with "The Devil owed Joe Hollingsworth a debt and he paid him off in sons-in-law that were Democrats and Campbellites". The happy father-in-law was an ardent Methodist and a Republican.



The old National Road which is now U.S. 40 runs east and west across Indiana coinciding with Washington Street in Indianapolis. In this vicinity its only pavement was two or four inches of loose dry gravel. The local news media had spread the information that on a certain day a horseless carriage would come west from Indianapolis. People came from north and south to the National Road. On foot, horseback, in buggies and families in two horse wagons. They brought their lunches along and took the day off to see the horseless carriage go by. Just where or why the horseless carriage gave up the struggle with the loose gravel they never knew. It never passed.

Telephones were beginning to come in this section of Hendricks County. There was a Farmer's Exchange. One line with which I was familiar, had thirty-two phones on the one line. Little wall phones, each with a dry cell battery in it and a crank on the side to ring the number with. A short and a long, two longs and a short, etc. The wire zig-zagged on its way from a tree to a snag of a broken tree to a tall fence post or a poor excuse for a pole. When the phone rang, everyone who was in the house went to the phone to learn whose old cat had kittens or whose old hen had hatched her breed or whose cow had a calf. With fifteen or twenty receivers off the hook no one could ring. There was not battery power enough. There was on this line, a tall, sociable, North Carolinian who wore a broad-brimmed hat. He was an auctioneer, and would rather talk than eat. It was common talk that during all of his spare time, he sat with a hearing device strapped to his ear. No one needed to ring him; but just say "Hello Harrison", and he would answer.

About thirty years after I came as a student pastor to Belleville, Cherry Grove, and Stilesville, my son, John Howard Hanger, was in DePauw and was assigned for his first conference appointment, as the student pastor at Belleville, Salem, and Cherry Grove. Here at Salem, he became pastor of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Pritchard. (Mrs. Pritchard is now the capable secretary of the Hendricks County Historical Society.) I was more interested in his success on this charge than I was in my own success there thirty years previous. I became a warm friend of Fred and May Franklin, Mr. and Mrs. Blunk, and many others on the charge, and strengthened the friendships of thirty years before.

Several years later another epoch commenced in my contacts with Hendricks County. We bought a little home on Road 39, south of Belleville. I lived and voted in the county. My wife taught school there and Mary K. attended high school in Clayton and graduated from that school. We contacted many people that for various reasons were unforgettable. It was here that we formed a friendship with the Clarence Edmondson family that has never been dimmed by time. I remember fondly, many happy times in their home. One time at a birthday or home coming, when through courtesy, complimentary words were directed to me, Clarence



Edmonson paid me the most appreciated compliment I ever received. He said, "I like to hear Mr. Hanger speak because you never need to ask him what he is talking about". It was during these years that we became friends of Fred and May Franklin, Mr. and Mrs. Walters, and Lee and Harry Quinn of Grant Stone, Mr. and Mrs. Tobe Kendall, John Graves, Charles Smoot, Mrs. Rabb, the Martin Brothers in the store at Cartersburg, and a host of others. Near our home south of Belleville, there lived an oddity who through the forethought or generosity of some one had become a lawyer; but through his lack, had developed into a wealthy, niggardly, old miser. The only use he ever made of his law was to seek loopholes by which he could evade taxes or how far he could go in picking up a few illicit pennies without going to jail. I grew fine strawberries. Indianapolis dealers came every day and brought as many crates as I had. The depression price was 8¢ per quart by the crate. The poor old miser came down to buy a quart of berries. He asked what I paid for picking them. I told him 3¢ per quart. He got a box and walked through the patch, looking for the choice ones. He piled on as many as he could heap on the box, fully a pint more than a crated quart. He came to me and said, "Eight cents for the berries, less three cents for the picking. Here's five pennies!" He said proudly, "I never let a summer go by without a mess of strawberries". He knew there is some expense connected with marriage so he never married. He knew that on each side of the public road that passed his place, in the mile between cross roads, there was a lot of good grazing pasture. It didn't cost anything to have a poor fence so he had one and his sheep were all along the highway. When a car came south, the sheep would run south into my front yard. When a car came the other way, they would run a mile north. One dark, moonless Sunday night, the wheat threshing crew called the old miser and said that they would be at one of his farms at sunrise the next morning to thresh his wheat. He had to get word to the tenant on the farm. He had no phone in the tenant house. He had an old Ford but the light bulbs were burned out. He decided he could drive three miles without any light. If he saw a light coming he would pull aside till the light passed. Jonny Price, a neighbor teen-ager wanted to drive over to his girl's home. He had no lights but he thought he could drive that far without any lights. If he saw a light coming he would pull aside till the light passed. Neither the young lover nor the rich old miser saw any light but they met head on at about three miles per hour. The neighborhood chuckled sadly when they learned that the collision cost the rich old miser more than a light bulb would cost.

My wife had an aunt who was married to a school teacher in Davis City, Iowa. He retired from teaching and they started an undertaking business combined with a little furniture store. He died and her only daughter died. She came to live with us at our home south of Belleville. Aunt Anna was industrious, well and a good looking old lady and thrifty, above all things. One day she said to me, "John, I wish I had a rooming house". I told her I thought I could get her one. I took her up to Danville and showed her a big, good-looking rooming house, adjacent to the college building.



We could rent it if we would take it for two years. She said it suited her perfectly. She asked me to rent it before someone else did and she would go out to Iowa and get \$12,000 out of the bank, etc. When she got there she found the bank defunct, and all her money gone. She couldn't take it. There was nothing for us to do but to move into it ourselves. Everyone was suffering from the financial collapse. There were big sales everyday in Indianapolis. Storage houses selling stored goods that had been abandoned. I went to buy furniture for the rooming house. Things were cheap. No one wanted to buy luxuries. A hen that would lay an egg or a cow giving milk or anything that would produce a little income would sell; but no luxury was saleable. They rolled out a beautiful Chickering, upright piano. I ran it up to \$1.75 and got it. I went down to get a truck to haul it to Danville. He said it would cost me \$15.00. He said he was charging me for the trip. He would take ten for the same price. I went back in and bought nine more, paying less than \$9.00 for the ten pianos. I stored them in a garage, put one in our home, with a sign in the yard, "Piano for sale--\$10--\$1 down and \$1 per week. I sold all ten. I went to a sale where a successful farmer was forced to sell out on account of the financial "panic". There was no money available but he was so well equipped for farming that buyers from everywhere brought in around \$5,000. He told me he had to do it because taxes and low prices for what he had to sell were forcing him to quit. He had taken a job driving a bus in Chicago. I asked if they wouldn't sell his farm for taxes. He said, "To whom". I was told that after a few years, as conditions improved somewhat, he returned and offered to return and commence farming and paying taxes again if they would give him exemption from taxation for the time he had been away, and that his plan was accepted.

When my wife was teaching school in Cartersburg, we became concerned about the neglected children of Cartersburg. There had been three churches in the town but none had been active for seven years. If a preacher were need for a funeral or wedding, they had to call on some other town, and scores of children had no chance to get to Sunday School anywhere. There was a nice little Methodist church with brick walls and pretty art glass windows, several rooms and comfortable furniture but it was closed. The Baptist church was in bad repair and the old residence that had been used by the Nazarenes, was beyond use. We had several meetings of all who might be interested. I urged that they get together and federate. Any who did not wish to leave the denomination of their preference could become an affiliated member. They countered that Methodists and Baptists don't see alike. I reminded them that Methodists and Methodists and Baptists and Baptists don't see alike. We don't need to all peep through the same pin hole. They had one public school, one Post Office, one store, etc. Why should God's people be the only ones who can't get along together? We commenced with a successful Sunday School and Church. The folks who had built the Methodist Church were enthusiastic about it. All meetings were held in the only church



building in town. The Methodist conference claimed the church building and closed it. Folks who had helped pay for the building were compelled, by the circumstance to join all others in wanting a place of worship in the town and build a temporary shelter for Sunday School and Church. The conference tried to sell the church building for some secular use. The local trustees had a deed from the donor of the lot on which the church was built. The deed specified that whenever the building ceased to be used for church purposes the lot would revert to the heirs. That settled the point. Recently some men came by with heavy wrecking machinery. With a motor powered derrick with a heavy wrecking batt hanging from the top, they bashed the brick walls, art glass windows and all. The roofing was in a heap on the furniture inside. They bull-dozed the mass into a heap and with power shovels, they loaded it all into trucks and hauled it away. No one knew any of the men who operated the wrecking job and no one knew who paid for the job. There will never be a Methodist church, building, or membership in the town.

When my son, John Howard Hanger, finished seminary in Chicago, his graduation program came on Thursday of the Indiana Conference. He had called a District Superintendent who had solicited him to tell him to look after his appointment. He didn't do it. A District Superintendent, Ezra Hutchens, learned of the mistake, and without consulting anyone, appointed my son to an eight-church circuit. This included Butlerville and Holton, that had been a two-church charge for years; and he added five defunct churches that had not been used for seven years. My son refused to take the eight churches. We drove from Danville, Indiana, on Saturday to see the District Superintendent. He was gone to Louisville for a football game and wouldn't be back till Monday. We drove down there again the next Saturday and the District Superintendent was gone to Indianapolis to a show, and would not be back till Monday. We learned that Butlerville and Holton were having a joint Sunday School picnic. We went over there and were most cordially received. We were told that these two churches would have no part with the defunct churches. So without a District Superintendent, my son and the two churches made the appointment and moved in. He had been there about three months when Glenn James, a District Superintendent in Miami, Florida, called the seminary and asked for a recommendation. They recommended John Howard Hanger...James called John Howard and said that he was going off the district after Christmas; and that if John Howard could get there before Christmas, he would appoint him to Rader Memorial Church in Miami. Before night, that houseful of furniture was sold; and their little trailer was loaded. I was there to back him in any emergency. Sure enough, the District Superintendent arrived and was furious. He would have the Bishop stop it. I told him that a Bishop in Florida with the same authority as the Indiana Bishop had already made the transfer and had appointed him to a church. The District Superintendent went away in a rage and John Howard left most good-humoredly. He enjoyed years of happy, successful service in Florida, including a remarkable thirteen years as pastor of Park Temple Church in Ft. Lauderdale. Then Jacksonville,



and finally with a church of over four thousand members on Miracle Mile in Coral Gable, Florida. From here he made his triumphal entry into the Highest on Palm Sunday, 1965. He would have been sixty-five in June.

After Palm Sunday, 1965, when here in Atlanta, my only son whom I loved more than I loved my own life, was called out of a pain-stricken body to a house not made with hands, where pain and sorrow never come. When on September fifth of the same year, my precious wife in a Bloomington, Indiana hospital was fering from the dread Parkinson's disease, was called by the goodnes of God to a heavenly home where pain and sorrow and disappointment can never come. I came to Florida to be near my son's family, my grandchildren.

The oldest, Beverly, is wife of H.T. Heitzenrater, a pastor in the Florida Methodist Conference. They live in Tampa. They have two daughters and two sons. All are in the public school age brackets. One does not need to be a great-grandfather to recognize that they are all extraordinary. The other three of my grandchildren and their mother migrated to Atlanta. I came along with them.

For a long time, the mother served happily and efficiently as dietician at Hillside Cottages, a group of cottages under the auspices and support of the United Fund, for the welfare of children who need a home. Finally, Genevieve, the Mother, went to her home in Lakeland, Florida, where she was called to the higher life in September, 1969.

The second of the grandchildren is Barbara. She graduated from Duke University in Nursing. Now she has gone on to get her Master's Degree so she can teach in college. Her husband is a minister, M.W. Langford, ordained in the Methodist Church. They have two small children: Wayne and Lori.

The third of the grandchildren is John Howard Hanger, Jr. He is a graduate of Emory University: college and seminary, and a minister. He is a musician of recognized ability, especially a pianist. He has the Howard Hanger Trio that travels all over the United States. He married the lovely and accomplished Jacqueline Avant of Coral Gables, Florida. She is a teacher in the public schools.

Last, but not least, is my baby-grand-daughter, Genie. She's the devoted wife of her equally devoted husband, Don Fortuna. The sorrows of her young life seem to have sharpened rather than dulled her ability to develop her best qualities. She has gone with her education and duties and surprises me with the keen-ness of her percéption, and her insight into problems of life.



I can't see much that my life-efforts have produced; but  
am delighted with my posterity.



*Belleville is still on the map*

BOX 1776

CITY OF VANDALIA, O.

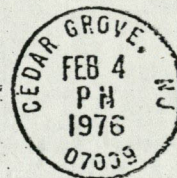
45377



*Attn: Ruth Pritchard*

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
CITY Belleville, Ind.

William C. Schneider  
240 Ridge Road  
Cedar Grove, N.J.



*Ruth Pritchard*  
Mayor of Belleville  
Belleville, Indiana  
(Hendricks County)  
*Clayton*



# Hoosier Traces 1781 Surrender To Home

By KATHLEEN VAN NUYS

An admitted "outdoor person" who liked camping in California, Clara Moore, Franklin, said it wasn't until the early 1950s she visited the ancestral Moore home at Yorktown where Lord Cornwallis surrendered to Gen. George Washington in 1781.

Her Welsh ancestors, like many colonists supporting the revolutionary cause, served in the armed forces and lost their fortunes.

"But none lost their lives," said the former Indianapolis junior high school art teacher.

For seven hours, in the Moore house two miles outside Yorktown, Va., emissaries of Washington and Cornwallis drafted articles of capitulation after the final British defeat of the Revolutionary War.

A chair or two is all that is left of original furnishings in the two-story white Dutch colonial-type house surrounded by a white picket fence and shade trees. An American flag flies from a pole inside the gate marking "the very ground where America won freedom."

Another old home in this town of 311, where important American figures lived, is that of Thomas Nelson, a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Nearby are British earthworks, improved by the Confederates 80 years later, and reconstructed portions of American and French lines with mounted cannon that saw service during the Yorktown siege. A Victory monument commemorates the final British engagement against combined American-French forces.

"Shildes Moore, from whom I am descended," Miss Moore explained, "was one of five children (three sons) of Charles Thomas Moore, of Wales, and they came to Yorktown around 1715.

"The Moores owned an old Welsh firm dealing in gold and silver bullion, with a branch in London. All five settled in the Yorktown area, but later, Shildes had a home in Baltimore and in Dorchester County, Md., half way down Chesapeake Bay.

"With his brother-in-law, John Risdon," Miss Moore continued, "Shildes formed an American branch, Moore-Risdon, of the Welsh firm and, until 1755, dealt in gold and silver bullion.

"About 1750, the two developed a coast-wide trade and, later, their entire business was shipping and freighting. They were Whig zealots," said Miss Moore, reading from one of two published books of Moore genealogy, "and at the outbreak of the revolution were among the first to whom the new colonial government issued 'letters of marque and reprisal.'"



"Lightly Speaking"

Government records show three Moores served on a Privateer.

"Shildes' son, Risdon, was known as Commodore Moore," the Shortridge High School graduate continued tracing her ancestors' role, "and during earlier years of the war, placed all his freighting ships in the hands of the new government."

Miss Moore, who lives at the Methodist Home west of Franklin, agreed greater credit should be given the small "fleet" of ships placed at the disposal of colonial leaders considering the decisive role it played in the war.

"Risdon's son, George Lane Moore, who later settled in Granville County, N.C., was a member of the Constitutional Convention in 1788," continued the woman who taught here most of her 30 years. Three were in Alexandria, Va., when she had a chance to explore Washington.

"My great grandfather, Risdon's son, Thomas, and his brother, Smyth, served in the Continental Army under Brig. Gen. Nathanael Greene," continued the Hutchinson, Kan., native. "Thomas was 15 when he enlisted and Smyth served as a commissioned officer."

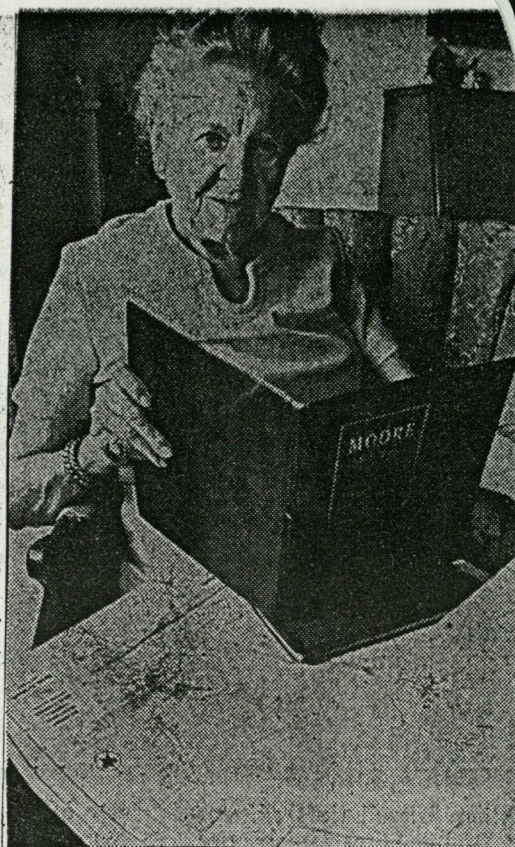
The genealogy reports, "Thomas, a patriot, became a shoemaker." His soldier brother became "a dresser of the soil," meaning farmer, Miss Moore pointed out.

"It's quite evident they lost their business," she said, perusing the pages of one book numbering 160.

Tracing her line to Indiana, Miss Moore said Thomas' widow, after his death in Guilford County, N.C., around 1823, came north with three sons and six daughters to Hendricks County. The youngest, Risdon Charles, product of a log cabin school, attended medical college in Louisville and Rush Medical College in Chicago, settling in the then thriving community of Belleville.

Miss Moore's father, Charles Risdon, was one of 11 children born to the physician. He moved to Kansas after attending State Normal at Terre Haute.

"When we go back to Indiana..." is the phrase Miss Moore said she heard so much as a child she almost thought she was born here. After graduating from Indiana University, she studied art at the University of Chicago, Columbia University and the University of Southern California, where her father's cousins established its medical school.



The NEWS Photo, Joe

Clara Moore traces family history.

## Clara A. Moore

Star 9-7-83 p. 47

Services for Clara A. Moore, 89, a resident of the United Methodist Home in Franklin and formerly of Indianapolis, will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday in the Wright Memorial Chapel at the home. Friends may call in the home's Memory Room from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. today. She died Sunday in the home. She was a retired teacher, having taught art in primary and junior high grades in the Indianapolis public school system for 35 years. She was a native of Hutchinson, Kan., and lived in Indianapolis most of her life, moving to Franklin in 1965. She was a graduate of the Indianapolis Teachers College and Indiana University. She attended the University of Chicago, Columbia University and the University of Southern California. She was a former two-term president of the Amos W. Butler Chapter of the Audubon Society, and was a member of the Indiana Audubon Society, the Ornithological Club of California, the Wilson Ornithological Club, the Nature Study Club of Indiana, Alpha Xi Delta sorority, the American Association of University Women, the Columbus Poetry Club and Grace United Methodist Church in Franklin. She had received the Wilhelmina Seegmueller Art Scholarship Award and the Indianapolis school board's Gregg Scholarship.