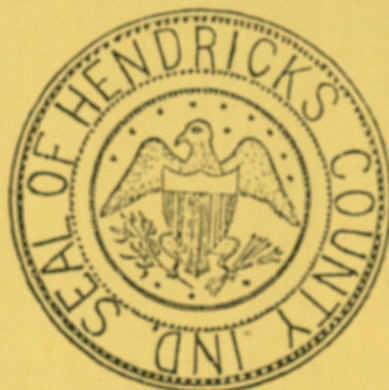


HENDRICKS COUNTY

HISTORY BULLETIN



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THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DANVILLE, INDIANA

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H C H S

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H C H S

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GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT.....

Recently a friend of mine said "Isn't it a shame that our grandchildren will never experience the things that stand out in our memories?" I started thinking about what some of these experiences were and these are some things that came to my mind - things that are probably gone forever. A sleigh ride behind a high stepping trotter with bells ringing with every step, hauling in loads of loose sweet smelling hay behind a team of horses, then riding the horse to the rope that pulled that loose hay on its big fork, up to the track in the hay mow where it was dumped and spread. After it was in the mow then there was the fun of jumping into the soft piles, if no one caught you doing it.

There was the huckster who came every Thursday with his groceries on the shelves and egg crates in the back and chicken coops below. Here Mother did her "trading" which meant selling her eggs and perhaps an unproductive hen or two for enough groceries to last until next Thursday. Of course there was always a penny stick of peppermint candy for each child. This was the treat for the week.

Another memory is the horse drawn "school hack" with seats along each side and the little charcoal brick foot warmers down the center. If your feet were little and the fellow sitting next to you had big feet sometime it was hard to get your share. Then there is the memory of riding to church on Sunday in the two seated carriage, driving a spirited team over a dusty road.

A thrilling sight was also in store as you watched that old threshing machine belch black smoke, and listened to its shrill whistle and watched ribbons of golden grain pour from its spout while the straw piled up in that great golden mountain. This also meant sweet new straw for the "straw ticks" or mattresses on the beds.

I'm sure you all have golden memories that will not be repeated. If you aren't old enough to have experienced these things you still have your own.

This gives us a great advantage as story tellers. Have you told your grandchildren or young friends about your childhood? I haven't, but believe me after thinking this over I'm going to and won't it be fun!

Marian Worrell

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

On a beautiful November 2nd, 59 members and guests gathered at the Corinth Church in Brown Township. The theme of the meeting was Fall ... things can be better at the end than at the beginning. After the secretary's report and the treasurer's, Mrs. Wean reported that new indexes for the history book have been printed, so plenty are available at \$2.00 a copy. Dorothy Kelley gave an interesting account of the more than 200 visitors at the museum during the holidays.

All officers were re-elected and it was agreed that we would now meet the first Sunday of the months of February, May, August and November.

Harold Templin gave an informative and detailed discussion of the history of the postal service and the display table was piled high with interesting memorabilia concerning the postal service, including stamp collections.

A delightful social hour followed.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

FEBRUARY MEETING

HA HA HA HA HA HA

Don't you sometimes think we take ourselves too seriously? Don't we some times blow things clear out of proportion? Don't we sometimes frown when, with a second thought, we could get a good laugh out of it? I'm sure I do, and I think most of us do. Without a sense of humor, life would almost be unbearable at times.

So the HCHS is going to take time out for fun. At our February meeting.... and it will be the very FIRST day of February it is going to be a fun meeting. I just can't wait! (Make allowances for your Ed, for she is of Irish extract and she can laugh at almost anything).

CHUCKLES FROM THE MUSEUM is the subject of the program, and Dorothy Kelley, the major domo, the gal who has worked the hardest and put in the most hours to make and keep the museum what it is today (and it is something to be proud of) will relate some of the lighter side of her work. The display table, too, will be light hearted. Bring anything for a laugh. For once, let us forget about inflation, taxes and the Russian buildup of arms. Let us remember, that our ancestors, in spite of their difficulty in keeping body and soul together, could manage to have some fun. If they could, we certainly can.

The meeting will be at the Danville United Methodist Church, West Mill Street. And, incidentally, it is easily accessible. Have your chauffeur drive you to the west entrance, and there is not ONE STEP to climb. (Kinda nice for us old folks.)

Grace Cox and her committee of Center and Marion Township members will cook up some goodies and brew something to warm our insides. SO COME FOR FUN.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

DANVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

The DANVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY is fortunate in recently acquiring the services of Betty Bartly as Historical Librarian. From all reports, she is doing a great job and reigns over the INDIANA ROOM. She is most co-operative and we were delighted with the following contribution she has made to our HISTORICAL BULLETIN. We shall look forward to other articles which will be of interest to our members.

NOTICE

The Indiana Room of the Danville Public Library has undergone some changes lately: from a small room, into packing crates and boxes, finally emerging as a spacious room in our new addition. I'd like to bring members of the Historical Society up to date on changes made and material available.

Our cemetery transcripts have been arranged in notebook form and are located in the reference section. The cemetery index, located in the card catalog now contains all names found in the transcripts, arranged in alphabetical order.

An obituary file has been started. Death notices have been taken from some of the early Danville papers: 1866-1868, 1874-1878, and 1881-1886. We have the original issues of these papers at the library, but some are not bound and must be handled with great care. We hope to have them microfilmed in the near future so the original papers can be preserved.

Our collection of genealogical material is expanding. Some recent additions include early marriage records for Boone, Hendricks, Marion, and Morgan counties, 1880 Parke County History, 1887 Putnam County History, and the 1850 mortality schedule for Adams through Posey counties.

The following magazines can be found in the Indiana Room: The Tri-State Trader, the Genealogical Helper, Boone-Your County Magazine, Montgomery Your County Magazine, and of course, the Hendricks County Historical Bulletin.

The Indiana Room is open to the public during regular library hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. and on Tuesday and Thursday from 9 A.M. to 8 P.M. I will be available to answer any questions about our material on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday until May 1st, and after that date, on a full time basis.

I welcome any suggestions you may have for services or materials you would find helpful.

Betty Bartley

Historical Librarian

Abstracts of Obituaries from the Hendricks Co. Union 1866 - 1868

ARNOLD, William d. July 30, 1867; killed in the explosion of a steam thrasher at his farm near Brownsburg. HCU Aug 8, 1867 p3 c3

ASTLEY, Jackson d. June 20, 1867; of spinal affliction; b. Dodge Co., WI Sep 26, 1850; age 17. HCU July 18, 1867 p3 c3

CALL, John C. d. Jan 20, 1867; at the residence of Charles Sopher; former pvt 51st Indiana Volunteers. HCU Feb 14, 1867 p3 c3

CAMPBELL, Matilda d. Apr 21, 1866; b. Sep 19, 1837 near Belleville; wife of Leander M. HCU Apr 26, 1866 p2 c1; p3 c4

CAYWOOD, Simenn d. July 30, 1867; killed in the explosion of a steam thrasher at Wm. Arnold's farm near Brownsburg. HCU Aug 8, 1867 p3 c3

CLEMENTS, John d. Jan 26, 1868; b. 1787 Montgomery Co. KY; came to Hendricks Co. 1855; husband of 1) Nancy Highland, 2) Rebecca Johns. HCU Feb 13, 1868 p3 c2

COFER, Vinnie P. d. Dec 8, 1867; of congestion of the brain; dau of T. J. & M.S.; age 15m 7d. HCU Dec 12, 1867 p3 c3

COMINGER, John A. d. July 7, 1866; age 84. HCU July 12, 1866 p3 c1

CULBERTSON, Jerry d. Feb 1868; died suddenly at his home in Marion twp. HCU Mar 5, 1868 p3 c1

DEPEN, Dr. Jeremiah d. Sep 14, 1867; b. 1804 VA; began practice in Danville 1834. HCU Sep 19, 1867 p3 c4; Dec 12, 1867 p3 c3

DIMWIDDIE, Lizzie P. d. Dec 30, 1866, wife of William H.; age 25y 1m. HCU Jan 10, 1867 p3 c3; Jan 17, 1867 p3 c3

FLEECE, C.N. d. May 6, 1867. HCU Aug 5, 1867 p3 c2,3

GREGG, William P. d. Apr 14, 1866; b. May 30, 1836 Danville; attended Asbury College 1852; Deputy Prosecuting Attorney at Danville 1858-59. HCU Apr 12, 1866 p3 c2; Apr 19, 1866 p3 c3

HADLEY, Mrs. Ara d. June 13, 1866; mother of Enos. HCU June 14, 1866 p3 c3

HADLEY, Mary d. Sep 6, 1866; at the home of her brother, John V. Hadley; age 22. HCU Sep 20, 1866 p3 c3

HAMBLIN, George W. d. Feb 19, 1867; son of Vincent; age 24y 8m 9d; former member of 54th Indiana Volunteers; 117th Indiana Volunteers. HCU Mar 7, 1867 p3 c3

HAMMOND, Samuel E. d. Mar 10, 1867; age 25. HCU Apr 4, 1867 p3 c3

HAYS, James H. d. Jan 22, 1867; age 60. HCU Jan 24, 1867 p3 c1

HIGGINS, Daniel d. July 11, 1867; killed when he fell from a train near Sidney, O. HCU July 18, 1867 p3 c2

HCDSON, Matthew d. Sep 4, 1867; son of Eli; died of Hydrophobia. HCU Aug 22, 1867 p3 c1; Sep 5, 1867 p3 c3

HORNADAY, Edwin M. d. Aug 4, 1867; of cholera, near Lawrence KS; son of Simon Hornaday of Cartersburg. HCU Aug 5, 1867 p3 c3

HURON, Henry Lincoln d. July 27, 1866; son of George A. & Mary F.; age 5m 2d. HCU Aug 2, 1866 p3 c3

JEFFERS, Linsey d. May 20, 1866; b. Feb 5, 1811, Madison Co. KY; married Eleanor Nichols 1855. HCU May 24, 1866 p3 c4

JENKINS, Joda d. Aug 30, 1867; of Cholera Infantum; dau of William P. & Anna; age 1y 2m 21d. HCU Sep 12, 1867 p3 c4

LITTLE, Clara Bell d. Sep 22, 1866; at the residence of her parents near Knob Noster, Johnson Co. MO; dau of James A. & Corrilla; age 1y 10m 25d. HCU Oct 4, 1866 p3 c3

McLEAN, Mary d. Dec 25, 1867; at the residence of Aaron Harlan, Eel River twp; b. Sep 27, 1779 Cumberland Co. PA; married Samuel McLean 1791. HCU Jan 16, 1868 p3 c4

McPHETRIDGE, John I. d. May 23, 1866. HCU June 7, 1866 p3 c3

MINTON, E. H. d. Mar 16, 1868; b. Apr 17, 1831 VA. HCU Apr 9, 1868 p2 c3; Apr 19, 1868 p3 c1

ODELL, Elizabeth d. 1867; at the residence of her son-in-law, W. H. Finch, Louisville, Clay Co. IL; age 64 HCU June 20, 1867 p3 c4

OHAYER, Vashti West d. Oct 11, 1867; b. Feb 11, 1814 Harrison Co. KY; wife of 1) Jeremiah Terry, 2) Cornelius Ohayer. HCU Nov 14, 1867 p3 c3

PHILLIPS, Janie d. Aug 17, 1867; of Erysipelas; dau of Joel & Anna J.; age 5m 28d. HCU Sep 12, 1867 p3 c4

PRINDLE, John d. Mar 14, 1866; former resident of Eel River twp; killed by falling under a freight train at Stanford Station in Terre Haute; was moving to Cass Co. MO; former member of 117th Reg. Indiana Volunteers; age 23. HCU Mar 22, 1866 p3 c1

ROSE, Mary B. d. June 30, 1866; wife of Dr. M.H.; age 23; b. at Logansport, IN. HCU July 5, 1866 p3 c3

STEPHENS, Charles E. d. Apr 15, 1867; died in Marion twp; age 35; b. Hendricks Co Feb 3, 1832; former member of Co A, 7th Indiana. HCU May 2, 1867 p3 c3

STEWART, Laura L. d. Apr 4, 1868; of Consumption, near Cartersburg; dau of C.W. & L.J.; in her 14th year. HCU Apr 19, 1868 p3 c2

TARR, Willie Richards d. July 24, 1867; of flux at Star City, IN; son of Rev. C.W. & J.R.; age 10m 1d. HCU Aug 1, 1867 p3 c2

THOMPSON, d. 1866; student (male) at the Danville Academy. HCU Dec 6, 1866 p3 c3

WATEROUS, Eddie d. July 10, 1866; son of G.C. & E. J.; age 9m. HCU July 12, 1866 p3 c1

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY wishes go out to Joe Davisson who will mark his 95th February 15, 1981. Through the years, Mr. Davisson has contributed many fascinating tales of the past and has added a lot of zest and sparkle to both our BULLETIN and our programs. He is recovering splendidly from a recent broken hip.

And congratulations to Claire Sellers, a member of THE LAST MAN'S CLUB which met recently at Plainfield. The club was founded in 1938 by 51 area World War I veterans. Twelve are still living and eleven attended the meeting.

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The following article was clipped from the November 24, 1980 issue of the HENDRICKS COUNTY FLYER. An editor's job is to condense. But how could I condense this? After all, Clark and Carolyn have been most beloved and revered members of the HCHS since its inception. There is no way to cut anything out of this article.

KELLUMS COME OUT OF 'CLOSET'

Every once in a while someone asks why there is a closet in the meeting room with a lettered plaque on the door stating that this is the "Clark Kellum Closet."

The story behind the plaque was told in one of the early Library Lines columns, but we think we can't mention Clark too often! He has been one of our library's staunchest friends and supporters for many years. So when he built some sorely needed shelves in the closet, Mary McMillan, our director, and the staff decided there should be some visible recognition. Clark and Carolyn Kellum were invited for an after-hours surprise party in the meeting room, and the plaque was unveiled amidst much laughter and applause.

More recently Clark built the wheeled "dollies" for the stacked meeting room chairs. Every time I pull out chairs or put them away, I bless that man!

But Clark Kellum's most enduring contribution to our library--and perhaps to Plainfield--is our present building. Clark was appointed to the library board of trustees, and being the conscientious person that he is, he began to attend the state library conferences.

One time he found himself in a small group of library trustees at one of these conferences. Now, Clark went to that meeting feeling pretty proud of Plainfield's Carnegie library. He chuckles as he recalls how one prominent-delegate "jumped all over" him for being satisfied with a tiny, 50-year old building.

So Clark began comparing the library with all the new school and bank buildings springing up around the county. He encouraged the other board members to expand their library horizons by attending the state library association conferences. And he visited new libraries in the area. It wasn't too long until plans were under way for a new library in Plainfield.

As in any project of this size, it took vision, information, and team work to make things happen. Clark refers proudly to the "Building Board"--Ray Ramsey, Virginia Dunigan, Foster Jensen, Jane Parker, Paul Myers, Carolyn Reisinger, and himself.

When the architect's design was put out for bids, the money required was higher than the bonding power, which was then 1 percent of assessed valuation. While the contractor held his bid, the board swung into action as lobbyists. Making use of their connections in the state legislature, and advised by State Librarian Lucille Foote, the board was successful in having the limit raised to 1 1/2 percent, an action which benefitted libraries all over the state. (The bonding limit has since been raised to 2 percent.)

The Friends of the Library carried bond petitions around the town and township to gather signatures, and succeeded in collecting almost 40 percent of the local taxpayers' signatures in support of the bonding program.

Clark served on the board for many years after the new building was completed. Even after leaving the board, he has continued to perform his quiet acts of kindness--and to make frequent use of our services.

Obviously many people in our county feel the same way about Clark and Carolyn that we in the library do. On the afternoon that I interviewed them in their home, a steady stream of callers stopped by on errands, or just to chat a while.

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The following article, written by Betty Lane, comes to us through the courtesy of Ruth Pritchard who can always be counted on to come up with something interesting for THE BULLETIN:

FANNY, THE CAPTIVATING HOOSIER WIFE

OF AUTHOR ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

By Betty J. Lane

A sedate old house on an eminence with a sweep of surrounding countryside just northwest of Indianapolis once echoed to the laughter and chatter of an Indiana family destined for a bit of international fame. It was to achieve this recognition through the fortunes of its eldest daughter.

The family was the Jacob and Esther Keen Vandegrift family. The daughter became Frances (Fanny) Matilda Vandegrift Osbourne Stevenson, the quixotic, captivating wife of Scottish-born author Robert Louis Stevenson.

Fanny Stevenson never claimed permanent residence at the Hendricks County home between Clayton and Danville, although she and her first husband were joint owners of the home with her parents for almost a year. However, she visited there many times, and stayed there with her children during an estrangement from her first husband.

The Hendricks County house of Jacob Vandegrift was apparently built in the 1840s by one Richard Martin and wife Sarah. The road loops around the house, indicating the building was there before the road was surveyed. The Vandegrifts occupied the home from about December 1861 until widowed Esther Vandegrift left there in the 1880s to live with another daughter in Danville.

This arresting landmark is still privately owned, is not open to the public, and some surrounding residents are unaware of its intriguing past.

Olive-complexioned Fanny Stevenson was born in 1840 in a red brick house "with a lawn and maple trees" on Indianapolis Monument Circle. Later her Pennsylvania-born father, who dealt in lumber and real estate, built a two-story brick "row" house four blocks north of the Circle.

When Fanny was 2 she and her mother were baptized beside the National Road bridge of nearby White River by the subsequently famous Henry Ward Beecher, in the presence of several thousand spectators—Mrs. Vandegrift by immersion, her daughter through "sprinkling." Indianapolis' Second Presbyterian Church still has a meticulously written record of this ceremony in its minutes.

Fanny Stevenson had four sisters—Josephine, Elizabeth, Core and Nellie, and a brother, Jacob. She attended Indianapolis public grade and high schools. A tomboy who loved to roam the woods, ride horses, and search for arrowheads, Fanny was a free spirit. Playmates recalled her sitting on the outside cellar door after supper on warm summer evenings regaling them with fairy tales and grisly ghost stories.

She was an avid reader from an early age and friends were alarmed that she read "whatever came to hand". A local editor is said to have been amazed at her scientific knowledge at the age of 6. An amateur painter all her life, Fanny is said to have produced two paintings as a youngster which graphically depicted the evils of drink, they may have been presented to a local temperance leader at a public meeting. Her favorite subjects in school were composition, drawing and painting.

AN UNPUBLISHED MANUSCRIPT Fanny turned out in later years titled "A Backwoods Childhood" portrayed her growing-up years in the Hoosier Capital as beset with pioneer hardships. She wrote of menacing Indians, and her coonskin-capped father lying in canebrakes in readiness for their assault. This was not exactly the truth. The Indianapolis of the 1840s may have been rough, with a goodly complement of loose women and rowdy taverns, but it had 3,000 inhabitants, more than 100 retail stores, and no threatening savages.

When Fanny was only 16 she met the tall, blond Kentuckian who was to become her first husband, Samuel Osbourne, who as then secretary to Indiana Gov. Ashbel P. Willard. Osbourne took college preparatory work at DePauw University (then Asbury College). Legend has it that the first time he saw Fanny she was cavorting around on stilts.

The couple was married on Christmas Eve, 1857, in Fanny's parents' row house, with "a large and happy party" of guests present, including the governor. Fanny wore a white satin dress "stiff enough to stand alone" and her bridegroom sported brass buttons on his jacket and fawn colored trousers.

The Osbournes set up housekeeping in a nearby house built by Jacob Vandegrift which was evidently a wedding present. Sam became a deputy clerk in the office of the Indiana Supreme Court and nine months later their first child, Isobel (Belle), was born.

Life may have been happy in the Osbourne cottage at that time, but stability began to evaporate in January 1864 when Sam Osbourne offered to accompany Fanny's ailing brother-in-law to California for his health. When Josephine Vandegrift Marshall's husband George died in Panama en route, Osbourne continued on to San Francisco and to silver mining camps in Nevada, in pursuit of riches.

WHEN FANNY AND BELLE boarded a train for New York the following June to join Sam, the young woman born on Monument Circle would step into a future that would include criss-crossing the United States many times and residence in both Europe and the South Seas, as her fortunes followed those of the two men she loved.

Apparently Fanny Osbourne made heroic attempts to save her first marriage—through months in rugged mining camps, through weeks without Sam in rented rooms in San Francisco where she supported herself as a seamstress, through years of off-and-on-again residence in a cottage they occupied in Oakland, Calif.

There were separations—it was in 1868 and 1869 that she and her two children (Samuel Lloyd had arrived on the scene by then) were with her parents in Hendricks County. And there were reconciliations, for a third child was born in 1871. Sam Osbourne and Fanny were married more than 20 years, but their marriage probably never regained its health after it first became obvious, when they were living in Nevada, that Sam enjoyed the company of other women.

History has not been kind to Sam Osbourne. But his daughter apparently worshipped him. Later she recorded with obvious affection the day he returned from a protracted absence in "boots and breeches" shouting, "Is that my little girl?" complete with his unending "resilience, charm, frailty, and all." Vandegrift family members have also noted Osbourne's charisma and kindness.

FANNY DETERMINEDLY changed the course of her life in 1875 when she packed up her three children and their governess and started for Europe with the announced intention of studying art. She had been pursuing the arts in San Francisco. Stopping in Hendricks County en route, it is said the odd ménage traveled on to New York in a "country omnibus drawn by two stout horses."

Indiana was flooded at the time. At one point they crossed a bridge that was washed away 15 minutes later, or so the story goes.

Fanny was in Europe three years, meeting Robert Louis Stevenson in Grez, a French hamlet near Fontainebleau. The witty, gentle son of a Scottish lighthouse engineer, Stevenson had been plagued with ill health all his life, probably tuberculosis, but was already showing the genius that was to mark his short writing career. Fanny and Robert Louis Stevenson became lovers, not only seeing each other in ensuing months in Grez, but in Paris, where Stevenson said the winter was "set aglow by Fanny's presence," and in London.

Ex-Hoosier Fanny nursed Stevenson through repeated health crises, reinforcing his spirits and creativity at the same time, a pattern that was to continue until his premature death. Their romantic involvement resulted in her divorce from Osbourne in California in December 1879 and subsequent marriage to Stevenson six months later. Stevenson followed her in an arduous trip across the Atlantic and the U.S., a journey resulting in his "The Amateur Emigrant" and "Across the Plains," fascinating chronicles of the period.

IT WAS DIFFICULT for Stevenson's proper Scotch Presbyterian parents to accept his marriage to a world-traveling divorcee — hard, too, for the Vandegrifts and Osbournes to accept the relatively short interval between Fanny's divorce and remarriage — but they did. When the couple returned to Europe some months later along with Lloyd, patriarch Thomas Stevenson became enchanted with his son's non-conformist wife, who made family history by chastising him soon after they met.

For the next seven years the Stevensons resided in Switzerland, France and England, ever in quest of more healthful climates. During this time Robert Louis Stevenson wrote some of his most time-honored books, including "Treasure Island," "A Child's Garden of Verses" and "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde." Child loving Stevenson and stepson Lloyd Osbourne became fast friends, a friendship that was to last until the author's death.

In 1877 Fanny and Robert Louis Stevenson gathered up his recently widowed mother and Lloyd and returned to the U.S., where they lived briefly before sailing for the South Seas. They lived for five months in Hawaii, then settled in Samoa. Stevenson died unexpectedly in their beloved Samoan home of a stroke in December 1894. His doughty widow spent the remaining 20 years of her life in Samoa, California and Mexico, trekking to Europe at least twice more before her death in Santa Barbara in 1914. Her daughter placed her ashes in Robert Louis Stevenson's Samoan tomb.

Fanny must have been at her parents' farm home in 1863 when her sister married George Marshall. She may have lived there between the time Sam Osbourne left for Nevada and she left Indiana to join him. Her visit when en route to Europe the first time was followed by a Hendricks County stopover upon her return, when she was saddened by her father's recent death.

SHE MUST HAVE been back in Hendricks County in 1899 when she stopped in Indianapolis upon a return from France and greeted childhood friends at a Claypool Hotel reception. Author Booth Tarkington later recalled that visit:

"I once walked across the lobby of the Claypool Hotel in Indianapolis with her. The proprietor of the cigar stand came excitedly at me...and said, 'Excuse me, Mr. Tarkington, but, my God, who was that? Effect of, visibly, a personage.'"

Throughout her life Fanny Stevenson made references to the old "House on the Hill Road" in correspondence with family members. From Nevada she wrote wistfully, "If you ever move away take some of the flowers with you that I used to love so much. Did the blue bottles ever come to anything? And were the white lilies really double? And were there any sweet scented tulips? Have you any tube roses yet? Or any Canterbury bells? And I want to know about the gooseberries and the strawberries and the grape vines I used to help water, and all those little fruit trees that Pa set out."

Her sister Nellie Sanchez wrote of the home lovingly in her "Life of Mrs. Robert Louis Stevenson" and daughter Isobel Field devoted an entire chapter to life on the farm in her "This Life I've Loved," a chapter based on the visit she made to Hendricks County with her mother and brother in 1863 and 1869.

Robert Louis Stevenson apparently never visited Hendricks County himself, but he wrote to both of Fanny's parents, and copies of Vandegrift-Stevenson letters in the Plainfield Public Library include a warm letter to a nephew whom Stevenson regretted never having seen, but to whom he apparently had sent some music. It is clear the author coveted the friendship and approval of his wife's family.

FANNY'S DAUGHTER Belle married a California painter, whom she later divorced. More than 20 years later she married Edward (Ned) Salisbury Field, a successful playwright and the son of a founder of Bobbs Merrill Publishing Co. in Indianapolis, whose wife was a former schoolmate of Fanny's. Mrs. Field lived into her 90s and was also a successful author.

Fanny's son Lloyd collaborated with Stevenson on three books. Twice married and divorced, he lived with his sister in Santa Barbara the last few years of his life.

A great-niece of Fanny Stevenson's lives in Indianapolis today and treasures Vandegrift Stevenson letters in her possession. Occasionally, in quiet moments, she rereads the letters. Each time the personalities and character of the

writers become more vivid to her—charming, impetuous Sam, reflective Louis, plucky Fanny, who, in an affectionate sketch by Stevenson, was "infinitely little, had a handsome waxen face like Napoleon's, insane black eyes, boys' hands and tiny feet."

To this he added, "She loved to doctor everybody, but could not be doctored herself!"

HCMS HCMS HCMS HCMS HCMS

MUSEUM MUSINGS

The weather cooperated better this year than it had done for some of our open houses. It was on the frigid side but not wet. We nearly drowned one year and had to slice fog at the same time. Another year we were buried in snow. But this year we came out smelling like bayberry.

The tree was decorated by the Little Hoosiers (Jr. Historical Society) from Avon. The decorations were in keeping with the era. There is one thing to be said of decorations of that day. One didn't have to watch the wires, or have bulbs burn out! Toys that delighted children many years ago were under the tree.

Marcia Mussman, Danville, was here both weekends demonstrating spinning and weaving. She used real home grown wool. She demonstrated the art of weaving on the loom in our primitives room, and wove some nice place mats which she contributed to the craft shop.

Mary Elizabeth Bray, Pittsboro, played her dulcimer and sang. The dulcimer is of American origin, having been made by people in the Appalachian Mountains. Mary was sort of "got" when Dorothy Kelley sneaked around and taped one of her songs and, just as she finished, played it back to her.

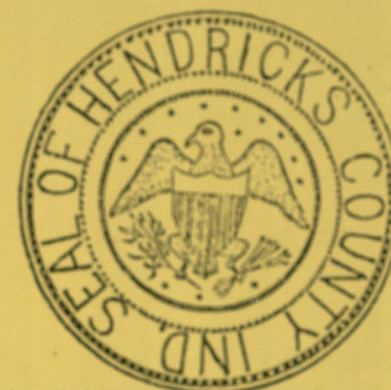
Enough Christmas records were brought along that the Victrola in the parlor was kept busy. There was everything from "Here Comes Santa Claus" to selections from Handel's "Messiah". Carols were sung too. The piollian is a great help there. All one needs to do to play it is to be able to play a piano and have a great pair of legs! Where have we heard that before! Well? Yes, it takes a bit of coordination. The brain has to be three places at once. Somehow the player has to try to read the printed page, get the fingers to do what they are supposed to do, and ride herd on what the feet are trying to do. Takes a bit of endurance.

The Christmas season is ushered in in Danville by the Christmas parade. There are floats, bands and all the trimmings that go with a great parade. Our part was in keeping the museum open. Ladies of the Historical Society baked cookies and Dorothy Kelley made her delicious spiced cider punch. If you haven't tasted it, you'd better get in line the next time!

On January 13, 1981, Miss Myrtie Barker, columnist for the Indianapolis News—she writes "My Window"—paid us a visit. She found out about us when Florence Obenchain, Pittsboro, had bought a book Miss Barker had offered. She told her about the museum and invited her to come see it. Miss Barker got in touch with her editor and told him that there was a museum out in Hendricks County that she ought to see. Arrangements were made for a time a week earlier than her visit, but the weather was so bad that it was put off until the 13th. Those who were privileged to meet her enjoyed her visit.

The craft shop always has lots of gift ideas. The 1976 History Book is available along with its index, a must when one has the History Book. There are quilts, decorative pillows, wall plaques, magnetized decorations that grin down at us from refrigerator doors, they include corn-cob faces, birds, mice, butterflies, you name it. Then there are all varieties of pen-holders. They run all the way from the conventional round ones to those that are oversized butterflies.

HISTORY BULLETIN



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THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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H C H S

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H C H S

TO BUILD A BRIGHT FUTURE, WE NEED THE BEST OF OUR PAST.

Harold Blake Walker

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

GREETINGS FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Hello All,

History was made last month! Yes, I know, history is made every day, but the flight of the Columbia Space Shuttle was "big" history. I heard someone refer to it as the covered wagon of space.

Sometimes those of us who have the greater part of our lives behind us instead of before us are quick to criticize great accomplishments like this - perhaps because we want things to stay as we have enjoyed them or perhaps because we look at them as too big for us to execute without realizing that some one else will do the work, while we can sit back and "watch the parade go by."

As you look back at many other history making events perhaps this one was really no greater than many other daring attempts to change the future. Many awesome events have changed the life of man on earth. A few of them have to be the voyage of Columbus which opened the seaways, the flight of the Wright brothers which opened the airways above the earth, the walk on the moon by our astronauts which proved that we could conquer space, and try to imagine the world before the discovery of electricity - I read a quip a few days ago saying that if Edison hadn't perfected a light bulb, we would be watching T.V. by candle-light. Figure that one out. And can you imagine modern living without zippers?

Some of us remember the time before we had so many things, but we really don't want to go back, do we? Let's look forward with anticipation to a future and hope that we can be here to see it become history in a way we can not imagine.

Marian Worrell, Pres.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

The Hendricks County Historical Society met February 1 at the Danville United Methodist Church with 44 members present. Mrs. Earl Bonham, wife of the pastor of the host church, gave the devotions and in her remarks spoke of the importance of collecting bits and pieces and how they contribute to our culture.

After the usual business was conducted, Maynard Nolan complimented Jewell Bell on her excellent reporting to many papers. It was mentioned that Grace Cox had recently given 104 items to the museum and attention was called to the interesting articles about the museum that Myrtle Barker had written for THE INDIANAPOLIS NEWS.

Dorothy Kelley gave the program about fascinating articles in the museum, dwelling mostly on books, papers, post cards and old comics. She quoted from MUTT AND JEFF COMIC BOOKS OF 1913, ABE MARTIN'S ALMANAC FROM 1909, Roger Bean, Uncle Josh and others. It was a delightful talk followed by a social hour with delicious food and plenty of time to browse about the display table.

MAY 3 MEETING

Our next meeting will be Sunday, May 3rd. (Remember? The meetings have been changed to the FIRST Sunday in our meeting months.)

The meeting will be held at the Corner Stone Christian Church in Brown Township... Know how to get there? Well, most of us passed it when we went to the Corinth Church in November. Take State Road 267 north from Brownsburg approximately two miles and there it is on the left (west) side of the road. It was formerly the Brown Township School and, so I am told, still looks more like a school than a church.

It promises to be an interesting meeting ... and different. Donald Hasket of Brownsburg, and an expert on the subject, will give a talk entitled POCKET WATCHES AND POCKET KNIVES. So bring your old tick-tocks and switch blades (Heaven forbid!) for the display table and let's learn about a little known subject (at least for most of us.)

Lincoln and Brown Township ladies will furnish refreshments for the social hour.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

Mary Ann Moore is an avid history buff and one of Hendricks County's best writers. She spends many hours at our museum helping Dorothy Kelley and has been a great help to our society. I need her often to write for our bulletin, but she doesn't co-operate too well ... she is too modest, I think. But this interesting article arrived in the mail recently, and I think it calls for more contributions in the future:

TRY READING AN OLD, OLD BOOK

Do you have any books that belonged to your parents, grandparents or perhaps, even, your great grandparents? In 1975 I inherited books from about all of the above. Gradually I have read them all. Ann Judson, A Memorial, was written by Walter Wyeth, DD and published in Cincinnati in 1888.

When I opened this slender, navy blue volume I had no idea of the contents. It had belonged to my great grandmother, Louisa Clark, who lived and is buried at Stilesville. The book had passed on to her son, John William Clark, who moved to Montclair in 1902. My aunt, Pearl Clark Cunningham, died in the spring of 1975, and I helped clean out the old homestead house. I have tintypes of Louisa and Levi, who was a veteran of the Civil War. I value old Hendricks County tax bills dated as far back as 1865.

I learned that the book is about some very famous people. Ann Judson was born in 1789, in Bradford, Mass. She married Adoniram Judson, in 1812, and that same month they departed for Calcutta, India and then on to Rangoon, Burma, as the first American missionaries. Their tongue, dress and customs were so peculiar as only to excite curiosity. They toiled, prayed, and wept alone.

Mr. Judson worked to translate the language into a Bible tract. It was seven years before the first convert was baptized. (In the years to come there were 500,000 converts reached by the pastors trained under Mr. Judson. He translated a dictionary that is used today and translated the Bible into Burmese, according to the encyclopedias.)

The book I own is the story of Mr. Judson's first wife, Ann, who was a missionary for 14 years and died at the age of 37. Her son lived eight months and her daughter died a few months after the mother, at the age of two.

The heart of the story is the long struggle during the War between England and Burma when Mr. Judson was in prison for 21 months. The book is as exciting as any modern biography and was excellent reading material.

Why don't you try reading an old, old book? It might surprise you!

Mary Ann Moore

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

Elizabeth Mae (Briner) Shields

Death again visited our ranks and took a lovely member, Elizabeth Shields April 3rd. I have on my desk a beautiful tribute to her written by her husband Don, and her son, Lyndon. It is a loving testimony to a rich, full active life, filled with devotion to her God and to her family, a love of reading, an avid interest in history and genealogy and a student of the Bible.

A life such as this is sorely needed in this world and she will be greatly missed. To her husband and son, and her father, Ray Briner, as well as other relatives, we extend our heartfelt sympathy. We hope they will find comfort in knowing that the rewards of such a dedicated life are far greater than we here, in this world, can ever comprehend. Our faith tells us that she is happy and safe in His everlasting arms.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

Query: Although he did not request a query, a new member, Paul Nagel, 39727 Chaffer, Mt. Clemens, Mich. 48044, is seeking info about Nathaniel S. Barron (Stilesville) and Ansalem Mason (Putnam Co.), parents of each and some descendants of certain offspring. I have sent him the name of our genealogists, but if anyone else can come up with information that will help him, I am sure he will appreciate it.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

One of my dearest and most admired friends and, without a doubt, one of the most valued members of our society, has sent this article about the old Butler College when it was located on the Irvington Campus. Although it was not a Hendricks County institution, many, many Hendricks County young people took advantage of its facilities either because of its proximity or mainly because of its exclusive and above average educational standards. Frances Fisher writes:

"This article about the old Butler Irvington Campus is dedicated to all members of the Historical Society who attended Butler, whether past or present. It is written in particular to the memory of James I. Shockley (a former president of the HCHS) who was a classmate of mine and with whom I graduated in the class of 1921. He was an alumnus of whom the college can be proud, a good athlete, active in student affairs, member of an esteemed fraternity and always maintaining an enviable status of a gracious gentleman and an excellent student.

"Our own Ed Winkelman played in the opening game at the Hinkle Fieldhouse in the spring of 1928. The game was between the Alums and the Butler team. The Alums won!"

This article is filled with interesting facts and history, delightful memories and a poignancy that speaks eloquently of her love of her old alma mater, of her love of learning and of her love of and exuberance and thankfulness for life itself.

This is a beautiful tribute to a college from which, Frances rather reluctantly admits, she graduated with highest honors.

MEMORIES of a COED in a College That Was.

Most people who have attended college, have the opportunity to revisit their Alma Maters and to enjoy fond reminiscences of the years spent there, but not so for those who attended the old Butler College in the years before the late 1920's. It is with a distinct sense of regret to find no trace of the imposing buildings that stood on the small, but picturesque campus in Irvington since 1875. It is as if a giant hand had wiped away every vestige of the college which had been held in high esteem and revered by students, especially those planning to be ministers and teachers.

In 1847 the Disciples of Christ Church named Indianapolis as the site of their proposed college. In the laws of the State of Indiana can be found the charter of the North Western Christian University which was approved January 15, 1850. Stock was issued to the amount of \$75,000. On the corner of what is now College Avenue and 13th Street, then out in the country, a handsome and spacious structure, Gothic in character, was built. It became a landmark in that part of the city. School was formally opened in 1855 and classes continued to be held in that one college building for two years.

At the beginning of the Civil War in 1861, many of the boys enlisted in the service. Even President Scott Butler enlisted for three years. My grandfather was one who laid aside his books to enlist in the 51st Indiana Regiment.

Several years after the War, in 1875, the college was moved to a new site, to Irvington which was then a suburb and the name was changed to Butler College in recognition of the benefactions of Ovid Butler who had been president of the Board of directors for 25 years. Let it be remembered that many people, particularly the Butlers, gave money and ground to make the move possible. At that time Butler offered a preparatory department, corresponding to courses given in High School. On 1904-1907, the college became part of the University of Indianapolis. Many well known teachers are remembered: Hopkins, Anderson, Jordan, Burgess, Benton, Merrill, Butler, Howe.

As the years passed by, Butler remained a small, but rather exclusive college. In 1918, however, as part of the Military Student Army Training Corps, 1500 boys descended on the campus.

What a change! Barracks had been built to accommodate the influx, but after the War the barracks were taken over by the Athletic Department. At about the same time, an event of major importance took place. Attracted by an ideal location and a desire to do something for Hoosierdom, Harlan Orville Page, better known as Pat, came to Butler from the University of Chicago where he had worked and played for 15 years and for championship teams. Instilled with the spirit of both Alumni and students, he set out to build for the future triumph of the University of Indianapolis.

In September of 1920, 60 football candidates reported. The survival of the fittest still left three husky teams on the field at the end of a strenuous season. After years of disappointment and failing to win a single game, thereby earning a derisive, but sympathetic title of "Martyr Team", what an inspiring record it was to win 7 straight games and I C A L championship. In October the first homecoming game brought Butler a victory of 13 over Earlham 7, 21 victories out of 25. In March 1921 Paul (Tony) Hinkle arrived from Chicago to help "Bring the Christians out of the mire."

The only negative reaction to the expansion of the athletic department and the subsequent pride in prestige and success was that many beloved professors and teachers had received such small compensation for their years of service and dedication. Now, said the old timers, the coaches and athletic department were getting it all. Dr. Thomas Carr Howe, president for many years, had received a salary of \$600 which he returned to the college. Others who had made a distinct sacrifice for the college were Dean Putnam, familiarly called "Putty", Dr. Henry Bruner, Dr. Henry Gelston, Dr. W. C. Morro, Dr. Elijah Jordan, Dr. Elijah Johnson.

Among other things that made Butler unique among colleges, was the strict enforcement of rules set by the founders and early directors. One rule which impressed freshmen early after their admission, was the one against boys and girls dancing together on the campus. If that happened, the ground would return to the original owners, the Butlers who had been most generous in their gifts. Tradition was strong and Christian principles approved by the early founder were respected. Dances were held off campus in fraternity houses or downtown hotels. With only girls as guests, dances were held in the dorm parlors or gymnasium.

One flagrant act of disobedience that lingers in the memory of those who participated, was a general walkout of students in celebration of a rare football victory over Franklin. On Monday, following Saturday's game, it was the consensus of students as they assembled for class that there was real cause for rejoicing, and knowing the usual conservatism of the faculty, the surest way was a student walkout. Boarding street cars en masse, with out fares, parading the streets of downtown Indianapolis, barging into the Circle Theater as special guests, gave a pleasant feeling of independence, but the return to campus in the afternoon was a most disenchanting experience.

Several professors were waiting for us, their usually kindly faces plainly showing disapproval. Then, as now, it was always important to be on the good side of teachers, but we felt that some of the seven woes had been pronounced on us. The worst part was that the faculty had planned a big surprise celebration for the whole student body with a big pep session, special music, speeches by several "famous" alumni. As punishment for our misdemeanor, there was a special chapel next day, with us, the students, being the performers,

voicing humble apologies for the gala of the previous day and reflections on the consequences of such misguided actions.

Another prank by the students was a protest against a series of extremely dry chapel programs which we were required to attend. About a dozen alarm clocks were provided and set to sound off at intervals of every five minutes. On this particular morning, the faculty had thoughtfully secured the services of a well known entertainer for a welcome change. LO! no sooner had the speaker started his program, than the alarms began their intermittent buzzing, bringing chapel to a shameful and hasty conclusion.

Although this was PRE-ERA epoch, great praise should be given to some of the women who were part of Butler's progress; Miss Evelyn Butler, dean of girls and professor of English, Miss Corrinne Welling, English, Miss Sarah Cotton, registrar and assistant to the president, Miss Katherine Graydon, a beloved English professor.

Miss Butler had a modest suite in the girls' Residence hall, and tried very hard to teach them to become ladies. Good table manners were very important and were a trademark of culture. If by chance one ignored the proper etiquette in eating soup, or handling a boiled egg properly, or cutting more than one small bite of meat at a time, or failing to delineate between pieces of silverware, a summons to sit at the dean's table could not be ignored. Little by little mistakes by a timid and awkward coed would be firmly, tho subtly corrected, not to mention progress in table conversation. Study hours were rigidly enforced and when fraternity boys came to serenade the girls, the halls were carefully patrolled to preserve modesty and dignity, both trademarks of "educated females."

Two French girls came as exchange students following World War I. What a delight they were and how responsible Butler coeds felt in assisting them to become better acquainted with Butler tradition. One of them, a beautiful blonde from Bordeaux, was engaged to a young American soldier who had been stationed in France, so at Christmas 1920, she left for New York to become the bride of her beloved "Orville". The other girl was a graduate of the University of Grenoble and fell in love with everything American. After her year of study at Butler was over, she stayed on to tutor in French and to teach at Butler. Many times she locked the door of her dormitory room in order to have absolute privacy while she read "Bill Shakespear" and other favorites. We learned so much from them, for it was not an age of world travel.

So many funny things happened, their shopping trips down town with their dictionary, buying new "shoes" one time which turned out to be house slippers with pom-poms. They made frequent trips to the bakery in Irvington to supplement their diet with fresh bread which they loved. They often held auctions in their room selling hand painted bottles which they picked up from junk piles, or cute turbans which they fashioned from scraps of cloth and which had a real chic.

The Dorm angels were really thrilled to have as dinner guests a group of Frenchmen who had come to drive in the 500 mile race. I can't remember a single one of them except Jules Goux.

Approached by John Atherton, secretary of the college, whose eloquence presented a dream of a BIGGER and BETTER BUTLER which had been in the minds of officials and directors of the last few years, the class of 1921 unanimously voted to make a contribution. We signed notes to be paid from our first pay checks to help in the purchase of Fairview which was to be the site of the new Butler. Today Butler stands as a fitting monument to the Butler that was, but is no more.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

The following article appeared February 11, 1981 in the HENDRICKS COUNTY FLYER. It is interesting but it is also a mystery story. No final conclusions have been arrived at for the questions posed at the end of the article. Any one out there with a solution?

Library Lines

HAIR TODAY, GONE TOMORROW

On April 3, 1869, Hendricks County officials issued a receipt for \$4.55 for hair furnished to the Poor House.

"Hair?!"

Now, what would the county Poor House want with \$4.55 worth of hair? Human hair? Horse hair? Pig's hair?

The receipt was just one item that a team of Plainfield Public Library staff and volunteers have found in the thousands of old, soot-covered documents dating from the 19th and early 20th centuries that were cleaned out of the county courthouse basement several years ago.

By Indiana law, no records or documents may be disposed of without the consent of the state. This is partly to prevent the destruction of documents with potential historical value. So when the courthouse cleaned up its basement, a number of cartons packed full of old records was turned over to the Guilford Township Historical Society.

Some of the society's members, including Clark Kellum who was also a Plainfield Public Library trustee, hauled the cartons first to the old library on South Center Street, and thence to the present building where they have been stored in an overflowing closet.

These documents are seeing the light of day, albeit briefly, thanks to several volunteers working under the direction of Historical Librarian Susan Carter. The working crew includes staff member Betty Bartley, and long-time local history supporters Clark Kellum, Grace Cox, Ruth Pritchard and Jack Miller. They come dressed in blue jeans, sweat shirts or other work-a-day attire because of the clouds of coal dust that rise as the records are extracted from the boxes.

The documents are cleaned of surface grime and decomposed rubber bands, then sorted into categories such as "jail," "courthouse," "poor house," "roads," "ditches," and "bridges."

After this general inventory the records are repacked into strong, clean boxes, labelled and returned to storage.

Susan Carter beams when she tells of some of the more significant or intriguing documents that the work team has uncovered in this rich lode of historical sidelights:

Specifications for redecorating the sheriff's residence which was part of the county jail and is now an historical museum:

A petition for the incorporation of Plainfield in 1904, signed by voters, all male, of course:

A map of the Indianapolis and Plainfield Electric Railroad Company traction line, with diagrams of the cut:

Documents relating to the purchase and installation of the tower clock in the county courthouse:

Miscellaneous correspondence which adds colorful, amusing and sometimes poignant touches to the daily business of managing county affairs, whether it is contracting for a man to scrub the jail cells for \$1.50, or bills for outfitting people committed to the women's prison.

Now-back to that \$4.55 worth of hair for the county poor house. Let's test your historical savvy or your imaginations. Call the library at 839-6602 before next Wednesday, and tell us what you think that hair was used for. We'll print the names (and answers) of the first 10 people whose answers agree with the conclusions of the library team - or those answers show the most originality!

HCMS HCMS HCMS HCMS HCMS

The INDIANAPOLIS STAR MAGAZINE recently ran an interesting article about the renovation of the Danville Public Library complete with color pictures. (Wouldn't it be nice if the HCMS could afford a bulletin that could print pictures? Your Ed then would not have to write so many words, for, they say, a picture is worth a whole batch of words...1,000, I think.)

When the Danville library decided to expand while retaining the charm of the past, the plan offered a perfect setting for 100-year-old stained glass windows purchased at an auction.

The windows are part of the Indiana Room, a recently completed addition designed to match the architecture of the rest of the library, which is nearly 80 years old. The windows had been in a Danville church which originally was United Methodist and later held a Baptist congregation.

In keeping with the antique windows, the rest of the room is devoted to Danville area history as told in old newspapers and photographs and collections of literature and mementos.

Transformation of the library in the heart of the Hendricks County seat is the first since it was established through a Carnegie grant of \$10,000 and put in the care of the first librarian, hired at \$5 a week in 1902. When the expansion became necessary in 1976, the library board considered the options of razing the existing structure, finding a new location or adding to the existing library.

The latter course was chosen and modern architecture was rejected in favor of retaining an historical flavor in the addition. A total of 18 types of brick were reviewed in choosing one to match the old; woodwork and moldings inside and out were matched with the old. An original fireplace mantel was refinished in the adult section and a mantelpiece was used in the new children's room.

Head librarian Mary Ellen Schmidt and children's librarian Carol Flynn are guardians of books in the place which has successfully fused the old and the new, and Betty Bartley is historical librarian.

HCMS HCMS HCMS HCMS HCMS

What would we do without Betty Lane?

Another article of hers which appeared in the INDIANAPOLIS STAR MAGAZINE is presented herewith:

There are those who call the peaceful Hendricks County town of Hadley a ghost town. But it isn't, really.

Only two streets long, in the middle of rich, rolling farmland, the village once known as Hadley Station is still an identifiable community, part of the life of this once predominantly Quaker area. Tiny Hadley Friends cemetery on a hill just west of town bears silent testimony to persons who once lived in the area.

Platted in 1872 about six miles west of Danville, Hadley was simply called a railroad station in the 1885 history of Hendricks County, with a post office, store, Friends meeting house, and "but a few inhabitants." Hadley never acquired a formal town government, but Hendricks County historian Joe Davidson says it was once a "very busy Quaker community," and its general store was a large one. (The first post office was established in the name of Limosa in 1871; the Hadley post office closed in 1932.)

At one time the village boasted a flour mill, a sawmill and a blacksmith shop. There are no businesses in the town today.

The railroad that gave birth to Hadley Station was the old Big Four and the little town provided workers to "all branches of railroad service" according to Davidson. Conrail tracks still loom above the town, with an underpass in the railroad embankment for county road 450 west. Immediately west of this road an arched, concrete railroad bridge built in the early 1900s spans picturesque Mill Creek.

Fast freights still roar through Hadley several times a day on runs between Indianapolis and St. Louis.

Hadley's greatest claims to fame have come through the accomplishments of some residents of the area. One was Addison Coffin, who lived on a farm a mile west of Hadley in the last century.

A positive man, farmer, orchardist, writer, lecturer and world traveler, Coffin was also a Friends minister who is believed to have been a right-hand man to his relative, Levi Coffin, in the Underground Railroad for fleeing slaves.

Some say Addison Coffin's tall frame house was an Underground Railroad station. Joe Davidson says "people of Hadley and Amo considered him the wise man of their day. He was short of build, bald and always wore a black silk skull cap."

Addison Hadley and his wife Martha gave their 110-acre farm just east of town to the Indiana WCTU for its Hadley Industrial School for girls.

This impressive brick school building was completed in 1894 and at one time 50 or more needy girls were housed there. They were taught domestic skills and the cultivation of fruits, plants and flowers and helped run the home's dairy operation.

The WCTU had to give up this venture in 1910 for lack of funds (an orphan's home occupied the site for a time), but descendants of some of the young women who lived there are still in the Hadley area.

An index to Hendricks County histories which date back to 1885 (a thick volume) has eight pages of names of Hendricks County residents with the surname of Hadley.

Hendricks County's Clay Township was home to many of those interrelated families from North Carolina. And some of their neat, well-built homes, such as the Charles A. Whicker home east of the village, once the home of Mrs. Whicker's remarkable grandmother, Hannah Hadley, still stand, reflecting the provident ways of these early Quaker residents.

Myrtle Barker from the "Indianapolis News" gave a nice write-up on the museum following her visit that was mentioned last time. In fact, an article in the museum was mentioned in another piece a little later. She wrote about the lady's shoes in the parlor that no one these days can even get her big toe in. She was writing on shoes from all eras.

We noticed how advertising has affected our lives down through the years. Of course, we didn't have radio and television to keep us reminded as we do now. You know, buy this or that product and you will be sitting on top of the world! The boxes some things came in, cigars, for instance, served a purpose years after their initial use was over and the smoke cleared. Look what a similar box costs today if one can be found. Then all one had to do was speak for one. There were shoe boxes too. They make dandy storage and good place for mice nests. The younger set made dandy wagons by adding a string. Didn't matter if they didn't have wheels. And there was the fan! All kinds of fans, paper lace, cardboard stapled to a stick, palm-leaf--now that could move a lot of air. The fine satin ones milady used to complement her costume. Don't forget the make-shift--pleated newspaper. Anything to move air! How did we get on these subjects? Well, in the parlor at the museum is a long library table that is currently lined with objects used for advertising. Dorothy Kelley, our curator, noticed many in our acquisitions, and thought it would make an interesting display. There were patent medicine bottles, you know, the stuff that would cure just about anything. Liniment bottles held a sure cure from "rheumatics" to a lame horse. Sometimes one touch of that stuff and the horse was no longer lame but the fellow who tried to apply it might be. There were all kinds of

postcards with ads for clothes wringers to hosiery. There was a clothes brush that came from a ready-to wear store and from the looks of the brush, it either didn't get used a lot or the owners took very good care of it. It was like new. Several spectacle cases were there. Some from around the turn of the century and later. There were several shoe horns and button hooks that had names of stores from various parts of the county as well as Indianapolis. The shoe horns and button hooks were hung up high along with the scissors in homes with young children. The shoe horns would have made nice little shovels in the sand-pile. The button hooks would have been nice for something. The scissors would have cut more than paper, in fact, some were known to try their hand at barbering on a younger member of the family. The young operator probably did his best, but the criticism mama provided wasn't what he was looking for.

The museum has a new look! Brand spankin' new steps. Nice! The ones that were replaced were as old as the building and had been trod on countless times. They were simply wearing out.

We recently acquired a very old (1769) Bible and an accompanying prayer book written in the German language. The pages are paper as soft as cloth. Notes from a long time ago were scattered through the Bible's pages but they were in German and this writer can't read German! Notes are always interesting, but we had to forego these.

We received a very, very nice cabinet that will be used to house Central Normal and Canterbury College memorabilia. It has been placed in the library. It is made of oak, has glass doors, is equipped with a light inside, and is quite an addition to the library.

The Hendricks County Garden Club again graced the lawn by planting a tulip tree.

The tulip bed is colorful now and the new shingle oak is thriving. The squirrel that tried to climb it and fell off hasn't been seen trying it yet.

Jewell
I am looking at an old, old letter, contributed by (whom else?) Ruth Pritchard. It is hand written, of course, on the letter head of the Clerk's office, Hendricks County Circuit Court, Enoch G. Hogate, Clerk. And I MUST compliment Mr. Hogate (if he wrote it himself) on his calligraphy. What beautiful handwriting!

(I hope you will forgive a personal comment. It was much like my father's, W. F. Franklin's. A school teacher, trained in handwriting as all students used to be, his letters to my mother were works of art! Later, when he was a poor, hurried, hard working farmer selling pure bred live stock all over the country, he dashed off a note to a Dutchman in Pennsylvania....in long hand. My father did have a typewriter which he used with two fingers, but this time he didn't take the time to type. This is the answer he received: "Next time you write, use typewriter so I can read him."

Dated May, 1899, it was headed

Honorable Benjamin Harrison,
President of the United States.

Dear Sir:

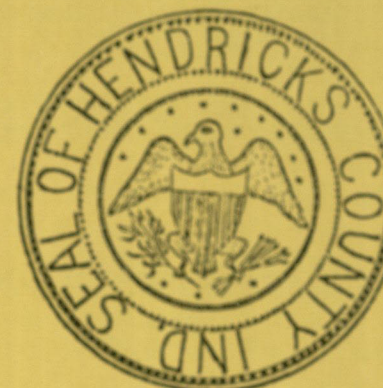
It has just come to our knowledge that L. M. Campbell is expecting to be appointed to some Federal position. In the interest of the Republican party in the county, we respectfully but earnestly protest. It has been but a few years since the party in this county was badly split into factions until it seemed problematical, at some elections, whether the Republican ticket would be elected. The potent factor in the split was Mr. Campbell. There has not been an election in years but the question has, early in the campaign, been asked, "How will Mr. Campbell exert his influence?" "Will it be for the Republican party or will he sit still, apparently, and secretly stab the efforts being made for the party?" During the session of the Legislature in 1897 it became well known that Mr. Campbell, as State Senator, was secretly using his influence against the caucus nominee for U. S. Senator and during all which time he was meeting the Republican caucus and pretending to be for the party. In 1898 he refused to make speeches for the party until late in the campaign, alleging as a reason, that he did not know that he was in accord with the party. Finally, he made two or three speeches in the county. There can be no doubt but the Republicans of Hendricks County in 1898 were in accord with the party in Indiana as to the outcome of the Chicago convention, yet Mr. Campbell returned from Chicago after, we think, two ballots had been cast, and openly proclaimed that "Indiana delegation was acting the fool; that there was not a ghost of a chance of a show for Harrison, and the delegation ought, on the next ballot, to cast its strength for Gresham, so the State could have some influence in the outcome." This met with very general disgust from all Republicans here. We do not want anything to come along to cause trouble in the party. We think we can, to some extent, realize the importance of the victory to be gained in 1899, not only in Indiana, but to the Nation; but we say to you, with all due respect, and with all manner of good feeling to the party, that the appointment of Mr. Campbell to any Federal office would cast such an apathy in the party here that a majority of 500 would be a surprise. The former trouble would be nothing as compared to the results to follow his appointment. All differences heretofore have been rectified. The disappointment in the failure of Major Homan to receive what he asked will pass away, because he is in thorough accord with the party and its workers; but this county, from a political standpoint, had better go forever without an appointment given here than that Mr. Campbell be the favored man. We feel free in writing as we do - first, because no one who signs this letter is an applicant for an office; second, we are urging the appointment of no one, and third, because Mr. Campbell is not in accord, politically, with the party, and we have been led to believe you fully understood it. We beg you to understand that we write this only in the interest of the party and not through any personal feelings against Mr. Campbell.

Very Respectfully Yours,

Editor's note: Ruth and I do not know if this letter was ever sent, and, if it was, who signed it or what influence it had on President Harrison. As a strictly non-partisan publication all I can say, after watching, for years, political maneuvering, is: THE MORE THINGS CHANGE, THE MORE THEY REMAIN THE SAME.

HENDRICKS COUNTY

HISTORY BULLETIN



VOLUME XII NUMBER III

AUGUST 1981

PUBLISHED BY

THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DANVILLE, INDIANA

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

ORGANIZED 1967

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ANNUAL DUES \$3.00 PAYABLE IN NOVEMBER

H C H S

The Hendricks County Historical Bulletin is published quarterly in February, May, August and November. It is distributed without charge to members of the Society and to Hendricks County School Libraries. Individual copies of \$1.00. Communications concerning back copies or individual copies should be addressed to our secretary. Contributions or suggestions to The Bulletin should be mailed to the editor.

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H C H S

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE.....

Have you paid your rent? Maybe you don't think you owe any rent but think again - you do! Whenever we live in a spot that we do not own we must pay our dues. Think about it. This beautiful earth on which we live. Do you own that 100 acres or that city plot? The Bible says "The earth is the Lords". The free country which has been handed to you has cost the lives of many people who fought and died for it. The heritage which is ours because someone else lived and worked and carved out of their future has also made things better for us. Our schools have a history of the struggle for better education by people who faced many disappointments and hardships so they could be handed to us. Our churches have existed through the prayers, sacrifices and hard work as well as generations of dedicated volunteers. Think of our highway system as compared to dusty gravel roads. Someone else is responsible for our electricity that gives us our modern living conveniences - we didn't do it ourselves. The list is endless and you could think of so many things that we have to make our lives easier.

Now what have you done to see that future generations have better things than we have? or at very least as good as we found them. We are obligated by those who have left us such a heritage to do something to keep the momentum going. Have you paid your rent?

Marian Worrell

Hendricks County Historical Society met May 3, 1981 at the Cornerstone Christian Church north of Brownsburg. Our president Marian Worrell opened the meeting by reading a poem "Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow". Devotions were given by the pastor of the host church, Rev. Larry Bellville. He told of the history of the building, which was the Brown Twp. School. It had served the community in this capacity for 50 yrs. He said the church has a great interest in history. He closed with prayer.

The secretary's report was read & approved. The treasurer gave a balance of \$239.72.

Maynard Nolan gave a report on the Museum. He said a Model A Ford Club had visited the museum recently and gave nice comments and a nice donation. We keep finding things from estates and have had other donations.

We want to recognize Margaret Baker as an asset to our society as our editor of the Bulletin we all enjoy.

We sang Happy Birthday to Mildred Smith.

We have had several letters asking about genealogical research. We were asked to work on getting new members. Pearl Edmondson is in the nursing home in Mooreville.

Clark Kellum said our debt for the History Book is down to \$5,000.

Our program was Antique Watches. Mr. & Mrs. Hasket told of ways to price and acquire articles. He told about knives and pocket watches - the key wind is the oldest - 1850. Some old cases were solid gold, most dials were porcelain. He had several knives and watches on the display table.

The meeting was adjourned and we had a social hour with refreshments. Hostesses were from Lincoln and Brown Township. Forty-two members were present.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

HENDRICKS COUNTY GENEALOGY SOCIETY FORMED

The Hendricks County Genealogy Society was recently formed in a meeting at Danville. Officers elected were Kevin Shular, president, and Betty Bartley, secretary-treasurer. It was decided that meetings would be held the third Thursday of each month, at 6:30 p.m., in the Indiana Room of the Danville Public Library. Dues were set at \$1.00 per year. The purpose of the Society is to learn about genealogical sources in Hendricks County, and in the rest of Indiana. Out-of-state research will also be discussed. Anyone interested in joining can contact Betty Bartley at the Danville Public Library, 101 S. Indiana Street.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

OUR CONVALESCENTS

From our smallest to our tallest comes good news. Margaret Baker, Editor, continues to improve, after hospitalization of several days.

Clark Kellum is back in Kelter after many tests and major surgery.

In the middle comes Jack Miller. He has benefitted from a two-week hospital visit.

Our oldest member, ninety-five year-old, Joe Davidson, our poet, historian, and artist, has returned to his home in Coatesville after fifteen days in the hospital at Greencastle.

Miller's Merry Manor at Mooresville, Indiana is blest with some of our best. Fair reports come from Pearl Edmondson, Claire J. Sellars, and Mary B. Thompson. They reside at 259 West Harrison Street, Mooresville.

Note: I have since learned that Pearl Edmondson is at home and went to church last Sunday, July 12.

Since our last meeting we have lost a member of our society. Ruth Gregory of Stilesville passed away.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

DIGGINS IN THE DUST

Hendricks County Cemetery Researchers were delighted during recent work on materials stored in the Clark Kellum Closet in the Plainfield Public Library.

The excitement was over the "discovery" of THE GUYNN CEMETARY ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION.

A copy of those Articles and a list of members follow.

THE GUYNN CEMETARY ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

1. For the purpose of providing suitable ground for the Burial of our Dead and to keep the same inclosed. We the undersigned citizens of the County of Hendricks and State of Indiana are banded and associated under the Corporate name of Guynn Cemetary Association. And we do hereby bind ourselves to pay on demand, to the Treasurer of our ASSociation, when the same shall have been appointed the sums annexed to our respective names.
2. The Officers of said Association shall consist of Three Trustees, who shall be elected from among the members on the Fourth Saturday of October in every year, and upon failure of the Association to elect such Trustees on the day designated, the old ones shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified.
3. Said Trustees shall form themselves into a Board for doing business, by selecting one of their number to serve at all the meetings of the Board as President, and shall appoint one of the remaining Trustees to act as Secretary and the other as Treasurer of the Association.
4. The President shall designate the days on which the Board shall Transact Business, and shall call all meetings for the members of the Association & preside thereat.
5. The Secretary shall procure a Journal into which he shall first copy these Articles and the names of the Members, and shall append thereto such By-Laws as shall be deemed by the Members, or a majority of them necessary for the government of the Association, and shall also enter therein the proceedings had at every meeting of the Board, and of the Association when called together by the president.
6. The Treasurer shall also procure a Book into which he shall enter an account of all the money received and paid out by him for the Association, which book shall be under the supervision of the Board of Trustees and open at any time to the inspection of any member of the Association. And said Treasurer on going out of office shall deliver said book and all the unexpended moneys in his hands belonging to the Association to his successor.
7. No purchase of lands for the Association shall hereafter be made without the consent of the majority of the members which consent shall only be obtained after due notice first being given of the same at a meeting appointed by the President for the purpose.
8. To defray the expenses of the Association or to make purchases of grounds or for needed improvements The Board shall have the right to assess and collect of the members of the Association such a Tax as a majority of them at a meeting called for the purpose shall designate. And the payment of such assessment may be coerced by the Treasurer in any court having jurisdiction without any relief whatever from the valuation or appraisal laws.

9. On all questions to be decided by Ballot each member who has paid his subscription shall be entitled to one vote and the same may be voted by proxy.

September 24, 1858

Names of Members		Names of Members	
Joseph Bolen	Paid 1.00	J. L. McCormack	Paid .50
John S. Wood	Paid 1.00	William Douglas	Paid 1.00
Cornelius Veatch	Paid 1.00	J. Isaac Petty	Paid 1.00
Jacob Tharp	Paid 1.00		
J. O. Riley	I donate all the ground that is in us(e) now (now?) J. O. Riley or		
John Biddle	Paid .50	Merrell Brady	Paid 1.00
Simon Hornady	Paid 1.00	Moses Guynn	Paid 1.00
A. F. Shirts	Paid 1.00	Merill Brady	Paid 1.00
Harvey Woods	Paid 1.00	Mrs. Do	Paid .50
John Little	Paid .50	B. Snodgrass	Paid 1.00
Amos McCormick	Paid 1.00	Mosses Moon or (Wood)	Paid .50
Nathan Petty	Paid 1.00	W. J. Maddox	Paid .10
Samuel McCormick	Paid 1.00		
Drucella Brady	Paid .50		

Certificate and Plat of Grave Yard in Sec. 25 T 15 R 1 W

Joseph Bowlin & Others

Joseph Bowlin, Cornelius Veach, Simon Hornaday, A. F. Shirts, Samuel McCormack, Amos McCormack, John Little, Wm. Douglas, Josiah Read, Isaac O'Riley, Moses Guynn, Aquilla Joreau, John S. Wood, Wm. Maddox.

Isaac O'Riley to the within.

(Bowlin & Wood)

THE GUYNN CEMETARY

Articles of Association

Recorded on O Book 8 at Page 146

Filed in my Office 30 October 1858

John Irons Clk.

State of Indiana Hendricks County, Cartersburg, October 23rd 1858. According

to public notice given in the Hendricks County Ledger, the Share Holders of said Association held an Election at the Methodist Episcopal Church in Cartersburg for the purpose of electing trustees for the Gynn Cemetary which resulted in the choice of Joseph Bolen, Jacob Tharpe, and John S. Wood as such Trustees.

GRAVE YARD LOT

A part of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 25 Township 15 North of Range one West, Beginning in the Southern boundary line of the Danville and Cartersburgh Gravel Road one chain and thirty one links S. 70 degrees East from the intersection of said Southern boundary line, with the north line of said SE $\frac{1}{4}$; (said intersection being six chains seventy-five links east of the center of said Section) Thence S 68° E, on the southern boundary line of said road. Two chains fifty links; Thence south three chains; Thence N. 76 $\frac{1}{2}$ ° W. Two chains thirty eight links; Thence North three chains thirty eight links to the place of beginning, containing Seventy-four hundredths of an acre, more or less.

JOSEPH H. DENNIS

Surveyor H. Co.

Plat of Sec. 25 T 15 N of R 1 W

HCMS HCMS HCMS HCMS HCMS

GROWING UP IN NORTH SALEM

A Playhouse, Out Buildings and Such

The very first building along Ladoga Avenue was our garage. It was no ordinary building for the parking of a car or the storing of tools and toys. The coal bin was built into one of the front corners. In the floor was a trap door that opened up into the basement. Daddy had put it in for the convenience of changing oil or working on the car. We used it as a quick escape route during games of hide-and-seek. Built on the side of a hill, the garage had steps on one side going down to that "bestest summer playhouse" anyone could possibly have.

About one fourth of the basement was boarded off and used for garden tools and kindling storage. At one time, we had boarded a borrowed cow. Uncle Earl had needed us to take care of Jersey for awhile. A regular floor and eating trough was built in for her and a barbed wire put up around the garden area. In the months that we had the garden planted she lived over in a pasture across from the cemetery. Mother took a pail and went over there to milk her. Talk about rich cream and plenty of milk and homemade ice cream and cottage cheese--we sure enjoyed these during the time she was our guest! It was a couple of years later that the basement was turned into our playhouse. An old oil drum lay on its side in one corner and in front of it a 12 x 12 block of wood, about as long as the drum. All it took was an old rug and PRESTO--a play davenport. Mother even put up some curtains at the two windows. Doll beds, wicker buggy, table and chairs including the wicker rocker, the shelf along one side for the kitchen and everything was all set up for our housekeeping.

The dark garden soil made a wonderful cake. A clay-sand mixture topped with sunflower petals or hollyhock seeds provided a delicious looking icing. This would

harden and "bake" when set out in the sun for a few hours. Cleaning up afterwards was usually done in a bucket up at the outside pump by the kitchen door.

"You girls get yourselves up here this minute and clean up this mess," Mother would call to us, when she saw the muddy conglomeration of toy dishes and pans cluttering up the well platform. Sometimes it took more than one yell--and sometimes even harsher methods.

Boy, did we get dirty! Sometimes even we were cleaned up in a wash tub of water, warmed by the sun. No, we didn't have a bathroom in those days. There was no water heater either, just a kitchen sink and a pump that would bring in either well or cistern water. A large copper boiler heated the water for big jobs like canning or washing the clothes. A super large teakettle heated dish and bath water.

You have another question? Well, we had a small wooden building out in the backyard. This was the toilet with wooden seat, two holes for adults and the small child's seat Daddy had built from a box, close to the floor for short legs. No flushing, just an occasional handful of powder lime thrown in to sanitize. Those seats were plenty cold in zero weather and the draft, around the door and through the tiny up-high ventilation windows, was something else all winter long. In summer there were wasps flying in and out industriously building nests along with their cousins, the mud-dobbers. Spiders spun their fine fly-catching nets and lurked in the corners to scare the wits out of us. No, it wasn't exactly the safest or nicest place to go. Maybe that is why we seldom went alone, especially after dark. Isn't it strange the comfort another can give us, just with their company, when they would be no earthly good at really protecting us from such dangers?

Mary Ann Clark Moore

HCMS HCMS HCMS HCMS HCMS FORMING OF OUR SOCIETY

The Hendricks County Centennial celebration on May 23, 1924, sparked the interest in preserving our heritage. There was a general demand for a museum to try to save some of the relics of a by-gone day. That was a time when everything must be new to be fashionable. Lots of things we hold dear today would have as likely been relegated to the junk pile or at least, kept out of sight as "too old".

On November 11, 1924, a group of Hendricks County citizens met in the Assembly Room of the court house and organized the Hendricks County Historical Society. They chose as officers: Thad Adams, president; George Reitzel, 1st. vice-president; Mrs. Julian Hogate, 2nd. vice president; and Fred Brengle, secretary-treasurer. Dues were \$1 per year.

Their purpose was to get leaders for each township, and have a membership drive. Promotion would be through the clubs, P.T.A., and Central Normal College.

Members were assigned topics to be prepared for presentation at the subsequent meetings. At that time, at least, one person would prepare a paper to be read by another.

The northwest room on the third floor of the court house was given to the society by the county commissioners for a museum. The group met in its new quarters September 14, 1926.

Charter members were: Thad S. Adams, Danville, Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Blessing, Danville, Mr. and Mrs. Fred E. Brengle, Danville, Otis E. Culley, Danville, Mr. and Mrs. Julian Hogate, Danville, Roscoe Leak, Liston, Mrs. W. C. Osborne, Danville, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Ryner, Coatesville, and Margaret L. Shuler, Indianapolis.

The organization lasted until 1928.

The people of the county felt that Hendricks County should have a proper celebration of Indiana's 150th birthday. Our Hendricks County Historical Society was the outgrowth of the birthday celebration.

On July 13, 1967 a group of county citizens gathered at the Boys' School in Plainfield. Roy Fisher, Pittsboro, chairman pro tem, presided. Hubert Hawkins, director of the Indiana Historical Bureau spoke.

The group drew up a constitution and elected the following officers: Mr. Frank Litherland, Plainfield, president; Mrs. Hazel Felkner, Avon, vice-president; Mrs. Mildred B. Smith, Brownsburg, secretary; Mrs. Blanche Wean, Danville, treasurer; and Miss Ina Shaw, Danville, historian. And thus the Hendricks County Historical Society was reorganized.

The second meeting was on the second Sunday in October 1967 at the Fellowship Hall of the Pittsboro Christian Church. All who joined that day became charter members. Charter members numbered 85.

Meetings were to be on the second Sunday of January, April, July, and October. Special occasions such as Mother's Day, and commencements caused a conflict, as well as the January meeting being too close to Christmas, so it was decided to change the meetings to the first Sunday of February, May, August and November. Our dues are now \$3.

Meetings have been held in many places. It was found feasible to look for an air-conditioned place in summer.

The society has had many interesting speakers, the second being the late Wayne Guthrie of the "Indianapolis News". We've woven a close bond over the years because most wouldn't miss the meetings for anything if they could help it.

Then Margaret Baker, bless her, started writing the bulletins along about the first part of 1971. She has several contributors who tell about their own neighborhoods from their own experiences and by stories handed down. Someone will relate a story. Not fiction, either. We don't write that kind. Someone will suggest they write it up for the bulletin. We've received some interesting information that way.

It's always been interesting to see the historic places where we've met and nearly always, there is someone who will tell the history of the building.

Those of us who work at putting the bulletin together have really become acquainted and we have a good time. It takes a lot of will power to keep from reading the bulletin until we get finished.

Jewell Bell

MUSINGS FROM THE MUSEUM

Clubs, scout troops, church groups, and school classes like to visit the museum. Some have visited more than once. They usually comment that there is usually something on later visits that wasn't there the last time they came.

The Model "A" Ford Club of Indianapolis visited Danville on April 26 and included the museum on their tour of points of interest. Approximately 30 people came and brought 7 cars which were parked on the east side of the square. It made quite a display. Their motors purred as well as, or maybe better than bran new.

The Hendricks County Garden Club has planted annuals in the flower bed and it promises to be a colorful place all summer.

We received a glass-like cabinet that is being used to display small items that can get misplaced easily, for instance, jewelry. Also received was a WW II German dagger. It is sharper than lots of butcher knives. We also received some children's toys.

Then there was the business of showing off the wedding gowns during June. Fragile materials were made more fragile by age. Net was cotton then, not nylon. Our appreciation of the zipper was renewed when snaps, hooks and eyes mellowed with age didn't always work. Yes, zippers get balky, come apart, get off their track, and we talk about them, but with the aid of some long-nosed pliers, perhaps a bobby-pin, and some patience, they get back together. When they work they can't be beat. People couldn't get in too big a hurry when trying to button those dresses because it takes time to line all the buttons up. Yes, the models looked so cool, calm and collected. No problems at all. Not for them anyway, but the dressers? Well!

Jewell

HCBS HCBS HCBS HCBS HCBS

Mr. and Mrs. Harold H. Templin celebrated their 40th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY June 28 at the Danville Christian Church. Hosts were their children and families, Bill, Morganton, N.C.; Beth Cain, Myrtle Beach, S.C. and Bob, Elkhart, Indiana. There were 160 guests at the reception and 95 cards have been received from well wishers. The Templins have been active in the Historical Society since its organization and we extend our best wishes.

HCBS HCBS HCBS HCBS HCBS

CEMETERY RECORDS REPORT

The typing of the inscriptions of the Danville South Cemetery has been completed and it has been indexed. A copy of each has been placed in the Danville and Plainfield libraries.

HCBS HCBS HCBS HCBS HCBS

Treasures in Corner Stones

Despite the traumatic experience of witnessing the demolition of the two school buildings in Pittsboro, special interest is being shown in the historical material found in the cornerstones of the grade building, erected in 1913 and

the high school building, completed in 1921. Those who have had the opportunity to examine the various items are fascinated and impressed by the forththought of those who made selection of what should be included. It is our intention to share some of the items of general concern with you historians, realizing that many of you have had similar experiences and emotional reaction stemming from the knowledge that those days are gone forever and that not even the buildings stand to remind us of the past.

Several copies of our local newspaper "Pittsboro Sun" are a delight to read, recounting the many activities of our community, transactions at the court house, personal items regarding family reunions, marriages, detailed advertisements of quality goods, bargains, and editorials and comments.

Included among the Treasurers was a copy of the first paper published in our town, called The Weekly Sun, dated Friday, February 3, 1893, by Frank Harrell, the first editor, succeeded in a few years by the well known Samuel Janes who really reflected the true spirit of our community. He had annotated one of the papers in his own hand writing as follows: "Samuel Janes, born in Brighton, England, November 5, 1844. Three years a soldier in the Civil War from Hendricks County, Indiana, 18th Battery, Indiana Light Artillery." Mr. Janes, beloved by many, came to Pittsboro after the War, married a girl named Mary Ann Wells, member of a pioneer family and raised 4 daughters, Alice Kirk, Kate Halfaker, Grace Hyer, and Ruth Hicks. Several Grandchildren survive, among them Mary Kirk Jordan, Danville.

It is worth several chuckles to read the ads of more than 50 years ago. One by James M. Wills, familiarly called Uncle Monroe, living in the former Junken House, now occupied by the Gregory Fine Furniture Store, was an early lawyer as well as druggist, announced himself a dealer in drugs, medicines, and chemicals, also patent medicines of all kinds, as well as toilet articles, together with paints and varnishes, cigars and tobacco. His motto was "Fair Dealing and Low Prices."

Then there was an ad by the Star Barber Shop, owned by Frank Junken who offered a good shave or latest style hair cut. Frank also had watches, clocks, and jewelry which he repaired in first class order.

"Snag proof boots" were for sale by the Weaver Brothers store, (My father Chester was one of the brothers). The Pittsboro Milling Company announced in attractive captions that they made the best flour on Earth, besides paying the highest Market price for wheat.

A letter from "Uncle Jimmy Kellems and his wife Mattie read as follows: "I am the oldest teacher in Hendricks County. I and my wife Mattie have lived in the town of Pittsboro for 18 years. I have taught in the schools here for 14 years and will teach in this new building this year. I live on North Maple Street just one square from Main Street. I have lived at this place ever since moving to town 18 years ago. Many of the boys and girls in and around Pittsboro have been my pupils. Hope when this is read there will be someone who remembers me."

Signed

James Kellems and Mattie Kellems.

A few are left who remember the elderly teacher. The home he mentioned was recently purchased by Ledner Wolfe.

A facsimile of a ten dollar bill issued February 1864, was deposited by T. M. Dodson of Wichita, Kansas, a former teacher of Hendricks County.

Various records are of interest to today's citizens. F. A. Haynes appointed Postmaster February 10, 1906, located in Hardware store of Haynes and Ellis, Morton Ellis, assistant postmaster, Edward Watts, Clerk, Frank E. Wills, carrier Route 1, Frank T. Kirk, Carrier Route 2.

John Neaville in his own handwriting affirms that he went in the drug business in Pittsboro, April 10, 1897.

A list of merchants who agreed to decorate their places of business with flags and bunting and to keep their places of business closed from 2 P.M. until the close of the exercises at the new school house on Saturday, June 21st, had been compiled by C. C. Hicks, Furniture and Undertaking, the successor of J. T. Waters. This list included the names of Gregory Walden, editor of the Pittsboro Sun, E. A. Parker, general merchandise, successor to the Weaver Brothers store, John Neaville, Philo Neece, H. M. Knetzer, J. W. Fowler, N. F. Holtsclaw, A. F. Strader, Lyle Strange, Frank Lovell, Wilbern Cox, C. E. Kesler, H. J. Woody, Loyal Schenck, William Crawley, A. F. Junken, J. A. Lewis and Son. Not one man is living today.

One of the most interesting items removed from the corner stone of the grade school building was an eleven page history of Middle Township and Pittsboro written by "Uncle George Junken, for 30 years a teacher in the schools of Middle Township. The following tribute was paid to him by the committee on arrangements. "Uncle George Junken, a perfect gentleman, a true follower of the meek and lowly Nazarene, faithful to every trust whether great or small, a good citizen in every sense of the word. Let those who open this box, treasure this work which he performed with lack of exact data, relying largely upon his memory, while in feeble health, yet cheerfully performing the task at the request of the committee on arrangements for this occasion".

Signed:

Gregory Walden, Chairman
Evert Watson
Clyde Olsen
Curtis C. Hicks
Marion Hart

An article in the April 18, 1913 issue of the Pittsboro Sun was to inform the citizens of the township that the new school building would cost \$23,000. Trustee Richard L. Dillon and his advisory board, David Surber, Dr. O. T. Scamahorn, and George Money announced that contracts were not yet let as they were still considering details of bids. A later issue of the paper mentioned that the trustee and his associates would ride in the parade in the Doctor's car as the place of honor was merited.

One challenging article asked the question "Who owns the School House?" Answer: The school house belongs to Middle Township and so Pittsboro Masonic Lodge feels that it is merely acting as agent for the people of the township in arranging for these exercises and ceremonies, "It's our school house, let us all come out and see how the work is progressing, see that the cornerstone is laid in a workmanlike manner."

One of the most interesting ads occupying almost a full column was a statement by Trustee R. L. Dillon "in the matter of the sale of the School Property of School District No. 6, not already sold, Middle Township, Hendricks County Indiana., on the 5th day of June, 1913 at the hour of 10 o'clock A.M. Description of the real estate followed, including the one story frame building, all the outhouses, except the new closet on the east side of said real estate,; the coal house situated on the west side of said real estate will be sold, but is reserved until such time as the new building is ready for the furniture, said furniture being stored in coal house at this time. The parties buying the real estate is not buying the rubbish of the brick building or the stone foundation of said brick building at this time. Other matters concerning the removal of rubbish and payment and conditions are dealt with in detail."

This referred to the two story brick building in the east end of Pittsboro, built in 1873, housing both the grade and high school used until 1913 when the elegant now grade building was completed. The frame building referred to in the ad is still used as a residence on the old school grounds.

A rare enclosure was a copy of The Vicksburg Daily Citizen, printed on wall paper, July 2, 1863 before the surrender of General U. S. Grant, called the Grant Edition. It was deposited by a well known citizen of Pittsboro, a veteran of Company B, 48th Illinois infantry which took part in the siege of Vicksburg. His granddaughter Julia Milam Cowley was a former member of this community.

Dr. William H. Terrell had written a brief summary announcing he was 50 years old a graduate of the Medical College of Indiana, class of 1889, had come to Pittsboro on November 29, 1906, from Stilesville, Indiana. Engaged in the practice of general medicine and surgery and special work on the eye, ear, nose, and throat and fitting glasses. He was Health Officer for Pittsboro, Indiana. He also enclosed several pages of information about Krytols lenses. Norma Hamilton, granddaughter lives in Pittsboro.

The Pittsboro Bank enclosed a neat statement on the condition of Pittsboro, a private bank in the state of Indiana, at the close of its business on June 4, 1913.

Resources \$124,871.62. Total Liabilities \$124,871.62

E. W. Sawyer, President; Vice President: C. J. Olsen; Glen C. Tolin, Cashier; Alcie M. Ridgway, Ass't Cashier.

A few pictures clearly recognizable of a pretty little girl in the 4th grade, Beulah Neece, daughter of Philo Neece, wrote that he came to Pittsboro on March 17, 1911 and was still in the saloon business. Another was of Milburn Scamahorn, son of Dr. O. T. and Fannie Scamahorn, born February 6, 1912. The children of George and Winnie Money: Doris, 9, Laban 6, and Andvern, 18 months and a picture of the interior of J. W. Fowler grocery store.

Another article that would be especially interesting to the family and friends of the Tanselles, is on the front page of May 30th, 1913 copy of the Pittsboro Sun, entitled Pittsboro's Boy Huckster. "Lynn Tansel is the youngest huckster that ever started out of Pittsboro. Last Monday morning, as his father could not go out, Lynn said "I can go." So he went and came home all right. His sales were as good as usual and he bought more produce. He gave his bills so his father and Mr. Tansel said he never found a mistake. Ollie Warrick went along, but said he saw Lynn knew more about the business than he did, so he just

opened gates and Lynn did the rest. Keep on, Lynn, this is only a stepping to something better. It gives you experience you could not get any other way."

On the day of the Laying of the Cornerstone in the grade school building which was to house both grades and high school, I was 13½ years old, a freshman in high school and destined to enter high school in the fall in the frame building which was previously advertised for sale, one of 16 freshmen. I will remember that important day when the whole town was agog with excitement and thrills were the order of the day. Every public school pupil was invited to meet on the lawn of the old school house in the east end of town, promptly at 1:30 P.M. and march to the new building which was in an important stage of construction, ready for the laying of the corner stone.

A copy of the Pittsboro Sun dated June 13, 1913, one of those placed in the corner stone, contains a detailed account of the afternoon program. It is as follows:

1:00 p.m. Pittsboro Lodge F & A.M. will meet in the Lodge Room (Southwest corner of square)

1:30 P.M. Middle Township school children, school teachers and former teachers will meet on lawn of the old school house and be assigned places in the line.

1:30 P.M. Indianapolis Newsboys band will arrive on special car over the Ben Hur Interurban line and will march down North Maple to Main Street.

(The newsboys band, was directed by J. B. Vandaworker and was 50 members strong. They stayed for an evening concert, too.)

1:45 P.M. Pittsboro Lodge will leave Lodge Room and be led by the band to the old school house lawn.

2:00 P.M. Parade will start from the old, marching to the new in the following order:

Mounted Marshalls

Newsboys Band

Speaker of the day, Grand Lodge Officers,

Township trustee and Advisory Board,

Town Officers, Architect and Contractors, in Automobiles.

Middle Township School children

Present and Former Teachers of Middle Township

Visiting Masonic Lodges

Pittsboro Lodge, F & A.M.

2:15 P.M. Laying of the cornerstone by the Right Worshipful Calvin S. Prather, Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge of Indiana

Selection by the Band

Address by Dr. George McIntosh, President of Wabash College.

4:00 Singing of America by all, accompanied by the Newsboys Band.

Benediction by the Chaplain, Past Master George D. Junken.

This concluded the laying of the corner stone of the first new building which was completed in 1913 and occupied soon after Christmas.

The first principal was James William Westerfield of Brownsburg. More information concerning the building erected in 1921 will be presented at a later date.

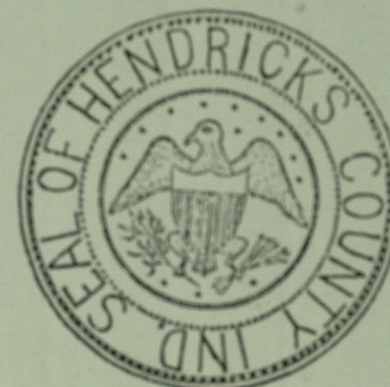
The Pittsboro Bank has most graciously presented this material to the public and two faithful alumni have worked at it - Betty Niggel, Pittsboro Alumni Secretary, and Richard Herring, Past Alumni President.

Frances Fisher

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HENDRICKS COUNTY

HISTORY BULLETIN



VOLUME XII NUMBER IV

NOVEMBER 1981

PUBLISHED BY

THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DANVILLE, INDIANA

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

ORGANIZED 1967

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ANNUAL DUES \$3.00 PAYABLE IN NOVEMBER

H C H S

The Hendricks County Historical Bulletin is published quarterly in February, May, August and November. It is distributed without charge to members of the Society and to Hendricks County School Libraries. Individual copies of \$1.00. Communications concerning back copies or individual copies should be addressed to our secretary. Contributions or suggestions to The Bulletin should be mailed to the editor.

Margaret Baker
(Mrs. C. Rawleigh Baker)
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Tel. 745-2115

H C H S

"The seasons play on a moving scene ... each with their poetry and music, each with an act of high drama. But autumn, with its transforming fires in the woods and hills, can burn away the low thoughts and renew the human spirit. It should be savored every precious hour and allowed to lift us as high as we can go."

Harvey Jacobs
Editor of THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE.....

Last month I lost an old friend. Like all friends this one was kind at times, then at others it cast sharp barbs at those who crossed its path.

Out of what seemed like a harmless summer thunderstorm a bolt of powerful electricity struck and split one of the old cedar trees in my front yard. Those old trees were set there by a little eight year old girl ninety six years ago and they have watched four generations of the families' children step gingerly across the front yard. Did you ever walk barefoot under a cedar tree?

However, they were beautiful when they were younger and they provided shade for the front porch and homes for many birds so they continued to stand year after year. Even as far back as 1898, when Fletcher Franklin was doing some surveying, one of these trees was used as a measuring point from which a cornerstone was located only a few years ago.

However, age was taking its toll and the question was simply, "When will they have to go?" Only sentiment had allowed them to stand this long--because they are no longer pretty. Then along came that bolt from heaven and the whole issue is settled. It will have to go leaving only a vacant spot and a lot of memories.

Marian Worrell, President

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

Plainfield Friends Meeting was the scene of our August meeting with 46 members and guests present. The usual business was dispensed with during which the treasurer reported a balance of \$313.11.

Dorothy Kelley gave a splendid report on the museum telling of a number of recent visitors. She told of plans for a booth at BOFF festivities at Brownsburg early in September and a display being prepared for the State Heritage Day in Indianapolis September 19th. There is still a need for volunteers at the museum. Marian Worrell, president, appointed Ed Winkleman, Randall Joseph and Clark Kellum on the nominating committee.

WELL DRILLING was the subject of a talk by George Merritt of Brownsburg. He spoke of the impact of the glasier upon the soils of Hendricks County and he had a display of various rocks. He discussed well drilling, the construction of wells, and he gave a demonstration of water-witching. It was a fascinating and instructive program.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

NOVEMBER MEETING

Our November meeting will be held as early in the month as possible...on the very first day! It will take place at the Belleville United Methodist Church which is two blocks north of the stop and go sign. Maynard Nolan, chairman of the program committee tells us that the program will be given by Bobby Thomas (Mrs. Frank) of Hendricks County who will tell us of some of her experiences when she served as Indiana's Home-maker of the Year (1980). She was given this honor by

the Indiana Farm Bureau. She and a group of other farm wives will present an amusing skit. Refreshments will be served by the ladies of Franklin, Clay and Liberty Townships. We all hope the glorious weather lasts so we can have a great crowd.

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CLAYTON CEMETERY RECORDS.

The work done by the ladies of the Clayton Progressive Club on the Clayton Cemetery Records has been placed in the Clayton Public Library. The work is available for the public to examine during regular library hours which are 1-4 in the summer time and 1-5 during school session, Monday thru Friday.

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MUSINGS AT THE MUSEUM

The museum participated in Hoosier Heritage Day festival at the Indiana State Museum. Our booth consisted of a collection of dolls. The one sought by the newspapers was the rag doll that made the journey to Kansas and back by covered wagon.

The museum participated in BOFF days at Brownsburg recently. Our booth was provided through the courtesy of Hendricks County Bank and Trust of Brownsburg.

We received a doll-house, and a general store with living quarters above, furnished entirely in miniature. If one wants to see how life was in the era around the middle 1880's all they would have to do is visit the museum. It is complete right down to the last broom straw. The collection belonged to the late Margaret Redding, who took great pride in assembling it. It was presented to the museum in her memory by her husband, Robert Redding. The fronts of both displays have been covered by plexiglas to keep out dust. There is a large peg board, also a gift of Mr. Redding, that is used to display small household and other articles. People are quite attracted to it, and do a lot of guessing on the articles, some of which are not in use today, so it is quite a puzzle. "What's this?" and "What's that?" is heard often as people see the board.

A beautiful crocheted bedspread, a recent acquisition, graces the bed in the adult bedroom.

Our models all have new winter dresses, and they look quite elegant.

We were open both days of "Swap, 'n' Shop". Over 100 persons attended on Saturday, and a big crowd was there on Sunday. It was a pleasure to see so many. We don't know whether the sign uptown directing people to the museum with the promise of free coffee had anything to do with our big crowd or not but it could have helped. The weather cooperated for a change. That's a switch! Remember last year? For those of you who don't know, we froze out! Kathi Kelley made personalized refrigerator decorations at a table placed near the sidewalk and sold several. Anyone who forgot what his name was could look on the refrigerator and find out.

While shuffling some papers on the museum desk, we ran on to a recipe for liniment that would be interesting to wave under a pharmacist's nose and get an

opinion. Goes something like this: "One pint apple vinegar; turpentine; camphor; eggs, 4 to the quart; 3 cents worth of Salamoniac; makes one quart." Said to be good for rheumatism. Bet it would be hot enough!

How did lots of us spend the hot summer evenings this past summer? First, likely we griped! Next, turned up the air conditioner, or got into the direct path of the fan. Or could be we went out and sat in the porch swing until the mosquitoes ran us in. If all else failed, we hunted up a swimming-pool only to find out that almost everyone had the same idea! Went home, grumbling, and turned the television on. Didn't like what was on much, but what else was there to do?

Back in a more leisurely time--not necessarily cooler, there wasn't the T.V., radio, or any of the like. Well, what did they do for fun? While browsing around the museum we came up with a likely solution. The minstrel show! This program we found was dated August 7, 1909, and had the title of "Minstrel Carnival of the Brownsburg Boys". Most were local people. Some had come in from other towns but with horse and buggy transportation, that was a long trip. Some of the cast included: Mr. Walker, Mr. Ellis, Mr. Lingeman, Mr. Smith, Mr. Herdrich, Mr. Stonebraker, Mr. Reyniersen, Miss Betth Johnson, Miss Elizabeth McDonald, Ione and Josephine Demarcus. Another program dated August 19, 1905 had the following "Band Minstrel Personnel": Owen Hollett, "Prong" Lingeman, C.L. Hunt, Maurice Stonebraker, F.B. Hopkins, A. Walker, G. Fitch, F. Hughes, R. Harmon, C. Watts, W. Cook, C. Hunt, J. Wills, C. Prebster, N. Rogers. Those were the days! The museum has a collapsible tall hat and one of a pair of bones--a must at a minstrel show.

The cast had a lot of fun preparing the show, and the audience looked forward to getting all dressed up in their best to see it. It wasn't a casual time as it would be today. It was an event! And events were few and far between so there wasn't any of that "I don't wanna go!", "Aw, do I have to?", and "Dumb stuff!" Most young people probably primped for quite a while because "someone" might be there and one must look one's best. So, with the aid of assorted fans, the heat was forgotten for one night.

There is music at the museum. All one needs to do is activate it. Looking around at the parlor we see a snare drum that belonged to a man who had once played in John Philip Sousa's band. Right next to it is a pump organ. It is an instrument that graced many parlors of yesteryear. Lots of them came with plush covered stools, and the pedals were covered with carpeting. Elegant! A little later on came an instrument called the piolian, a cross between the organ and piano. There is one on the south wall of the parlor. It has five pedals. The ones on either side are pumped to get the sound. The faster the player pumps, the more volume is produced. Lots of guests thought it was a piano. It does look like one, but there the resemblance ends. On top of the piolian is a wind instrument that is the forerunner of the oboe. In the primitives room stands a melodian. A beautiful little instrument that also graced many parlors. It too, has to be pumped. When one took music lessons there had to be a way to carry the music. There is a leather roll that was used by two generations. Then for those of us who are "all thumbs" when it comes to performing, there is the Victrola, also called "talking machine". Many hours could be pleasantly spent listening to records. Someone has to be around the machine constantly to keep it wound. It isn't like the modern record player that is plugged in, turned on, and takes care of itself.

There are some who probably wonder what was done for entertainment during the deep dark ages before television. Well, it wasn't all that bad. Folks made their own entertainment and didn't have to "import" any. It was a satisfaction to be able to perform, and an honor to be asked. Folks felt free to participate and didn't get "shushed up" either. Seems like now that some use a musical program as a background to visit among themselves and don't pay any attention to what is being performed, unless the performer wears flashy costumes and makes the audience afraid they'll miss something if they don't pay attention. The custom of "sitting 'til bedtime" was popular then too. Families would just sit and visit, play cards, or maybe enjoy popping corn. They had a good time.

Noticed during the week-end that the flower bed at the museum is ready for its winter nap. The annuals were all cleaned off after what the frost did to them. It wouldn't be surprising if the Hendricks County Garden Club isn't thinking about what it will plant there next year. It will come up with something and it will be pretty.

Jewell

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

Some Brief Notes On The Belleville United Methodist Church

The first Methodist preaching in Liberty Township was early in 1829 by Joseph Tarkington at the home of Edmund Cooper where the Terre Haute Trail crossed Mud Creek. From this service and subsequent preaching by John Mercer at Joshua Marshall's cabin, a Society of Methodists was organized in June of 1829. These members and their families worshiped at Marshall's until their log church was completed in August 1829. This was the Salem meeting house and it stood where the present Salem church is located.

This was the only Methodist Society in the area and Methodists for several miles around worshiped here for some time. However, the fantastic spread of Methodism coupled with increasing population in the newly platted village of "Belville", suggested the organization of a society here. Belleville Methodists worshiped at first in the thirty by forty foot frame meeting house belonging to the Regular Baptists in the south west part of Belleville.

Philip May, the preacher in charge at that time of the Mooresville Circuit, purchased nine lots in square three in Belleville, for two hundred dollars from Joseph Hiatt. This transaction was dated May 7, 1836.

On November 12, 1835, Philip May deeded to the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church of "Belville" the north half of lots five and six in square three in the original town of "Belville". This was a part of the property purchased from Joseph Hiatt and for this ground Philip May received five hundred dollars. Preacher then was Asa Beck.

At an election on April 22, 1837 in the town of Springfield (later Springtown), trustees were elected to receive and hold a deed to lot nine in square three in Belleville for the benefit of traveling preachers sent to the Mooresville circuit from time to time. The preacher in charge at that meeting was Israel G. Lewis.

On July 28, 1837, Philip May, then of Madison County, Indiana, deeded to the trustees of the M. E. Church parsonage of the Mooresville Circuit, Indiana Conference, for the sum of twenty-five dollars, lot nine in square three in the town of Belleville, Indiana.

In 1858 a brick church was erected on the north half of lots five and six in square three. That brick church served until 1923 when it was replaced by the present structure dedicated in 1924 under the pastorate of Rev. Arthur Palmer.

According to Conference Minutes, one hundred nine pastors have ministered to the Belleville congregation in the years since that 1835 property purchase. Currently the pastor is Rev. Jewel E. Dewees. He and Mrs. Dewees reside in the Methodist parsonage on west Main Street in Monrovia. The Belleville church is on the Monrovia charge.

The Belleville United Methodist Church is easy to find. It is two blocks north of Belleville's only traffic signal.

Ruth M. Pritchard
Belleville, Indiana

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

This letter was written by Susanna Elizabeth Phillips, daughter of Samuel and Rachel Newman Phillips, during the Civil War. It was loaned to the Danville Public Library for copying by Janet Woodrum of Liston.

Feb. 14th, 1864

Respected friend,
I take up my pen to write you a few lines to let you know how I and the rest of our folks are getting along. Father is very sick today. The rest of the family are all well with the exception of bad colds., oh yes I like to a forgotten to tell you that I got so excited yesterday that I poured some hot water in my shoes and the consequence is that my feet is both blistered bad but they are not serious. We have got one of the prettiest little boys here you ever saw. He is eleven weeks old tomorrow. I guess his name will be Elsworth. Things have turned around right smart since you was here. Jake Phillips is married bad luck to you. Milton Hadley is teaching school at Beechwood (?) this winter they have had the niger question up pretty high again, I don't go so I have no hand in the work Jonathan is at home today he is so fat you would hardly know him. the boys from this section all got home except John T. Tinscher he died at Knoxville Tenn but I don't know whether we will keep them here very long or not, if they all go off again I am going to give up and be an old maid, don't you think that will be a good idea anyhow

Sallie has growed and fattened this winter, the fattest kind she is nearly as large as I am I guess I have written about all that I can think of tell Sarah I hant forgot the soap suds yet but the soap suds that I had yesterday was a little to hot I dont see why you dont come and see us some time I have looked for you a good many times since you was here please answer this if you think it is worthy of notice give my best respect to all the girls, yours with respect

Susanna E. Phillips

Abbie Coffin address Springtown Indiana

This notice about the Horace Greeley Masten diary was published in the Hendricks County Flyer a few weeks back.

The dictionary defines a diary as a "register of daily events or transactions ...a book for personal notes or memoranda, or for details of experiences or observations."

From 1912 to 1926, Horace G. Masten, a farmer living near Amo, kept a diary. His purpose at the time was probably personal--as a farmer, he needed to keep track of stock and expenses. As a resident of the area, he was interested in local people and events. What started out as a personal record now provides us with a picture of those times and the people of that era.

Notations concerning farming make up a majority of the entries. A detailed description is given of his horses. Frank, for instance, had a small scar on his left front foot 2 inches above the hoof, and held his tail slightly to the right. He records his expenses in planting crops, and in raising and marketing hogs. Hog cholera, or "swine plague" was prevalent. Several types of serum and vaccine were used by veterinarians, but losses still occurred. Between September 6th and 13th, 1925, Masten lost 73 hogs, even though he had spent \$108 for vaccinations.

Other events of local and national interest appear: a horse show at Amo; the laying of the cornerstone for the new Court House at Danville; a "materializing seance" he attended at Chesterfield, Indiana; the sinking of the Lusitania; the remodelling of the Amo Methodist Church; the Declaration of War against Germany.

On April 12, 1919, Masten became ill with the flu. (This was during the Influenza Epidemic that followed World War I.) From that date until May 18, 1919, his wife, Mary kept the diary. She recorded his treatment and recovery, as well as the names of the neighbors who helped with the farm work during his illness.

In the back of the diary, Masten recorded information on the history of the Masten and Reitzel families of Hendricks County.

Betty Bartley, Historical Librarian at the Danville Public Library, has photocopied this diary, and has it available in the Indiana Room for circulation. Since there is a wealth of genealogical information in the birth and death entries, a second copy will be kept at all times in the reference section of the Indiana Room.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

Query for the Bulletin

Any information on Tandy Scott 1810-1875 - parents, brothers, sisters, and descendants

Any information on Amy Arnell Scott 1807-1865 - parents, brothers, sisters, and descendants

Any information on Hannah Arinda (Aminda) Knighten 1837-1913 - parents, brothers, sisters, and descendants

Query for the Bulletin (Continued)

Any information on Mary Elizabeth Knighten White 1809-1896
parents, brothers, sisters and descendants.

all of the above from Ina H. Roney, 722 S. Van Buren, Sullivan, IL 61951

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

NEWS FROM THE INDIANA ROOM

Good news! A new microfilm reader has been ordered for the Indiana Room of the Danville Public Library. No more holding your head at a 45 degree angle to read census records! Hopefully, the machine will be delivered by the time this Bulletin is published. It will be located in the Indiana Room for the convenience of our patrons. In addition to the Hendricks County census records (1850 thru 1900), we now have the 1850 and 1880 census for Putnam County available on microfilm. The latter was recently presented to the Library by Floy Underwood Modesitt in memory of Mamie Phillips Campbell. We will be glad to order any other census records for our patrons on interlibrary loan from the National Archives.

Other additions to our reference section include the WPA indexes for births, deaths, and marriages in Hendricks County (up to 1920); "Ancestors and Descendants of Francis Marion and Louetta (Wise) Hawley" compiled by William R. and Jane Walterhouse Hawley; "Genealogical Sources from the Indiana Magazine of History" by Dorothy Riker. We now have the complete set of Heiss' Quaker Records, including the index.

We welcome any suggestions from Historical Society members on books or services they would like to have added to the Indiana Room.

Betty Bartley
Historical Librarian

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

This clipping was turned in by Ruth Pritchard, but her sharp eyes spied an error. 1923 could not have been the 100th anniversary of the Belleville School because, says Ruth, "Belleville was not even platted until 1829. The date for Belleville's first school was reported to be 1833."

Republican July 1922

SECOND ANNUAL REUNION
AT OLD BELLEVILLE TOWN

Old Belleville again welcomed her wandering sons and daughters, Sunday, and the home-coming was pronounced even a greater success than that of last year. Plans are already in the making for next year. There is a tradition that 1923 is the 100th anniversary of the first school at Belleville. Historians will ascertain if this is true and if so, the celebration of this event will be included in the year's program.

The exercises were held in the Methodist church yard and two long tables were no more than sufficient for the dinner that was spread. In the afternoon, the formal program was given, Conrad Dillon presiding. The Belleville orchestra

scattered good music throughout the hour. There was a reading by Marion Franklin, a duet by the Minett sisters, a solo by Mrs. Mabel Rushton, a violin solo by Master John Taylor, a talk by Mrs. Samuel M. Ralston, a reading by Carl Martin, address by Prof. C. O. Mayes, of Richmond; one by Jesse D. Hamrick, of Indianapolis, and also by Dr. A. M. Strong, Cale White and Joe Morgan, the latter of Indianapolis. Mr. Morgan made an impressive talk, showing what can be done in free America. In 1882 he lived in Belleville and his parents were so poor that Joe went to school wearing one shoe and one boot. He picked the boot up in an alley in Belleville. Mr. Morgan is now an enterprising business man of Indianapolis and owns a farm near Joppa.

With the addition of J. W. Noel as vice president, the former officers were continued. John C. Taylor was appointed chairman of the program committee with authority to select his assistants. A circuit picture of the gathering was taken.

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John R. McDowell

Many of us who worked on THE HISTORY OF HENDRICKS COUNTY were greatly saddened to learn of the death of John R. McDowell who edited our book. We worked closely with Mr. McDowell and were constantly amazed as the ease with which he assumed what seemed to us an herculean undertaking. Time after time he took home great stacks of manuscripts which he edited in his spare time. He was actually "moonlighting" since he had a full time job as assistant Sunday editor of the INDIANAPOLIS STAR as well as feature writer and reporter. Had it not been for John R. McDowell there might not have been our HISTORY OF HENDRICKS COUNTY.

He died suddenly September 15th and we extend to his family our sincere sympathy.

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WITH LOVE AND GRATITUDE

I wish I could find words to say all the things that are in my heart. I wish I could tell you how touched I was with the beautiful messages of love and cheer and encouragement I received while on my summer "vacation". I wish I could thank my faithful helpers who rallied 'round and put out the last Bulletin... Marian Worrell, Ruth Pritchard, Grace Cox, Mary Jeanette Winkleman, Frances Fisher, Jewell Bell, Blanche Wean and that beautiful, efficient typist, Barbara Singleton. After reading that BULLETIN, I decided you don't need an editor!

I cherish you all and I pray that God will make His face to shine upon you and give you peace, both now and forevermore.

Margaret Baker

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

NEWS OF OUR V. I. P.

I hope no one missed the lovely picture of Dorothy Kelley, director of the Museum, which appeared in the September 11th INDIANAPOLIS NEWS. She is shown holding the cloth doll made for Lueanna Allen in 1870 before her family journeyed to Kansas in a covered wagon. I quote in part the article written by Kathleen Van Nuys:

DAUGHTER RECALLS PIONEER

Clara Reitzel never got to play with the cloth doll her mother took as a child to Kansas in a covered wagon in 1870.

"It was always put away. No one ever played with it while I was growing up," said the rural Stilesville resident. She has given the doll to the Hendricks County Museum, housed in the 1885 courthouse and jail in Danville.

In its original costume, the doll will be displayed at Hoosier Heritage Day, Sept. 19, in the Indiana State Historical Society section of the daylong event at the Indiana State Museum, 202 N. Alabama.

It will be among 10 dolls representative of a collection in the Hendricks County Museum.

Mrs. Reitzel said her mother, Lueanna Allen, was 6 years old when her father decided to rent his farm and travel to Kansas and look for another one.

"But he didn't find a farm any better than the one he had right here, so they came back," she said.

"My grandfather built a cover for the wagon bed, and the family left for Kansas in August," she said, recalling the story told to her many times. "He drove a team of horses.

"The family stopped overnight in many places, cooking their own food, according to a record of the journey," she said. "They lived in a house for one year in Kansas before returning.

"Mother had an older brother, Edgar, about 10, who made a cradle for the doll. The doll is of original material, but its face may have been repainted," she said.

Mrs. Reitzel, whose father was Newton Richardson, said that the family of her late husband, Albert, also settled early in the area. They came to Hazelwood in the 1830s.

Dorothy Kelley, director of the Hendricks County Museum, said a 4-inch china doll in the collection has moving eyes and legs. Baby dolls, a clown, a black boy and Queen Louise china doll with blonde hair are among the unusual ones being displayed. Doll furniture, a trunk, dishes and a restored carriage complete the exhibit.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

A recent clipping from THE REPUBLICAN brings good news.

-LITTLE HOOSIERS

Avon Little Hoosiers, a division of the Indiana Junior Historical Society, is organizing for this school year. This year's membership includes 43 in Grade 4 and 21 in Grade five at Avon Upper Elementary. The group meets about once a month, during recess. Mrs. Judy Bobb is the faculty sponsor. Activities include guest speakers, field trips, or special projects.

We welcome these young historians and we assure them that our Society will do every thing we can to help make them real history buffs!

SPRING FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

No longer stands the Meeting House

Where once the Quakers slow

Would sit in silent worship

A hundred years ago.

The Meeting House was moved away,

A church was built in town;

The graveyard lies neglected,

The stones are fallen down.

The yucca takes possession

The ground hogs burrow deep

The myrtle spreads a blanket

Where young and old now sleep.

The briars, weeds and bushes

Are growing rank and wild

The cedars rustle sadly

Where rests a little child.

The dates on stones bear witness

To hardships, sickness, and pain;

Young mothers, little children,

Young men, so long have lain.

A few more hardy than the rest

Lived on to a ripe old age;

The sum of what they did for us

Is written on history's page.

Oh, what we owe these brave ones!

We reap the crop they've sown

They gave their lives and labor

To clear the lands we own.

Ida Logua

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

In connection with the following letter, this clipping from an old paper is appropriate.

In Danville Paper 1854

Third Session Belleville Academy

9-25-1854

12-22-1854

Course of Study

Tuition

Primary

\$3.25

Junior

\$5.20

Senior

\$7.80

Jarred R. Woodfill A.B. - Math, Nat. Science

Robert S. Reese A.M. - Prof. of Languages

Jarred R. Woodfill at this time owned the Belleville lots on which now (1980) Roy Pritchards' house stands.

April 28th, 1861

Brother John,

After stating that we are enjoying good health, and have fine prospect for a wheat and Rye crop I will state that the War Panic is incredible. Gentry County is becoming depopulated. About twenty families have moved to Iowa within the past ten days. The Huggins neighborhood, which is about 7 miles north of Island Creek, is evacuated. The North E. Methodist are denied the privilege of worshipping God under their own "vine and fig tree", consequently they are migrating North.

To make a short story of a great deal of trouble, all the citizens here who have conscientious scruples against fighting for the Confederate states after Missouri shall secede, are taking time by the forelock, and severing their connection with the Commonwealth. Some give away their property, others leave real estate unsold.

All kinds of business is checked. There is literally no money in N. W. Missouri. The farmer goes to his plow without courage, the mechanic to his shop with reluctance.

Secession is the prevailing sentiment here. There are many Union men here who love the stars and stripes as their own lives, but for the safety of themselves and families, they say nothing. The liberties of free speech are proscribed here. All I have got is here and I intend to stay with it at all hazards. They may kill me, but they can't drive me away.

I have never needed 800 dols worse since I have been to the state. I shall have to sacrifice property most awfully if I don't get some soon.

I have been looking for the balance due me from father Irons (?) but it has not come yet but I hope it will soon.

In about ten days we have 400 dols due us but I have no idea that we will get 50.

I have made a good deal of money since I have been here but I am mighty hard up now. I hope the war will end in a few days and the troubled waters will subside.

Let me hear from you soon.

Yours Respectively,

J. R. Woodfill

AN EDITORIAL

Sometimes, in delving into the past, we come up with stories that do not always portray our ancestors in the most flattering light. Occasionally we have printed some of these stories but with the hope that they will, in no way, cause any embarrassment to the descendants, if any are living at this time.

There is nothing malevolent about this. Any honest historian knows that our past was not all perfect. There was evil going on then, as there is today. A few ... well, many ... oh, well, all our ancestors made mistakes, just as you and I are making them today, and will continue to make them until the day we die. But

trying to forget, ignore or gloss over their shortcomings is not giving a true picture of the past. We could learn a great deal from past mistakes.

On this trend of thought, let me quote one of my favorite writers, the late Harold Blake Walker: "Tradition is a covenant between father and sons, a mutual pledge of allegiance to what conscience, under God, regards as true and just. Tradition is a responsible continuance of the struggle for the highest ideals and aspirations of our history, a continuance re-affirmation of our loyalty to the noblest and best of our inheritance."

"In the present cultural climate, it is altogether too easy to neglect history and tradition and discard the past as irrelevant. Unfortunately, 'all that is past is prologue' and we forget it to our peril. We cannot understand the present and march on to a better future without learning from both the mistakes and the wisdom of those who went before us."

That says, more succinctly than your humble Editor could, what the HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, and its bulletin, are all about.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

We were distressed to hear of Clark Kellum's serious illness and we all join in prayers that he will soon be improved. Clark is very important to countless people, and organizations and worthy endeavors, and we miss him greatly when he is not participating as he has done for so many years. To Clark and Carolyn, we quote I Thessalonians - "May your spirit and body and soul be kept sound."

I doubt that she will want you to know this, but Blanche Wean took a short vacation in HCH for tests, but knowing Blanche as we do, you may look for her back at her desk soon. At least that is our hope and prayer.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

This is another selection from Clara Reitzel's collection which she titled ROSES IN DECEMBER. She compiled it in 1974, and it is full of delightful vignettes.

TELEPHONES

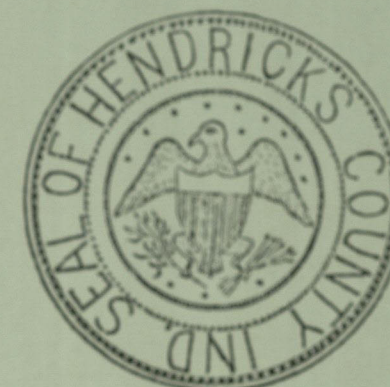
Alva left home when I was two or three years old. He worked for the telephone company. This was when phones were first installed in the farmers homes. When he came home, and Mary had a date and maybe some other young folks came in on a Sunday afternoon, they, the boys, would amuse themselves trying to climb the poles with Alva's climbers with the spikes. When our telephone was installed, what a marvel to be able to call our neighbors. One neighbor had a gramophone--the original record player or phonograph, with the cylinder records and a large morning glory shaped horn. They would call several of their friends, then play the records for all to hear. We had "party lines" then, maybe 10 or more on the same line. One, especially popular, was "the Preacher and the Bear". Alva worked for various telephone companies for several years. About 1912 he began working for Western Union Telegraph and stayed with them until his retirement.

I was only four years old when our telephone was installed. When the men were installing it, I picked up a funny looking tube that they had been using. I squeezed it and out spurted a funny-looking brown salve. That was my first time to see a squeeze tube like toothpaste and so many other things come in at present.

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HENDRICKS COUNTY

HISTORY BULLETIN



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THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
DANVILLE, INDIANA

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

ORGANIZED 1967

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H C H S

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Margaret Baker
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H C H S

"The seasons play on a moving scene ... each with their poetry and music, each with an act of high drama. But autumn, with its transforming fires in the woods and hills, can burn away the low thoughts and renew the human spirit. It should be savored every precious hour and allowed to lift us as high as we can go."

Harvey Jacobs
Editor of THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE.....

Last month I lost an old friend. Like all friends this one was kind at times, then at others it cast sharp barbs at those who crossed its path.

Out of what seemed like a harmless summer thunderstorm a bolt of powerful electricity struck and split one of the old cedar trees in my front yard. Those old trees were set there by a little eight year old girl ninety six years ago and they have watched four generations of the families' children step gingerly across the front yard. Did you ever walk barefoot under a cedar tree?

However, they were beautiful when they were younger and they provided shade for the front porch and homes for many birds so they continued to stand year after year. Even as far back as 1898, when Fletcher Franklin was doing some surveying, one of these trees was used as a measuring point from which a cornerstone was located only a few years ago.

However, age was taking its toll and the question was simply, "When will they have to go?" Only sentiment had allowed them to stand this long--because they are no longer pretty. Then along came that bolt from heaven and the whole issue is settled. It will have to go leaving only a vacant spot and a lot of memories.

Marian Worrell, President

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

Plainfield Friends Meeting was the scene of our August meeting with 46 members and guests present. The usual business was dispensed with during which the treasurer reported a balance of \$313.11.

Dorothy Kelley gave a splendid report on the museum telling of a number of recent visitors. She told of plans for a booth at BOFF festivities at Brownsburg early in September and a display being prepared for the State Heritage Day in Indianapolis September 19th. There is still a need for volunteers at the museum. Marian Worrell, president, appointed Ed Winkleman, Randall Joseph and Clark Kellum on the nominating committee.

WELL DRILLING was the subject of a talk by George Merritt of Brownsburg. He spoke of the impact of the glacier upon the soils of Hendricks County and he had a display of various rocks. He discussed well drilling, the construction of wells, and he gave a demonstration of water-witching. It was a fascinating and instructive program.

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NOVEMBER MEETING

Our November meeting will be held as early in the month as possible...on the very first day! It will take place at the Belleville United Methodist Church which is two blocks north of the stop and go sign. Maynard Nolan, chairman of the program committee tells us that the program will be given by Bobby Thomas (Mrs. Frank) of Hendricks County who will tell us of some of her experiences when she served as Indiana's Home-maker of the Year (1980). She was given this honor by

the Indiana Farm Bureau. She and a group of other farm wives will present an amusing skit. Refreshments will be served by the ladies of Franklin, Clay and Liberty Townships. We all hope the glorious weather lasts so we can have a great crowd.

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CLAYTON CEMETERY RECORDS.

The work done by the ladies of the Clayton Progressive Club on the Clayton Cemetery Records has been placed in the Clayton Public Library. The work is available for the public to examine during regular library hours which are 1-4 in the summer time and 1-5 during school session, Monday thru Friday.

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MUSINGS AT THE MUSEUM

The museum participated in Hoosier Heritage Day festival at the Indiana State Museum. Our booth consisted of a collection of dolls. The one sought by the newspapers was the rag doll that made the journey to Kansas and back by covered wagon.

The museum participated in BOFF days at Brownsburg recently. Our booth was provided through the courtesy of Hendricks County Bank and Trust of Brownsburg.

We received a doll-house, and a general store with living quarters above, furnished entirely in miniature. If one wants to see how life was in the era around the middle 1880's all they would have to do is visit the museum. It is complete right down to the last broom straw. The collection belonged to the late Margaret Redding, who took great pride in assembling it. It was presented to the museum in her memory by her husband, Robert Redding. The fronts of both displays have been covered by plexiglas to keep out dust. There is a large peg board, also a gift of Mr. Redding, that is used to display small household and other articles. People are quite attracted to it, and do a lot of guessing on the articles, some of which are not in use today, so it is quite a puzzle. "What's this?" and "What's that?" is heard often as people see the board.

A beautiful crocheted bedspread, a recent acquisition, graces the bed in the adult bedroom.

Our models all have new winter dresses, and they look quite elegant.

We were open both days of "Swap, 'n' Shop". Over 100 persons attended on Saturday, and a big crowd was there on Sunday. It was a pleasure to see so many. We don't know whether the sign uptown directing people to the museum with the promise of free coffee had anything to do with our big crowd or not but it could have helped. The weather cooperated for a change. That's a switch! Remember last year? For those of you who don't know, we froze out! Kathi Kelley made personalized refrigerator decorations at a table placed near the sidewalk and sold several. Anyone who forgot what his name was could look on the refrigerator and find out.

While shuffling some papers on the museum desk, we ran on to a recipe for liniment that would be interesting to wave under a pharmacist's nose and get an

opinion. Goes something like this: "One pint apple vinegar; turpentine; camphor; eggs, 4 to the quart; 3 cents worth of Salomoniac; makes one quart." Said to be good for rheumatism. Bet it would be hot enough!

How did lots of us spend the hot summer evenings this past summer? First, likely we griped! Next, turned up the air conditioner, or got into the direct path of the fan. Or could be we went out and sat in the porch swing until the mosquitoes ran us in. If all else failed, we hunted up a swimming-pool only to find out that almost everyone had the same idea! Went home, grumbling, and turned the television on. Didn't like what was on much, but what else was there to do?

Back in a more leisurely time--not necessarily cooler, there wasn't the T.V., radio, or any of the like. Well, what did they do for fun? While browsing around the museum we came up with a likely solution. The minstrel show! This program we found was dated August 7, 1909, and had the title of "Minstrel Carnival of the Brownsburg Boys". Most were local people. Some had come in from other towns but with horse and buggy transportation, that was a long trip. Some of the cast included: Mr. Walker, Mr. Ellis, Mr. Lingeman, Mr. Smith, Mr. Herdrich, Mr. Stonebraker, Mr. Reynierson, Miss Betth Johnson, Miss Elizabeth McDonald, Ione and Josephine Demarcus. Another program dated August 19, 1905 had the following "Band Minstrel Personnel": Owen Hollett, "Prong" Lingeman, C.L. Hunt, Maurice Stonebraker, F.B. Hopkins, A. Walker, G. Fitch, F. Hughes, R. Harmon, C. Watts, W. Cook, C. Hunt, J. Wills, C. Prebster, N. Rogers. Those were the days! The museum has a collapsible tall hat and one of a pair of bones--a must at a minstrel show.

The cast had a lot of fun preparing the show, and the audience looked forward to getting all dressed up in their best to see it. It wasn't a casual time as it would be today. It was an event! And events were few and far between so there wasn't any of that "I don't wanna go!", "Aw, do I have to?", and "Dumb stuff!" Most young people probably primped for quite a while because "someone" might be there and one must look one's best. So, with the aid of assorted fans, the heat was forgotten for one night.

There is music at the museum. All one needs to do is activate it. Looking around at the parlor we see a snare drum that belonged to a man who had once played in John Philip Sousa's band. Right next to it is a pump organ. It is an instrument that graced many parlors of yesteryear. Lots of them came with plush covered stools, and the pedals were covered with carpeting. Elegant! A little later on came an instrument called the piolian, a cross between the organ and piano. There is one on the south wall of the parlor. It has five pedals. The ones on either side are pumped to get the sound. The faster the player pumps, the more volume is produced. Lots of guests thought it was a piano. It does look like one, but there the resemblance ends. On top of the piolian is a wind instrument that is the forerunner of the oboe. In the primitives room stands a melodian. A beautiful little instrument that also graced many parlors. It too, has to be pumped. When one took music lessons there had to be a way to carry the music. There is a leather roll that was used by two generations. Then for those of us who are "all thumbs" when it comes to performing, there is the Victrola, also called "talking machine". Many hours could be pleasantly spent listening to records. Someone has to be around the machine constantly to keep it wound. It isn't like the modern record player that is plugged in, turned on, and takes care of itself.

There are some who probably wonder what was done for entertainment during the deep dark ages before television. Well, it wasn't all that bad. Folks made their own entertainment and didn't have to "import" any. It was a satisfaction to be able to perform, and an honor to be asked. Folks felt free to participate and didn't get "shushed up" either. Seems like now that some use a musical program as a background to visit among themselves and don't pay any attention to what is being performed, unless the performer wears flashy costumes and makes the audience afraid they'll miss something if they don't pay attention. The custom of "sitting 'til bedtime" was popular then too. Families would just sit and visit, play cards, or maybe enjoy popping corn. They had a good time.

Noticed during the week-end that the flower bed at the museum is ready for its winter nap. The annuals were all cleaned off after what the frost did to them. It wouldn't be surprising if the Hendricks County Garden Club isn't thinking about what it will plant there next year. It will come up with something and it will be pretty.

Jewell

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Some Brief Notes On The

Belleville United Methodist Church

The first Methodist preaching in Liberty Township was early in 1829 by Joseph Tarkington at the home of Edmund Cooper where the Terre Haute Trail crossed Mud Creek. From this service and subsequent preaching by John Mercer at Joshua Marshall's cabin, a Society of Methodists was organized in June of 1829. These members and their families worshiped at Marshall's until their log church was completed in August 1829. This was the Salem meeting house and it stood where the present Salem church is located.

This was the only Methodist Society in the area and Methodists for several miles around worshiped here for some time. However, the fantastic spread of Methodism coupled with increasing population in the newly platted village of "Belville", suggested the organization of a society here. Belleville Methodists worshiped at first in the thirty by forty foot frame meeting house belonging to the Regular Baptists in the south west part of Belleville.

Philip May, the preacher in charge at that time of the Mooresville Circuit, purchased nine lots in square three in Belleville, for two hundred dollars from Joseph Hiatt. This transaction was dated May 7, 1836.

On November 12, 1835, Philip May deeded to the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church of "Belville" the north half of lots five and six in square three in the original town of "Belville". This was a part of the property purchased from Joseph Hiatt and for this ground Philip May received five hundred dollars. Preacher then was Asa Beck.

At an election on April 22, 1837 in the town of Springfield (later Springtown), trustees were elected to receive and hold a deed to lot nine in square three in Belville for the benefit of traveling preachers sent to the Mooresville circuit from time to time. The preacher in charge at that meeting was Israel G. Lewis.

On July 28, 1837, Philip May, then of Madison County, Indiana, deeded to the trustees of the M. E. Church parsonage of the Mooresville Circuit, Indiana Conference, for the sum of twenty-five dollars, lot nine in square three in the town of Belville, Indiana.

In 1858 a brick church was erected on the north half of lots five and six in square three. That brick church served until 1923 when it was replaced by the present structure dedicated in 1924 under the pastorate of Rev. Arthur Palmer.

According to Conference Minutes, one hundred nine pastors have ministered to the Belleville congregation in the years since that 1835 property purchase. Currently the pastor is Rev. Jewel E. Dewees. He and Mrs. Dewees reside in the Methodist parsonage on west Main Street in Monrovia. The Belleville church is on the Monrovia charge.

The Belleville United Methodist Church is easy to find. It is two blocks north of Belleville's only traffic signal.

Ruth M. Pritchard
Belleville, Indiana

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

This letter was written by Susanna Elizabeth Phillips, daughter of Samuel and Rachel Newman Phillips, during the Civil War. It was loaned to the Danville Public Library for copying by Janet Woodrum of Linton.

Feb. 14th, 1864

Respected friend,
I take up my pen to write you a few lines to let you know how I and the rest of our folks are getting along. Father is very sick today. The rest of the family are all well with the exception of bad colds., oh yes I like to a forgotten to tell you that I got so excited yesterday that I poured some hot watter in my shoes and the consequence is that my feet is both blistered bad but they are not serious. We have got one of the prettiest little boys here you ever saw. He is eleven weeks old tomorrow. I guess his name will be Elsworth. Things have turned around right smart since you was here. Jake Phillips is married bad luck to you. Milton Hadley is teaching school at Beechwood (?) this winter they have had the niger question up pretty high again, I don't go so I have no hand in the work Jonathan is at home today he is so fat you would hardly know him. the boys from this section all got home except John T. Tinchier he died at Knoxville Tenn but I don't know whether we will keep them here very long or not, if they all go off again I am going to give up and be an old maid, don't you think that will be a good idea anyhow

Sallie has growed and fattened this winter, the fattest kind she is nearly as large as I am I guess I have written about all that I can think of tell Sarah I hant forgot the soap suds yet but the soap suds that I had yesterday was a litle to hot I dont see why you dont come and see us some time I have looked for you a good many times since you was here please answer this if you think it is worthy of notice give my best respect to all the girls, yours with respect

Susanna E. Phillips

Abbie Coffin address Springtown Indiana

This notice about the Horace Greeley Masten diary was published in the Hendricks County Flyer a few weeks back.

The dictionary defines a diary as a "register of daily events or transactions ...a book for personal notes or memoranda, or for details of experiences or observations."

From 1912 to 1926, Horace G. Masten, a farmer living near Amo, kept a diary. His purpose at the time was probably personal--as a farmer, he needed to keep track of stock and expenses. As a resident of the area, he was interested in local people and events. What started out as a personal record now provides us with a picture of those times and the people of that era.

Notations concerning farming make up a majority of the entries. A detailed description is given of his horses. Frank, for instance, had a small scar on his left front foot 2 inches above the hoof, and held his tail slightly to the right. He records his expenses in planting crops, and in raising and marketing hogs. Hog cholera, or "swine plague" was prevalent. Several types of serum and vaccine were used by veterinarians, but losses still occurred. Between September 6th and 13th, 1925, Masten lost 73 hogs, even though he had spent \$108 for vaccinations.

Other events of local and national interest appear: a horse show at Amo; the laying of the cornerstone for the new Court House at Danville; a "materializing seance" he attended at Chesterfield, Indiana; the sinking of the Lusitania; the remodelling of the Amo Methodist Church; the Declaration of War against Germany.

On April 12, 1919, Masten became ill with the flu. (This was during the Influenza Epidemic that followed World War I.) From that date until May 18, 1919, his wife, Mary kept the diary. She recorded his treatment and recovery, as well as the names of the neighbors who helped with the farm work during his illness.

In the back of the diary, Masten recorded information on the history of the Masten and Reitzel families of Hendricks County.

Betty Bartley, Historical Librarian at the Danville Public Library, has photocopied this diary, and has it available in the Indiana Room for circulation. Since there is a wealth of genealogical information in the birth and death entries, a second copy will be kept at all times in the reference section of the Indiana Room.

Query for the Bulletin

Any information on Tandy Scott 1810-1875 - parents, brothers, sisters, and descendants

Any information on Amy Arnell Scott 1807-1865 - parents, brothers, sisters, and descendants

Any information on Hannah Arminada (Aminda) Knighten 1837-1913 - parents, brothers, sisters, and descendants

Query for the Bulletin (Continued)

Any information on Mary Elizabeth Knighten White 1809-1896 parents, brothers, sisters and descendants.

all of the above from Ina H. Roney, 722 S. Van Buren, Sullivan, IL 61951

NEWS FROM THE INDIANA ROOM

Good news! A new microfilm reader has been ordered for the Indiana Room of the Danville Public Library. No more holding your head at a 45 degree angle to read census records! Hopefully, the machine will be delivered by the time this Bulletin is published. It will be located in the Indiana Room for the convenience of our patrons. In addition to the Hendricks County census records (1850 thru 1900), we now have the 1850 and 1880 census for Putnam County available on microfilm. The latter was recently presented to the Library by Floy Underwood Modesitt in memory of Mamie Phillips Campbell. We will be glad to order any other census records for our patrons on interlibrary loan from the National Archives.

Other additions to our reference section include the WPA indexes for births, deaths, and marriages in Hendricks County (up to 1920); "Ancestors and Descendants of Francis Marion and Louetta (Wise) Hawley" compiled by William R. and Jane Walterhouse Hawley; "Genealogical Sources from the Indiana Magazine of History" by Dorothy Riker. We now have the complete set of Heiss' Quaker Records, including the index.

We welcome any suggestions from Historical Society members on books or services they would like to have added to the Indiana Room.

Betty Bartley
Historical Librarian

This clipping was turned in by Ruth Pritchard, but her sharp eyes spied an error. 1923 could not have been the 100th anniversary of the Belleville School because, says Ruth, "Belleville was not even platted until 1829. The date for Belleville's first school was reported to be 1833."

Republican July 1922

SECOND ANNUAL REUNION AT OLD BELLEVILLE TOWN

Old Belleville again welcomed her wandering sons and daughters, Sunday, and the home-coming was pronounced even a greater success than that of last year. Plans are already in the making for next year. There is a tradition that 1923 is the 100th anniversary of the first school at Belleville. Historians will ascertain if this is true and if so, the celebration of this event will be included in the year's program.

The exercises were held in the Methodist church yard and two long tables were no more than sufficient for the dinner that was spread. In the afternoon, the formal program was given, Conrad Dillon presiding. The Belleville orchestra

scattered good music throughout the hour. There was a reading by Marion Franklin, a duet by the Minnett sisters, a solo by Mrs. Mabel Rushton, a violin solo by Master John Taylor, a talk by Mrs. Samuel M. Ralston, a reading by Carl Martin, address by Prof. C. O. Mayas, of Richmond; one by Jesse D. Hamrick, of Indianapolis, and also by Dr. A. M. Strong, Cale White and Joe Morgan, the latter of Indianapolis. Mr. Morgan made an impressive talk, showing what can be done in free America. In 1882 he lived in Belleville and his parents were so poor that Joe went to school wearing one shoe and one boot. He picked the boot up in an alley in Belleville. Mr. Morgan is now an enterprising business man of Indianapolis and owns a farm near Joppa.

With the addition of J. W. Noel as vice president, the former officers were continued. John C. Taylor was appointed chairman of the program committee with authority to select his assistants. A circuit picture of the gathering was taken.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

John R. McDowell

Many of us who worked on THE HISTORY OF HENDRICKS COUNTY were greatly saddened to learn of the death of John R. McDowell who edited our book. We worked closely with Mr. McDowell and were constantly amazed as the ease with which he assumed what seemed to us an herculean undertaking. Time after time he took home great stacks of manuscripts which he edited in his spare time. He was actually "moonlighting" since he had a full time job as assistant Sunday editor of the INDIANAPOLIS STAR as well as feature writer and reporter. Had it not been for John R. McDowell there might not have been our HISTORY OF HENDRICKS COUNTY.

He died suddenly September 15th and we extend to his family our sincere sympathy.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

WITH LOVE AND GRATITUDE

I wish I could find words to say all the things that are in my heart. I wish I could tell you how touched I was with the beautiful messages of love and cheer and encouragement I received while on my summer "vacation". I wish I could thank my faithful helpers who rallied 'round and put out the last Bulletin... Marian Worrell, Ruth Pritchard, Grace Cox, Mary Jeanette Winkelman, Frances Fisher, Jewell Bell, Blanche Wean and that beautiful, efficient typist, Barbara Singleton. After reading that BULLETIN, I decided you don't need an editor!

I cherish you all and I pray that God will make His face to shine upon you and give you peace, both now and forevermore.

Margaret Baker

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

NEWS OF OUR V. I. P.

I hope no one missed the lovely picture of Dorothy Kelley, director of the Museum, which appeared in the September 11th INDIANAPOLIS NEWS. She is shown holding the cloth doll made for Luemma Allen in 1870 before her family journeyed to Kansas in a covered wagon. I quote in part the article written by Kathleen Van Nuys:

DAUGHTER RECALLS PIONEER

Clara Reitzel never got to play with the cloth doll her mother took as a child to Kansas in a covered wagon in 1870.

"It was always put away. No one ever played with it while I was growing up," said the rural Stilesville resident. She has given the doll to the Hendricks County Museum, housed in the 1885 courthouse and jail in Danville.

In its original costume, the doll will be displayed at Hoosier Heritage Day, Sept. 19, in the Indiana State Historical Society section of the daylong event at the Indiana State Museum, 202 N. Alabama.

It will be among 10 dolls representative of a collection in the Hendricks County Museum.

Mrs. Reitzel said her mother, Luemma Allen, was 6 years old when her father decided to rent his farm and travel to Kansas and look for another one.

"But he didn't find a farm any better than the one he had right here, so they came back," she said.

"My grandfather built a cover for the wagon bed, and the family left for Kansas in August," she said, recalling the story told to her many times. "He drove a team of horses.

"The family stopped overnight in many places, cooking their own food, according to a record of the journey," she said. "They lived in a house for one year in Kansas before returning.

"Mother had an older brother, Edgar, about 10, who made a cradle for the doll. The doll is of original material, but its face may have been repainted," she said.

Mrs. Reitzel, whose father was Newton Richardson, said that the family of her late husband, Albert, also settled early in the area. They came to Hazelwood in the 1830s.

Dorothy Kelley, director of the Hendricks County Museum, said a 4-inch china doll in the collection has moving eyes and legs. Baby dolls, a clown, a black boy and Queen Louise china doll with blonde hair are among the unusual ones being displayed. Doll furniture, a trunk, dishes and a restored carriage complete the exhibit.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

A recent clipping from THE REPUBLICAN brings good news.

LITTLE HOOSIERS

Avon Little Hoosiers, a division of the Indiana Junior Historical Society, is organizing for this school year. This year's membership includes 43 in Grade 4 and 21 in Grade five at Avon Upper Elementary. The group meets about once a month, during recess. Mrs. Judy Bobb is the faculty sponsor. Activities include guest speakers, field trips, or special projects.

We welcome these young historians and we assure them that our Society will do every thing we can to help make them real history buffs!

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

SPRING FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE

No longer stands the Meeting House
Where once the Quakers slow
Would sit in silent worship
A hundred years ago.

The Meeting House was moved away,
A church was built in town;
The graveyard lies neglected
The stones are fallen down.

The yucca takes possession
The ground hogs burrow deep
The myrtle spreads a blanket
Where young and old now sleep.

The briars, weeds and bushes
Are growing rank and wild
The cedars rustle sadly
Where rests a little child.

The dates on stones bear witness
To hardships, sickness, and pain;
Young mothers, little children,
Young men, so long have lain.

A few more hardy than the rest
Lived on to a ripe old age;
The sum of what they did for us
Is written on history's page.

Oh, what we owe these brave ones!
We reap the crop they've sown
They gave their lives and labor
To clear the lands we own.

Ida Logue

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

In connection with the following letter, this clipping from an old paper is appropriate.

In Danville Paper 1854

Third Session Belleville Academy

9-25-1854

Course of Study

Primary

Junior

Senior

Jarred R. Woodfill A.B. - Math, Nat. Science

Robert S. Reese A.M. - Prof. of Languages

Jarred R. Woodfill at this time owned the Belleville lots on which now (1980)
Roy Pritchards' house stands.

April 28th, 1861

Brother John,

After stating that we are enjoying good health, and have fine prospect for a wheat and Rye crop I will state that the War Panic is incredible. Gentry County is becoming depopulated. About twenty families have moved to Iowa within the past ten days. The Huggins neighborhood, which is about 7 miles north of Island Creek, is evacuated. The North E. Methodist are denied the privilege of worshipping God under their own "vine and fig tree", consequently they are migrating North.

To make a short story of a great deal of trouble, all the citizens here who have conscientious scruples against fighting for the Confederate states after Missouri shall secede, are taking time by the forelock, and severing their connection with the Commonwealth. Some give away their property, others leave real estate unsold.

All kinds of business is checked. There is literally no money in N. W. Missouri. The farmer goes to his plow without courage, the mechanic to his shop with reluctance.

Secession is the prevailing sentiment here. There are many Union men here who love the stars and stripes as their own lives, but for the safety of themselves and families, they say nothing. The liberties of free speech are proscribed here. All I have got is here and I intend to stay with it at all hazards. They may kill me, but they can't drive me away.

I have never needed 800 dols worse since I have been to the state. I shall have to sacrifice property most awfully if I don't get some soon.

I have been looking for the balance due me from father Irons (?) but it has not come yet but I hope it will soon.

In about ten days we have 400 dols due us but I have no idea that we will get 50.

I have made a good deal of money since I have been here but I am mighty hard up now. I hope the war will end in a few days and the troubled waters will subside.

Let me hear from you soon.

Yours Respectively,

J. R. Woodfill

AN EDITORIAL

Sometimes, in delving into the past, we come up with stories that do not always portray our ancestors in the most flattering light. Occasionally we have printed some of these stories but with the hope that they will, in no way, cause any embarrassment to the descendants, if any are living at this time.

There is nothing malevolent about this. Any honest historian knows that our past was not all perfect. There was evil going on then, as there is today. A few ... well, many ... oh, well, all our ancestors made mistakes, just as you and I are making them today, and will continue to make them until the day we die. But

trying to forget, ignore or gloss over their shortcomings is not giving a true picture of the past. We could learn a great deal from past mistakes.

On this trend of thought, let me quote one of my favorite writers, the late Harold Blake Walker: "Tradition is a covenant between father and sons, a mutual pledge of allegiance to what conscience, under God, regards as true and just. Tradition is a responsible continuance of the struggle for the highest ideals and aspirations of our history, a continuance re-affirmation of our loyalty to the noblest and best of our inheritance."

"In the present cultural climate, it is altogether too easy to neglect history and tradition and discard the past as irrelevant. Unfortunately, 'all that is past is prologue' and we forget it to our peril. We cannot understand the present and march on to a better future without learning from both the mistakes and the wisdom of those who went before us."

That says, more succinctly than your humble Editor could, what the HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, and its bulletin, are all about.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

We were distressed to hear of Clark Kellum's serious illness and we all join in prayers that he will soon be improved. Clark is very important to countless people, and organizations and worthy endeavors, and we miss him greatly when he is not participating as he has done for so many years. To Clark and Carolyn, we quote I Thessalonians - "May your spirit and body and soul be kept sound."

I doubt that she will want you to know this, but Blanche Wean took a short vacation in HCH for tests, but knowing Blanche as we do, you may look for her back at her desk soon. At least that is our hope and prayer.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

This is another selection from Clara Reitzel's collection which she titled ROSES IN DECEMBER. She compiled it in 1974, and it is full of delightful vignettes.

TELEPHONES

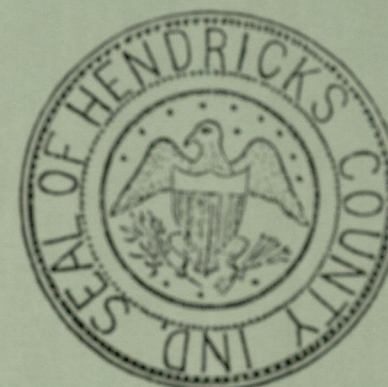
Alva left home when I was two or three years old. He worked for the telephone company. This was when phones were first installed in the farmers homes. When he came home, and Mary had a date and maybe some other young folks came in on a Sunday afternoon, they, the boys, would amuse themselves trying to climb the poles with Alva's climbers with the spikes. When our telephone was installed, what a marvel to be able to call our neighbors. One neighbor had a gramophone--the original record player or phonograph, with the cylinder records and a large morning glory shaped horn. They would call several of their friends, then play the records for all to hear. We had "party lines" then, maybe 10 or more on the same line. One, especially popular, was "the Preacher and the Bear". Alva worked for various telephone companies for several years. About 1912 he began working for Western Union Telegraph and stayed with them until his retirement.

I was only four years old when our telephone was installed. When the men were installing it, I picked up a funny looking tube that they had been using. I squeezed it and out spurted a funny-looking brown salve. That was my first time to see a squeeze tube like toothpaste and so many other things come in at present.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

HENDRICKS COUNTY

HISTORY BULLETIN



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THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

ORGANIZED 1967

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H C H S

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H C H S

The human story is too grand and awful to be told without reverence for the mystery and majesty that transcends all human knowledge. Only humble men who recognize this mystery and majesty are able to face both the beauty and the terror of life without exulting over the beauty or being crushed by its terror.

Reinhold Niebuhr

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

GREETINGS FROM OUR PRESIDENT

The year 1981 is over. Its last weeks saw another space ship go beyond the atmosphere and make an early return to earth which was not in the plans for the re-entry. There was also an election of officers for the HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

This new year offers great challenges and started with a winter storm with record breaking low temperatures and a new president and vice president who (you might say) gained offices in an off-year election. The rest of the fine officers were re-elected. We will do our best to bring this year a continued and planned progress to our HISTORICAL SOCIETY with the help and co-operation of the members which it has enjoyed in past years. We have a few projects in mind which we will discuss at the meeting.

As I succeed a most capable president (and a former school teacher), and many able and enthusiastic past presidents, I have a great task before me. It will be made much easier, however, since I have a very efficient vice-president in Mrs. Lois Crayton (also a former school teacher) and great co-operative members of her committee.

See you at the meetings.

Maynard Noland, president

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

NOVEMBER MEETING

Our November meeting was held the 1st at the lovely old United Methodist Church at Belleville. Marian Worrell, president, introduced Geneva Cook of the host church who presented Mrs. John Lynch, pianist, Mrs. Harvey Berhart, organist and her son Bruce and daughter-in-law, Sue, who treated us to a delightful program of instrumental numbers, vocal solos and duets. The Belleville church is greatly blessed with musical talent. The devotions given by Lois Stratton were impressive and informative as she had just returned from a trip to Russia. Mr. Jim Cooper, a member of the church, gave an interesting history of Belleville, one of the oldest settlements in the state.

Dorothy Kelley introduced Mrs. Bobby Thomas of Marion Township who was elected by the Indiana Farm Bureau as State Farm Wife of 1979. In that capacity, she and her husband, Frank, won a trip to the Farm Bureau Convention at Phoenix in 1980 and she has travelled extensively telling the farmers' story. She, in turn, presented a group of farm wives, Mrs. Ken Edmondson, Mrs. Allen Harden, Mrs. Charles Whicker, Mrs. Dave Whicker and Mrs. Rick Thomas who, in costumes and with many props told in clever verse and songs of the various skills a farmer ... and his wife ... must have. It was a delightful program.

During the business meeting the need to sell the rest of our history books was stressed, a moment of silence was observed in memory of Clark Kellum, and the nominating committee gave the following report which was unanimously accepted: president, Maynard Nolan; vice, Lois Crayton; secretary, Mary Elizabeth Bray; treasurer, Blanche Wean. 45 members and 10 guests enjoyed the refreshments and social hour hosted by the ladies of Franklin, Clay and Liberty Townships.

FEBRUARY MEETING

Our February meeting will be the 7th at 2:00 P.M. at the lovely new SAVINGS AND LOAN building located at 1486 E. Main St., Danville. It is on the east side of OLD FARMS addition (right next to the Pizza Hut, in case you get hungry!) Robert Castetter is chairman of the meeting and has arranged for a group from the Plainfield A.M.E. Church to discuss the subject NEGRO HERITAGE IN HENDRICKS COUNTY. Bring something ... any thing ... for the display table. We MUST keep our display table going. Be ready for delicious refreshments, for Dorothy Templin is chairman of the hostess committee composed of the ladies of Marion and Center townships. Let's hope Old Man Winter will have vented the worst of his wrath by that time so everyone can come. It is a beautiful room for meetings, there is plenty of parking space and NO STEPS TO CLIMB and furthermore it promises to be a most interesting meeting.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

1982 MEETINGS

Our Program Committee has really been on the ball! But when you see who our smart president appointed on that committee, you won't be surprised. Lois Crayton, vice president is, by virtue of her office, chairman of the Program Committee and serving with her are Robert Castetter, Dorothy Templin, Mary Jane Winkelman and Virginia Joseph. So that is the reason we have our year's meetings planned. Congratulations, Program Committee!

May 2 - Brownsburg Public Library (that beautiful new one!) The subject, A THOROUGHLY MODERN LIBRARY AND HOW IT WORKS presented by the library staff. We will be taken on a tour and shown how those mystical, magical gadgets work. They boggle my poor, feeble mind! But won't it be fun!

August 1 - Pittsboro United Methodist Church. The beautiful church is located on the east edge of Pittsboro on the south side of Road 136. The subject of the program will be A MEETING OF THE OLYMPIAN LYCEUM. Now if you don't know what that is all about, you will just have to come to the meeting to find out. But please don't expect any members of the Winter Olympics teams there!

November 7 - Bartlett's Chapel United Methodist Church located on State Road 36 east of Danville and west of Avon on the north side of the road. The topic of the meeting will be INDIAN WARS IN INDIANA by Jerry Hankins. Mr. Hankins is a teacher at Plainfield High School and has done a great deal of research on Indiana history.

So how about this great Program Committee! We should give them a rousing round of approval for looking ahead and planning meetings that promise to be interesting, entertaining and informative! This should be another great year for HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY!

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

MUSINGS FROM THE MUSEUM

Mother Nature got right into the act on Saturday, December 5, 1981. That was the first of two weekends the museum held its "Christmas at the Museum" open house. It was the day of the Christmas parade in Danville heralding the start of the Christmas season, by turning on the Christmas lights. Yes, Mother Nature out-did herself! She swept the clouds back to the horizon and made them

stay there. Ole Sol beamed his brightest the whole day. The bright winter garb of the spectators and the colorful spectacle of the parade was a sight to behold! A lot of those brightly clad people came to see the museum afterward.

The museum was beautifully decorated by Rita Lieske and three friends from North Salem, Dianne Neff, Lois Neff, and Helen Clark. Beautifully done, gals, and thanks heaps! Approximately two hundred visited the museum during the two weekends of open house. Marcia Mussman, Danville, brought her spinning wheel and wool and demonstrated the art once so necessary in every household. There was lots of "ooing, and aahing, and well, what do you know about that" over the doll house on the parlor table. The tree was decorated in the manner of long ago. Our visitors are sort of getting over the idea of not having electrical decorations and seem to be interested in how the tree is trimmed this year. It never looks the same twice. The craft shop is usually the last stop to see all the bright little goodies. More often than not, some of them find new homes.

Two very old arm-chairs were brought up from the basement. They both need cane seats. We'd like to hear from some volunteers who would like to do the job. The chairs will look just right in the library where one can read in comfort. If those chairs could talk, what yarns they could spin! Probably lots of yarns were spun by occupants of a by-gone day.

The armed-forces display has its own room in the basement. Doesn't have to compete with the upstairs rooms.

Our bedroom suite in the adult bedroom was loaned to us. The lenders have asked for it. We need another one. Would anyone have a suite, or at least a part of one they'd lend for a while?

We received a copy of "Indiana Authors and Their Books" by Wabash College, compiled by Donald E. Thompson, Librarian emeritus, Wabash College.

And then the snows came and made the world into one big skating rink. Woe to the non-skaters and to some of the others too.

Jewell

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

QUERY

EDWIN CHAMBERS ... Need date of death, place of burial. He was in Hendricks County, Eel River Twp. in 1870 (possibly North Salem). His son GEORGE W. CHAMBERS and family here also coming from Hawkins Co., Tenn. Edwin married Marth ... children were George W. born 1831; Josias, 1834, William, 1836. Martin, 1842, Malana Harvey, 1827. Was his second wife Mary?, born in Kentucky 1830? Edwin was in Jamestown, Boone Co. in 1887, a witness to the pension claim of Rebecca Chambers of Jamestown, widow of Lewis, Edwin's brother. In 1892 a transfer of his Jamestown property was made August 29 and was recorded October 8, 1892. Mrs. Mildred C. Wymes, 10 Second Ave. East, Albia, Iowa, 52531

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

IN LOVING MEMORY

The Editor of the H. C. HISTORY BULLETIN lives a happy life. Many people could not understand what fun it is to read the contributions sent in by members, to organize them, to cut here and to add there. It takes a peculiar breed to spend hours at the typewriter trying to put together a bulletin that will be informative as well as entertaining. I really delight in this assignment, that is until... until ... until something comes across my desk that I know I must print but something that I don't want to print.

Such is the case with the news of the death of Clark Kellum. What can I say about Clark that I haven't already said? Charter members, Clark and Carolyn have been a great moving force in our society since its beginning. Without Clark and Carolyn, our society might have limped along; without Clark and Carolyn, our museum might have had trouble getting off the ground; without Clark and Carolyn, the history books might have been in trouble; without Clark and Carolyn, the sale of those books might have bogged down, and, at a very recent meeting, Clark made a plea for more emphasis on the sale of the books we have left. Clark Kellum has been "Mr. Everything" to the H C H S and it is difficult to say "good'by" to him. But we do have half of that great team left, and with her strong Christian faith, we know that Carolyn will soon be back carrying on the work she knows Clark would want her to do.

Another loss to our society was the death of Iva Debra. A long-time newspaper woman, she was a faithful member of the HCHS until the ravages of age took her out of circulation. In her prime, she was a regular contributor to the HENDRICKS COUNTY REPUBLICAN. She always had a happy, optimistic outlook on life and no one has ever heard her say one critical word of her fellow men. She is greatly missed, not only by her family, but by her many friends.

"PRECIOUS IN THE SIGHT OF THE LORD IS THE DEATH OF HIS SAINTS."

Psalms 116:15

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

Betty Bartley ... you are a dear, sweet livin' doll. Thanks to you for the following three contributions.

THE LAWRENCE SCHOOL GIRLS CLUB

1873--1875

One of the unique organizations in Hendricks county is that of the Amos O. Lawrence School Girls Club.

This organization has for its purpose the continuing of friendships and of associations formed by its members during their school days.

The name "Amos O. Lawrence" was chosen because at the time the organization was formed more "girls" who had been pupils of this teacher could be located than of any other principal of the Danville school.

Amos O. Lawrence was principal of the Danville School during the years of 1873-1874 and 1874-1875. He was an eastern man, was well educated and was a successful teacher.

After leaving school these pupils went into homes of their own and were occupied by the usual life occupations. Many of them lived in or near Danville, while others visited the old locality now and then and there would be casual meetings which brought back memories of other days and longings for old friends.

Finally Mrs. Laura Fronk McCoun was inspired with a desire to have as many as possible of her old schoolmates meet in her home.

She called to her aid the "girls" who were living in Danville and an effort was made to get in touch with all the girl pupils of the years '73-'75.

This meeting was held with Mrs. McCoun September 18, 1903 and was attended by twelve of the "girls". So happy was this meeting that it was decided to form an organization and to meet annually.

There were more than thirty girls in the original number and about as many boys but only the girls organized.

As nearly as I can remember these are the names of the girls in school during these years 1873-1875: Margaret Darnell, Effie Campbell, Sallie McCoun, Maggie Keeney, Laura Fronk, Eliza McCoun, Ida Chambers, May Pierson, Mollie Soper, Lillie Dill, Laura Hadley, Florence Pugh, Dean Hill, Victoria Crab, Emma Cash, Pauline Snoddy, Cora Fiddick, Flora Bunker, Georgia Cox, Emma McCurdy, Kattie Slager, Erie Morgan, Emma Hardin, Lillie Kite, Eva Harper, Emma Gregg, Kate DePew, Rebecca Dempsey, Bell Kite, Julia Lewis, there were perhaps others whose names I cannot now recall.

The last four of these had died sometime before this first meeting and since then eight others have "passed on". Only eleven or twelve now attend the annual meetings, others often send letters that are loved by those who are present.

Each year a dinner is enjoyed by those present. Each one contributing some one or two dishes. The "girls" living in Danville constitute the "menu" committee and this committee assigns each girl her part of the annual twelve o'clock meal.

During the first few years there was also a souvenir committee which was discontinued after each member had served on it and had thus presented a souvenir to each of the other members. These souvenirs were of various kinds--one year the committee presented a photograph of Prof. Lawrence, another year it was a picture of a white pig. This pig commemorated an incident of school days. A souvenir spoon with a picture of the old academy building was also given to each "girl". It was in this building that we had school the first half of the year 1873-1874 while the school building which had burned the year before was being rebuilt. We moved into the new building, which was on the present site of the Mattie Keeney building, after the holidays January 1874.

Often when the meetings were held in Danville the business men who had been our schoolmates would call on us or send presents of various kinds. Other times they would send a messenger boy with notes asking for dates as of old. The hostess, too, often prepared some lovely souvenir as a hand painted plate or plaque.

The annual meetings were held in the homes of the members. Often some one of the members could not wait for the annual meeting and called a meeting on some pretext in her own home. She entertaining those who could come.

One of the most pleasant of these was held with Mrs. Laura Frank McCoun Jan. 26, 1909. She had arranged her living room as a school room and we were given a lunch of baked beans in pans and a drinking cup was given each one. It was examination day and we were given questions in geography, arithmetic and physiology to answer.

That same year, 1909, we gave a reception to our friends. It was Washington's birthday and we wore colonial costumes, some of them really fine old dresses that our grandmothers had worn. The rooms were beautifully decorated with flags, hatchets, cherry trees and our colors--lavender and white. The Demarcus sisters furnished music while we stood in line and greeted our guests, who passed on to the dining room and were served ice cream and cake and a cherry bouquet.

This reception was held at the home of Mrs. Florence Pugh Barnett. Among the decorations were many old time things such as candlesticks and sniffers and fire irons for the fire place. We received about 200 guests.

At our fourth annual meeting we filled and sealed a bottle of wine which is to be carefully kept and opened by the last survivor on our anniversary day, also when one of our members answers the roll call no more, a ribbon in class colors is tied around the neck of the bottle. We also send flowers when one of our members dies and a card of sympathy to the family also a word of prayer is spoken at our first meeting after the death.

It was also in 1909 that we were invited to attend the High School Alumni Association banquet and were voted in as members of the Alumni Association. We were represented on the program that year by Florence Pugh Barnett. We have always been represented at the Alumni banquets since that time.

We were usually kept away from the dining room at our annual meetings until exactly twelve o'clock, the hostess opened the door and announced that "dinner is served". Each place was marked in some unusual manner and part of our fun was in hunting our places. I remember one time a small doll dressed in our class colors stood at each place, and when we examined these we found the doll faces were our own of long ago. The hostess had in some way secured old pictures of each of us. I believe the largest number ever present at one time was 23 present at the home of Margaret Cook Darnell in 1908. Mrs. Darnell had placed lovely handpainted booklets for each member, with photograph of the old school building.

Another meeting which was a very happy one--as each one was--was held at the country home of Eva Harper in 1921. We visited the barns and inspected the herd of Hereford cattle, visited the dahlia beds, and when called to the dining room found our place cards to be pictures of the herd bull LeRoy 15602-713747.

One other meeting held in a country home we remember with pleasure was with Mollie Soper. It was in "horse and buggy" days, we had shiney buggies and horses, highsteppers, that went west on the Rockville road, at something like 5 miles an hour. It was watermelon time, we each found a nice one in our buggies when we arrived home. There were 20 girls at this meeting. I wish that I had time and space to describe each meeting. They have all been so enjoyable and each has had its unique features, no two have been alike.

A list of the names of our members was placed in the corner stone of the court house at the corner stone laying May 29th, 1913.

Such is a brief sketch of the story of the Amos O. Lawrence School Girl's Club. It sounds rather selfish, but really, no more unselfish "girls" exist than these. We not only enter into each other's joys and sorrows, but individually contribute to many worthy causes and each girl is faithful to her church and its interests.

Miss Eva Harper
Lixton, Indiana
1928

Keeping a diary was at one time the rule rather than the exception. Farmers usually kept a diary to have a record of expenses for livestock and feed, and for other items of interest in the community. This was the case with Horace G. Masten of Amo. A copy of his diary covering the period from 1912 to 1926 may be found in the Indiana Room of the Danville Public Library. The following entries were made in February of 1920:

- Feb 5 Mary & I went to Indpls to attend state council of S.S. workers. Wendell Phillip Hurst born to Mr. & Mrs. Otha Hurst Feb. 3.
- Feb 6 Stayed last night at Linden Hotel \$1.25 each. Went to English Opera House last night to see Howard Thurston. Tickets \$1.10 each.
- Feb 7 Edith Neese came home from Indpls sick.
- Feb 11 Voss Bray, Orville Patten & myself butchered 2 hogs for Pa. Patten's dog bit me in the face, broke my glasses.
- Feb 12 Voss Bray, Marion Grimes & I built fence N of woods
- Feb 13 Voss Bray, Marion Grimes & I built fence south from gate south along road.
- Feb 11 Roy Leak died last night at 10:40 double pneumonia.
- Feb 12 Roy Leak buried at Lixton. Funeral at Christian Church Lixton.
- Feb 16 I went to Indpls. got glasses fixed. New frames all but temple pieces \$2.50.
- Feb 19 Black Jersey cow bred to Pa's male.
- Feb 26 I went to Indpls taken treatment of (Dr. Walter S.) Grow.*
- Feb 29 Vera Alcorn Barnes died on way to Hospital.
- * Earlier in the diary, Masten had recorded Walter S. Grow's method of treating flu: "Soak feet in strong hot mustard water almost to knees for 1 hr or more. Put to bed and give hot lemonade glass every hr. sweat for 3 or 4 hrs -- let patient have nothing to eat but juices, give plenty of water."

On September 10, 1850, Nathan Meredith took his pen in hand and proceeded to draw a portrait of the town of Danville. Not by sketching the buildings or the scenery, but by going from house to house and asking questions. Nathan Meredith had been hired by the Federal Government to take the census.

The results of his survey give us the following picture of Danville: There were 33 families occupying the 32 dwellings that made up the town. Of the 177 people living there, 89 were male and 88 female. The majority of the citizens had been born in Indiana (102). Those born in Kentucky made up the second largest group (32). Other states represented were Ohio (15), New York (8), North Carolina (8), Virginia (5), Pennsylvania (2), and one each from Massachusetts, Illinois, New Jersey, and Tennessee. Only one person had been born in another country: Ireland. The oldest person in town was 74; the youngest 3 months.

The citizens of Danville were engaged in a variety of occupations. There were 2 inn keepers, 1 mechanic, 2 printers, 3 chairmakers, 2 wheat fan makers, 4 carpenters, 1 merchant clerk, 1 physician, 1 post master, 2 tailors, 1 sheriff, 1 day laborer, 1 M.E. clergyman, 2 farmers, 2 wagon & carriage makers, 1 auditor, 2 cabinetmakers, 1 saddler, 1 common laborer, and 2 attorneys at law. (The latter occupation has seen a considerable increase in the past 130 years)

The residents seemed to be well educated: 44 had attended school within the past year. Only 5 people over the age of 20 were unable to read and write.

All this information, as well as the names of the members of each household can be found on the microfilm copy of the 1850 census, available for viewing in the Indiana Room of the Danville Public Library. Copies of the Hendricks County census for 1860, 1870, 1880 and 1900 are also available. We recently received copies of the 1850 and 1880 census of Putnam County from Floy Underwood Modesitt, in memory of Mamie Phillips Campbell. The Historical Librarian, Betty Bartley, invites anyone interested in history or genealogy to come and see "the way it was" in Hendricks County on the new microfilm reader, presented to the Indiana Room by the Friends of the Library.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

Ruth Pritchard, that walking, talking (and can she talk!) encyclopedia of Hendricks County History as well as genealogy, has come into possession of the DIARY OF CALVIN FLETCHER through her membership in the INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY. For our bulletin she has laborously selected items of interest to Hendricks County and the people who lived here. Her selections are so fascinating that I have asked her to continue her articles as a series of the Calvin Fletcher Diaries.

CALVIN FLETCHER AND HENDRICKS COUNTY
(Mostly From the Diary of Calvin Fletcher 1817-1866)

January 11, 1982

Yesterday's record low temperature (-18 at Belleville at 6 A.M.) and continued cold seems to add reading time to readjusted schedules. Some excellent material is available in THE DIARY OF CALVIN FLETCHER 1817-1866

Excerpts from the Diary are used by permission of The Indiana Historical Society.

From page XII of the Introduction -----

"There seems to be a continuing desire on the part of mankind to learn more about his ancestors, to see them as they really were, to be able to visualize how they lived day by day, how they met the manifold problems that confronted them, to know what constituted their daily business and their pleasures. We want to feel the reality of the past. THE DIARY OF CALVIN FLETCHER affords us this opportunity."

Calvin Fletcher was one of five commissioners appointed by governor Hendricks to locate the seat of government of the new county of Hendricks. This was done on the second Monday of July 1824.

The Act organizing the county, December 20, 1823, provided that the circuit court of the county should be held at the house of William Ballard (which stood near present Belleville) until a suitable court house should be built.

Here the first court was held on the 25th day of October 1824, with Hon. W. W. Wick as Judge and Nathan Kirk and James Downard as associates on the bench. Levi Jessup was clerk and Thomas J. Matlock, sheriff. Calvin Fletcher was admitted to practice at the bar of this court, at that time.

Almost sixteen years later Calvin Fletcher wrote - "February 6, 1840..... I have rode the circuit 13 years this spring. I have been at the organization of evry court in each county in circuit except Bartholomew. I saw them commence with one or 2 cases now they have nearly an average 150 cases each. I attended courts in each county without court houses & in several the session was held under the shade of the forrest trees. To several of the counties I went to court on foot at the first settlement. Laid out many nights regularly encamped while attending Ft. Wayne & some of the Wabash counties when they belonged to this circuit & once laid out with Judge Wick Messrs. Brown & Quarles in going to Hendricks court but we lost our way or we should have had other lodgings. I acted as states attorney from Aug. 1825 to Aug. 1826 when I was elected to the State Senate for the counties of Carroll Cass part of Clinton Boon Hamilton Grant Hancock Marion & Hendricks or the territory that is embraced in these counties (Page 146 Volume II)

Tuesday February 3 1829 Judge Morris Wick Quarles and Brown started for Hendricks circuit court. Ground covered with snow. It grew colder after we left home. We called about 8 miles from here and warmed. Arrived at Danville about sundown where we found Mr. Gregg.

Wednesday February 4th Very cold. This is my birthday (31st)---Poor court house. Many rough people attended court from the north part of Hendricks County..... (Page 162 Volume I)

Saturday April 8 1837 At 2 o'clock Mr. Quarles and myself leave for Danville. It snows and the road (National) never was worse. We reached Plainfield 16 miles west about sundown and stayed at (---?---). His little child was sick with the Quinsey or cramp (croup?) and I advised to send for a doctor which they did but the child a fine little boy of about 2 years old died since. Plainfield now has 2 stores - 2 taverns etc. and about 30 houses. (Page 420 Volume I)

Sunday April 9 Went to Belleville after breakfast in company with Dr. Moore stopped at General Johnsons. Cold disagreeable day. After dinner went to Danville put up at Mr. Blakes

From April 11 - 15 pleasant

Saturday April 15 A beautiful day At 10 we left Danville after a very busy court. We dined at Plainfield arrived home at dark. (Page 421 Volume I)

Monday June 19, 1837 I rose early say at 3. Waked Elijah and Cooley. We each of us had horses ready to ride to Green Castle to see the corner stone of the college laid at which Mr. Bascum was to deliver an address. We soon got ready for the journey. It was a damp wet morning tho' it did not rain. We proceeded along to Bridgeport when Mr. Bascum in Mr. Youngs carriage overtook us & then we rode in company with John Hill & others to Bellville where we took breakfast. From there we proceeded in company with Re. Mr. Daily Kelso Quarles & others to Greencastle where we arrived at 4 o'clock -- a rapid journey for my boys who seemed to be but little tired (Coolie was 14 & Elijah 13 years old) We put up with a Mr. Cooper a methodist a saddler. It rained soon after we arrived. Here we found Mr. Ingram from Lafayette & many gentlemen from various parts Town was crowded. I was much pleased with the town & country. Lands far exceede ours in natural beauty if not in fertility.

Tuesday morning June 20 1837 I rose early. At 8 I was informed that I was to make a short address at the laying of the corner stone previous to Mr. Bascums address ----- I was to be commended for my brevity if not for my matter ----- (Mr. Bascums address 2 1/2 hours) ----- Mr. Ingram Elijah & Cooley left at 4 P.M. & rode to Stilesville -----

June 21 1837 This day rose early Pleasant. At 8 Mr. Quarles & myself left together. Arrived at Stilesville -- stopped at Jessups. Went to Bellville -- there overtook Messrs. Rooter Ames etc. Dined then returned home with Messrs. Harrison Quarles Kelso a young preacher on Brookville circuit. Arrived home sun 1 hour high. (Pages 439 and 440 Volume I)

Saturday August 5, 1837 I this day wrote several letters. Received a demand for collection from Louisville on Fat Bill Matlock of \$500 (William T. Matlock Hendricks Co.) (Page 450 Volume I)

Sept. 22 1839 Sunday cool. In P.M. rode with Mr. Quarles to Hendricks - put up at Mrs. Comingos

Sept. 28 1839 Returned home Saturday morn or rather left at noon. Wm Matlock called big Bill rode a piece with me to talk about the times prospects of markets etc (Page 122 Volume II)

Feby. 11, 1840 ----- Big Bill Matlock as he is called came to pay an instalment in bank of \$1500 & had \$900 in specie (Page 148 Volume II)

Octr. 17 1840 ----- Bill Matlock sent 75 very fine mules to N.O. by land under the care of young John Wood. They staid at Brownings. Matlock (Wm. J. or L?) is a very enterprising man has 1800 hogs bought in Hendricks now feeding them on the Wabash so he can slaughter them on the river Wabash & send them to N.O. (Page 244 Volume II)

Apr. 6 1841 Bill Matlock returned from Cincinnati. Sold 1/2 of his pork (Page 349 Volume II)

Sunday Octr. 3, 1841 Started in the morn for Hendricks Court ----- stopped at Mrs. Comingos -----

Wednesday Oct. 6 1841 On last night I rode out with Robert McCowan 4 miles to see a yoke of oxen which I talked of buying. They asked \$60. I have left word at Hendricks to buy them.

Oct. 7 1841 -----left Danville at 5 o'clock came thro Plainfield to David G. Werth. I have promised to give him a horse if he goes to preaching & have bought the oxen so I can spare the horse -----

Sunday 10 1841 -----In the eve old David Matlock called with a yoke of oxen which I bought of McCowan for \$60 4 years old very large. (Pages 357 and 358 Volume II)

Calvin Fletcher names other Hendricks County citizens tells of Methodist camp meeting and preachers and pictures the past in vivid fashion.

Ruth M. Pritchard
Belleville, Indiana

HCBS HCBS HCBS HCBS HCBS

The past is to remember and to relive, to share with those who came later.

Recently THE INDIANAPOLIS NEWS started a REMEMBER WHEN feature, and it was deluged with memories from its readers. Here are some of them, and I wonder if some of our readers might have some to share with us. If so, send them in.

REMEMBER WHEN

- You could make homemade ice cream with snow?
- The cost of an office visit to the doctor was \$1 and the drug prescription was usually 75c?
- Some barberships had facilities for taking a bath for a charge of 25c?
- And haircuts were 50c and a shave was 5c?
- Mondays were washdays and doing the laundry was an all-day back-breaking job?
- Cookies and crackers were in bulk and were bought and brought home in a brown paper bag?
- People clipped colorful candles in small clip holders on Christmas trees?
- You could buy dill pickles from a large barrel at 5c each?
- Some one played the piano during silent movies?
- You used to get a bag of candy from the grocer when you paid your bill each week?
- People rode the interurban train from the small towns to Indianapolis?
- Ice trucks delivered ice to your house and you put a card in the window?

..... It cost 2¢ to mail a letter?

..... There were one-cent postal cards?

..... People wore long underwear all winter until spring?

..... People cooked and baked on coal-burning stoves?

..... You heated the house with a pot-bellied stove?

..... You used wood ashes to scour your cooking utensils?

..... You could buy five gallons of gasoline for \$1?

..... You could buy one gallon of gasoline for \$1?

..... People made lye soap in a thirty-gallon kettle?

..... You filled your straw bed every fall after wheat was thrashed?

..... A brick was heated to warm the bed?

..... Bricks were also heated to keep your feet warm during winter buggy rides?

..... The neighborhood grocer provided free delivery service?

..... Ladies stockings had seams up the back?

..... The grocer put a potato on the oil can spout?

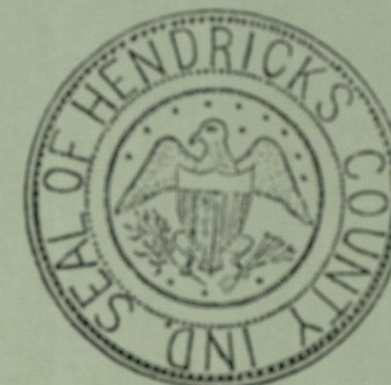
..... People sliced their bread? and made it themselves?

..... People scraped the ashes out of their stoves daily?

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

HENDRICKS COUNTY

HISTORY BULLETIN



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DANVILLE, INDIANA

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ORGANIZED 1967

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H C H S

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H C H S

The human story is too grand and awful to be told without reverence for the mystery and majesty that transcends all human knowledge. Only humble men who recognize this mystery and majesty are able to face both the beauty and the terror of life without exulting over the beauty or being crushed by its terror.

Reinhold Niebuhr

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

GREETINGS FROM OUR PRESIDENT

The year 1981 is over. Its last weeks saw another space ship go beyond the atmosphere and make an early return to earth which was not in the plans for the re-entry. There was also an election of officers for the HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

This new year offers great challenges and started with a winter storm with record breaking low temperatures and a new president and vice president who (you might say) gained offices in an off-year election. The rest of the fine officers were re-elected. We will do our best to bring this year a continued and planned progress to our HISTORICAL SOCIETY with the help and co-operation of the members which it has enjoyed in past years. We have a few projects in mind which we will discuss at the meeting.

As I succeed a most capable president (and a former school teacher), and many able and enthusiastic past presidents, I have a great task before me. It will be made much easier, however, since I have a very efficient vice-president in Mrs. Lois Crayton (also a former school teacher) and great co-operative members of her committee.

See you at the meetings.

Maynard Noland, president

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

NOVEMBER MEETING

Our November meeting was held the 1st at the lovely old United Methodist Church at Belleville. Marian Worrell, president, introduced Geneva Cook of the host church who presented Mrs. John Lynch, pianist, Mrs. Harvey Berhart, organist and her son Bruce and daughter-in-law, Sue, who treated us to a delightful program of instrumental numbers, vocal solos and duets. The Belleville church is greatly blest with musical talent. The devotions given by Lois Stratton were impressive and informative as she had just returned from a trip to Russia. Mr. Jim Cooper, a member of the church, gave an interesting history of Belleville, one of the oldest settlements in the state.

Dorothy Kelley introduced Mrs. Bobby Thomas of Marion Township who was elected by the Indiana Farm Bureau as State Farm Wife of 1979. In that capacity, she and her husband, Frank, won a trip to the Farm Bureau Convention at Phoenix in 1980 and she has travelled extensively telling the farmers' story. She, in turn, presented a group of farm wives, Mrs. Ken Edmondson, Mrs. Allen Harden, Mrs. Charles Whicker, Mrs. Dave Whicker and Mrs. Rick Thomas who, in costumes and with many props told in clever verse and songs of the various skills a farmer ... and his wife ... must have. It was a delightful program.

During the business meeting the need to sell the rest of our history books was stressed, a moment of silence was observed in memory of Clark Kellum, and the nominating committee gave the following report which was unanimously accepted: president, Maynard Nolan; vice, Lois Crayton; secretary, Mary Elizabeth Bray; treasurer, Blanche Wean. 45 members and 10 guests enjoyed the refreshments and social hour hosted by the ladies of Franklin, Clay and Liberty Townships.

FEBRUARY MEETING

Our February meeting will be the 7th at 2:00 P.M. at the lovely new SAVINGS AND LOAN building located at 1486 E. Main St., Danville. It is on the east side of OLD FARMS addition (right next to the Pizza Hut, in case you get hungry!) Robert Castetter is chairman of the meeting and has arranged for a group from the Plainfield A.M.E. Church to discuss the subject NEGRO HERITAGE IN HENDRICKS COUNTY. Bring something ... any thing ... for the display table. We MUST keep our display table going. Be ready for delicious refreshments, for Dorothy Templin is chairman of the hostess committee composed of the ladies of Marion and Center townships. Let's hope Old Man Winter will have vented the worst of his wrath by that time so everyone can come. It is a beautiful room for meetings, there is plenty of parking space and NO STEPS TO CLIMB and furthermore it promises to be a most interesting meeting.

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1982 MEETINGS

Our Program Committee has really been on the ball! But when you see who our smart president appointed on that committee, you won't be surprised. Lois Crayton, vice president is, by virtue of her office, chairman of the Program Committee and serving with her are Robert Castetter, Dorothy Templin, Mary Jane Winkelman and Virginia Joseph. So that is the reason we have our year's meetings planned. Congratulations, Program Committee!

May 2 - Brownsburg Public Library (that beautiful new one!) The subject, A THOROUGHLY MODERN LIBRARY AND HOW IT WORKS presented by the library staff. We will be taken on a tour and shown how those mystical, magical gadgets work. They boggle my poor, feeble mind! But won't it be fun!

August 1 - Pittsboro United Methodist Church. The beautiful church is located on the east edge of Pittsboro on the south side of Road 136. The subject of the program will be A MEETING OF THE OLYMPIAN LYCEUM. Now if you don't know what that is all about, you will just have to come to the meeting to find out. But please don't expect any members of the Winter Olympics teams there!

November 7 - Bartlett's Chapel United Methodist Church located on State Road 36 east of Danville and west of Avon on the north side of the road. The topic of the meeting will be INDIAN WARS IN INDIANA by Jerry Hankins. Mr. Hankins is a teacher at Plainfield High School and has done a great deal of research on Indiana history.

So how about this great Program Committee! We should give them a rousing round of approval for looking ahead and planning meetings that promise to be interesting, entertaining and informative! This should be another great year for HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY!

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

MUSINGS FROM THE MUSEUM

Mother Nature got right into the act on Saturday, December 5, 1981. That was the first of two weekends the museum held its "Christmas at the Museum" open house. It was the day of the Christmas parade in Danville heralding the start of the Christmas season, by turning on the Christmas lights. Yes, Mother Nature out-did herself! She swept the clouds back to the horizon and made them

stay there. Ole Sol beamed his brightest the whole day. The bright winter garb of the spectators and the colorful spectacle of the parade was a sight to behold! A lot of those brightly clad people came to see the museum afterward.

The museum was beautifully decorated by Rita Lieske and three friends from North Salem, Dianne Neff, Lois Neff, and Helen Clark. Beautifully done, gals, and thanks heaps! Approximately two hundred visited the museum during the two weekends of open house. Marcia Mussman, Danville, brought her spinning wheel and wool and demonstrated the art once so necessary in every household. There was lots of "ooing, and aahing, and well, what do you know about that" over the doll house on the parlor table. The tree was decorated in the manner of long ago. Our visitors are sort of getting over the idea of not having electrical decorations and seem to be interested in how the tree is trimmed this year. It never looks the same twice. The craft shop is usually the last stop to see all the bright little goodies. More often than not, some of them find new homes.

Two very old arm-chairs were brought up from the basement. They both need cane seats. We'd like to hear from some volunteers who would like to do the job. The chairs will look just right in the library where one can read in comfort. If those chairs could talk, what yarns they could spin! Probably lots of yarns were spun by occupants of a by-gone day.

The armed-forces display has its own room in the basement. Doesn't have to compete with the upstairs rooms.

Our bedroom suite in the adult bedroom was loaned to us. The lenders have asked for it. We need another one. Would anyone have a suite, or at least a part of one they'd lend for a while?

We received a copy of "Indiana Authors and Their Books" by Wabash College, compiled by Donald E. Thompson, Librarian emeritus, Wabash College.

And then the snows came and made the world into one big skating rink. Woe to the non-skaters and to some of the others too.

Jewell

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

QUERY

EDWIN CHAMBERS ... Need date of death, place of burial. He was in Hendricks County, Eel River Twp. in 1870 (possibly North Salem). His son GEORGE W. CHAMBERS and family here also coming from Hawkins Co., Tenn. Edwin married Marth _____; children were George W. born 1831; Josias, 1834, William, 1836. Martin, 1842, Malana Harvey, 1827. Was his second wife Mary?, born in Kentucky 1830? Edwin was in Jamestown, Boone Co. in 1887, a witness to the pension claim of Rebecca Chambers of Jamestown, widow of Lewis, Edwin's brother. In 1892 a transfer of his Jamestown property was made August 29 and was recorded October 8, 1892. Mrs. Mildred C. Wymes, 10 Second Ave. East, Albia, Iowa, 52531.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

IN LOVING MEMORY

The Editor of the H. C. HISTORY BULLETIN lives a happy life. Many people could not understand what fun it is to read the contributions sent in by members, to organize them, to cut here and to add there. It takes a peculiar breed to spend hours at the typewriter trying to put together a bulletin that will be informative as well as entertaining. I really delight in this assignment, that is until... until ... until something comes across my desk that I know I must print but something that I don't want to print.

Such is the case with the news of the death of Clark Kellum. What can I say about Clark that I haven't already said? Charter members, Clark and Carolyn have been a great moving force in our society since its beginning. Without Clark and Carolyn, our society might have limped along; without Clark and Carolyn, our museum might have had trouble getting off the ground; without Clark and Carolyn, the history books might have been in trouble; without Clark and Carolyn, the sale of those books might have bogged down, and, at a very recent meeting, Clark made a plea for more emphasis on the sale of the books we have left. Clark Kellum has been "Mr. Everything" to the H C H S and it is difficult to say "good'by" to him. But we do have half of that great team left, and with her strong Christian faith, we know that Carolyn will soon be back carrying on the work she knows Clark would want her to do.

Another loss to our society was the death of Iva Debra. A long-time newspaper woman, she was a faithful member of the HCHS until the ravages of age took her out of circulation. In her prime, she was a regular contributor to the HENDRICKS COUNTY REPUBLICAN. She always had a happy, optimistic outlook on life and no one has ever heard her say one critical word of her fellow men. She is greatly missed, not only by her family, but by her many friends.

"PRECIOUS IN THE SIGHT OF THE LORD IS THE DEATH OF
HIS SAINTS."

Psalms 116:15

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

Betty Bartley ... you are a dear, sweet livin' doll. Thanks to you for the following three contributions.

THE LAWRENCE SCHOOL GIRLS CLUB

1873--1875

One of the unique organizations in Hendricks county is that of the Amos O. Lawrence School Girls Club.

This organization has for its purpose the continuing of friendships and of associations formed by its members during their school days.

The name "Amos O. Lawrence" was chosen because at the time the organization was formed more "girls" who had been pupils of this teacher could be located than of any other principal of the Danville school.

Amos O. Lawrence was principal of the Danville School during the years of 1873-1874 and 1874-1875. He was an eastern man, was well educated and was a successful teacher.

After leaving school these pupils went into homes of their own and were occupied by the usual life occupations. Many of them lived in or near Danville, while others visited the old locality now and then and there would be casual meetings which brought back memories of other days and longings for old friends.

Finally Mrs. Laura Fronk McCoun was inspired with a desire to have as many as possible of her old schoolmates meet in her home.

She called to her aid the "girls" who were living in Danville and an effort was made to get in touch with all the girl pupils of the years '73-'75.

This meeting was held with Mrs. McCoun September 18, 1903 and was attended by twelve of the "girls". So happy was this meeting that it was decided to form an organization and to meet annually.

There were more than thirty girls in the original number and about as many boys but only the girls organized.

As nearly as I can remember these are the names of the girls in school during these years 1873-1875: Margaret Darnell, Effie Campbell, Sallie McCoun, Maggie Keeney, Laura Fronk, Eliza McCoun, Ida Chambers, May Pierson, Mollie Soper, Lillie Dill, Laura Hadley, Florence Pugh, Dean Hill, Victoria Crab, Emma Cash, Pauline Snoddy, Cora Fiddick, Flora Bunker, Georgia Cox, Emma McCurdy, Kattie Slager, Erie Morgan, Emma Hardin, Lillie Kite, Eva Harper, Emma Gregg, Kate DePew, Rebecca Dempsey, Bell Kite, Julia Lewis, there were perhaps others whose names I cannot now recall.

The last four of these had died sometime before this first meeting and since then eight others have "passed on". Only eleven or twelve now attend the annual meetings, others often send letters that are loved by those who are present.

Each year a dinner is enjoyed by those present. Each one contributing some one or two dishes. The "girls" living in Danville constitute the "menu" committee and this committee assigns each girl her part of the annual twelve o'clock meal.

During the first few years there was also a souvenir committee which was discontinued after each member had served on it and had thus presented a souvenir to each of the other members. These souvenirs were of various kinds--one year the committee presented a photograph of Prof. Lawrence, another year it was a picture of a white pig. This pig commemorated an incident of school days. A souvenir spoon with a picture of the old academy building was also given to each "girl". It was in this building that we had school the first half of the year 1873-1874 while the school building which had burned the year before was being rebuilt. We moved into the new building, which was on the present site of the Mattie Keeney building, after the holidays January 1874.

Often when the meetings were held in Danville the business men who had been our schoolmates would call on us or send presents of various kinds. Other times they would send a messenger boy with notes asking for dates as of old. The hostess, too, often prepared some lovely souvenir as a hand painted plate or plaque.

The annual meetings were held in the homes of the members. Often some one of the members could not wait for the annual meeting and called a meeting on some pretext in her own home. She entertaining those who could come.

One of the most pleasant of these was held with Mrs. Laura Fronk McCoun Jan. 26, 1909. She had arranged her living room as a school room and we were given a lunch of baked beans in pans and a drinking cup was given each one. It was examination day and we were given questions in geography, arithmetic and physiology to answer.

That same year, 1909, we gave a reception to our friends. It was Washington's birthday and we wore colonial costumes, some of them really fine old dresses that our grandmothers had worn. The rooms were beautifully decorated with flags, hatchets, cherry trees and our colors--lavender and white. The Demarcus sisters furnished music while we stood in line and greeted our guests, who passed on to the dining room and were served ice cream and cake and a cherry bouquet.

This reception was held at the home of Mrs. Florence Pugh Barnett. Among the decorations were many old time things such as candlesticks and sniffers and fire irons for the fire place. We received about 200 guests.

At our fourth annual meeting we filled and sealed a bottle of wine which is to be carefully kept and opened by the last survivor on our anniversary day, also when one of our members answers the roll call no more, a ribbon in class colors is tied around the neck of the bottle. We also send flowers when one of our members dies and a card of sympathy to the family also a word of prayer is spoken at our first meeting after the death.

It was also in 1909 that we were invited to attend the High School Alumni Association banquet and were voted in as members of the Alumni Association. We were represented on the program that year by Florence Pugh Barnett. We have always been represented at the Alumni banquets since that time.

We were usually kept away from the dining room at our annual meetings until exactly twelve o'clock, the hostess opened the door and announced that "dinner is served". Each place was marked in some unusual manner and part of our fun was in hunting our places. I remember one time a small doll dressed in our class colors stood at each place, and when we examined these we found the doll faces were our own of long ago. The hostess had in some way secured old pictures of each of us. I believe the largest number ever present at one time was 23 present at the home of Margaret Cook Darnell in 1908. Mrs. Darnell had placed lovely handpainted booklets for each member, with photograph of the old school building.

Another meeting which was a very happy one--as each one was--was held at the country home of Eva Harper in 1921. We visited the barns and inspected the herd of Hereford cattle, visited the dahlia beds, and when called to the dining room found our place cards to be pictures of the herd bull LeRoy 15602-713747.

One other meeting held in a country home we remember with pleasure was with Mollie Soper. It was in "horse and buggy" days, we had shiney buggies and horses, highsteppers, that went west on the Rockville road, at something like 5 miles an hour. It was watermelon time, we each found a nice one in our buggies when we arrived home. There were 20 girls at this meeting. I wish that I had time and space to describe each meeting. They have all been so enjoyable and each has had its unique features, no two have been alike.

A list of the names of our members was placed in the corner stone of the court house at the corner stone laying May 29th, 1913.

Such is a brief sketch of the story of the Amos O. Lawrence School Girl's Club. It sounds rather selfish, but really, no more unselfish "girls" exist than these. We not only enter into each other's joys and sorrows, but individually contribute to many worthy causes and each girl is faithful to her church and its interests.

Miss Eva Harper
Lizton, Indiana
1928

Keeping a diary was at one time the rule rather than the exception. Farmers usually kept a diary to have a record of expenses for livestock and feed, and for other items of interest in the community. This was the case with Horace G. Masten of Amo. A copy of his diary covering the period from 1912 to 1926 may be found in the Indiana Room of the Danville Public Library. The following entries were made in February of 1920:

Feb 5 Mary & I went to Indpls to attend state council of S.S. workers. Wendell Phillip Hurst born to Mr. & Mrs. Jtha Hurst Feb. 3.

Feb 6 Stayed last night at Linden Hotel \$1.25 each. Went to English Opera House last night to see Howard Thurston. Tickets \$1.10 each.

Feb 7 Edith Nesse came home from Indpls sick.

Feb 11 Voss Bray, Orville Patten & myself butchered 2 hogs for Pa. Patten's dog bit me in the face, broke my glasses.

Feb 12 Voss Bray, Marion Grimes & I built fence N of woods

Feb 13 Voss Bray, Marion Grimes & I built fence south from gate south along road.

Feb 11 Roy Leak died last night at 10:40 double pneumonia.

Feb 12 Roy Leak buried at Lizton. Funeral at Christian Church Lizton.

Feb 16 I went to Indpls. got glasses fixed. New frames all but temple pieces \$2.50.

Feb 19 Black Jersey cow bred to Pa's male.

Feb 26 I went to Indpls taken treatment of (Dr. Walter S.) Grow.*

Feb 29 Vera Alcorn Barnes died on way to Hospital.

* Earlier in the diary, Masten had recorded Walter S. Grow's method of treating flu: "Soak feet in strong hot mustard water almost to knees for 1 hr or more. Put to bed and give hot lemonade glass every hr. sweat for 3 or 4 hrs -- let patient have nothing to eat but juices, give plenty of water."

On September 10, 1850, Nathan Meredith took his pen in hand and proceeded to draw a portrait of the town of Danville. Not by sketching the buildings or the scenery, but by going from house to house and asking questions. Nathan Meredith had been hired by the Federal Government to take the census.

The results of his survey give us the following picture of Danville: There were 33 families occupying the 32 dwellings that made up the town. Of the 177 people living there, 89 were male and 88 female. The majority of the citizens had been born in Indiana (102). Those born in Kentucky made up the second largest group (32). Other states represented were Ohio (15), New York (8), North Carolina (8), Virginia (5), Pennsylvania (2), and one each from Massachusetts, Illinois, New Jersey, and Tennessee. Only one person had been born in another country: Ireland. The oldest person in town was 74; the youngest 3 months.

The citizens of Danville were engaged in a variety of occupations. There were 2 inn keepers, 1 mechanic, 2 printers, 3 chairmakers, 2 wheat fan makers, 4 carpenters, 1 merchant clerk, 1 physician, 1 post master, 2 tailors, 1 sheriff, 1 day laborer, 1 M.E. clergyman, 2 farmers, 2 wagon & carriage makers, 1 auditor, 2 cabinetmakers, 1 saddler, 1 common laborer, and 2 attorneys at law. (The latter occupation has seen a considerable increase in the past 130 years)

The residents seemed to be well educated: 44 had attended school within the past year. Only 5 people over the age of 20 were unable to read and write.

All this information, as well as the names of the members of each household can be found on the microfilm copy of the 1850 census, available for viewing in the Indiana Room of the Danville Public Library. Copies of the Hendricks County census for 1860, 1870, 1880 and 1900 are also available. We recently received copies of the 1850 and 1880 census of Putnam County from Floy Underwood Modesitt, in memory of Mamie Phillips Campbell. The Historical Librarian, Betty Bartley, invites anyone interested in history or genealogy to come and see "the way it was" in Hendricks County on the new microfilm reader, presented to the Indiana Room by the Friends of the Library.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

Ruth Pritchard, that walking, talking (and can she talk!) encyclopedia of Hendricks County History as well as genealogy, has come into possession of the DIARY OF CALVIN FLETCHER through her membership in the INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY. For our bulletin she has laborously selected items of interest to Hendricks County and the people who lived here. Her selections are so fascinating that I have asked her to continue her articles as a series of the Calvin Fletcher Diaries.

CALVIN FLETCHER AND HENDRICKS COUNTY
(Mostly From the Diary of Calvin Fletcher 1817-1866)

January 11, 1982

Yesterday's record low temperature (-18 at Belleville at 6 A.M.) and continued cold seems to add reading time to readjusted schedules. Some excellent material is available in THE DIARY OF CALVIN FLETCHER 1817-1866

Excerpts from the Diary are used by permission of The Indiana Historical Society.

From April 11 - 15 pleasant

Saturday April 15 A beautiful day At 10 we left Danville after a very busy court. We dined at Plainfield arrived home at dark. (Page 421 Volume I)

Monday June 19, 1837 I rose early say at 3. Waked Elijah and Cooley. We each of us had horses ready to ride to Green Castle to see the corner stone of the college laid at which Mr. Bascum was to deliver an address. We soon got ready for the journey. It was a damp wet morning tho' it did not rain. We proceeded along to Bridgeport when Mr. Bascum in Mr. Youngs carriage overtook us & then we rode in company with John Hill & others to Bellville where we took breakfast. From there we proceeded in company with Re. Mr. Daily Kelso Quarles & others to Greencastle where we arrived at 4 o'clock -- a rapid journey for my boys who seemed to be but little tired (Coolie was 14 & Elijah 13 years old) We put up with a Mr. Cooper a methodist a saddler. It rained soon after we arrived. Here we found Mr. Ingram from Lafayette & many gentlemen from various parts Town was crowded. I was much pleased with the town & country. Lands far exceeded ours in natural beauty if not in fertility.

Tuesday morning June 20 1837 I rose early. At 8 I was informed that I was to make a short address at the laying of the corner stone previous to Mr. Bascums address ----- I was to be commended for my brevity if not for my matter ----- (Mr. Bascums address 2 1/2 hours) ----- Mr. Ingram Elijah & Cooley left at 4 P.M. & rode to Stilesville -----

June 21 1837 This day rose early Pleasant. At 8 Mr. Quarles & myself left together. Arrived at Stilesville -- stopped at Jessups. Went to Bellville -- there overtook Messrs. Rooter Arnes etc. Dined then returned home with Messrs. Harrison Quarles Kelso a young preacher on Brookville circuit. Arrived home sun 1 hour high. (Pages 439 and 440 Volume I)

Saturday August 5, 1837 I this day wrote several letters. Received a demand for collection from Louisville on Bat Bill Matlock of \$500 (William T. Matlock Hendricks Co.) (Page 450 Volume I)

Sept. 22 1839 Sunday cool. In P.M. rode with Mr. Quarles to Hendricks - put up at Mrs. Comingos

Sept. 28 1839 Returned home Saturday morn or rather left at noon. Wm Matlock called big Bill rode a piece with me to talk about the times prospects of markets etc (Page 122 Volume II)

Feby. 11, 1840 ----- Big Bill Matlock as he is called came to pay an instalment in bank of \$1500 & had \$900 in specie (Page 148 Volume II)

Octr. 17 1840 ----- Bill Matlock sent 75 very fine hogs to N.O. by land under the care of young John Wood. They staid at Brownings. Matlock (Wm. J. or L?) is a very enterprising man has 1800 hogs bought in Hendricks now feeding them on the Wabash so he can slaughter them on the river Wabash & send them to N.O. (Page 244 Volume II)

Apl. 6 1841 Bill Matlock returned from Cincinnati. (Sold 1/2 of his pork (Page 349 Volume II)

Sunday Octr. 3, 1841 Started in the morn for Hendricks Court ----- stopped at Mrs. Comingos -----

From page XII of the Introduction -----

"There seems to be a continuing desire on the part of mankind to learn more about his ancestors, to see them as they really were, to be able to visualize how they lived day by day, how they met the manifold problems that confronted them, to know what constituted their daily business and their pleasures. We want to feel the reality of the past. THE DIARY OF CALVIN FLETCHER affords us this opportunity."

Calvin Fletcher was one of five commissioners appointed by governor Hendricks to locate the seat of government of the new county of Hendricks. This was done on the second Monday of July 1824.

The Act organizing the county, December 20, 1823, provided that the circuit court of the county should be held at the house of William Ballard (which stood near present Belleville) until a suitable court house should be built.

Here the first court was held on the 25th day of October 1824, with Hon. W. W. Wick as Judge and Nathan Kirk and James Downard as associates on the bench. Levi Jessup was clerk and Thomas J. Matlock, sheriff. Calvin Fletcher was admitted to practice at the bar of this court, at that time.

Almost sixteen years later Calvin Fletcher wrote - "February 6, 1840..... I have rode the circuit 18 years this spring. I have been at the organization of every court in each county in circuit except Bartholomew. I saw them commence with one or 2 cases now they have nearly an average 150 cases each. I attended courts in each county without court houses & in several the session was held under the shade of the forrest trees. To several of the counties I went to court on foot at the first settlement. Laid out many nights regularly encamped while attending Ft. Wayne & some of the Wabash counties when they belonged to this circuit & once laid out with Judge Wick Messrs. Brown & Quarles in going to Hendricks court but we lost our way or we should have had other lodgings. I acted as states attorney from Aug. 1825 to Aug. 1826 when I was elected to the State Senate for the counties of Carroll Cass part of Clinton Boon Hamilton Grant Hancock Marion & Hendricks or the territory that is embraced in these counties (Page 146 Volume II)

Tuesday February 3 1829 Judge Morris Wick Quarles and Brown started for Hendricks circuit court. Ground covered with snow. It grew colder after we left home. We called about 8 miles from here and warmed. Arrived at Danville about sundown where we found Mr. Gregg.

Wednesday February 4th Very cold. This is my birthday (31st)----Poor court house. Many rough people attended court from the north part of Hendricks County..... (Page 162 Volume I)

Saturday April 8 1837 At 2 o'clock Mr. Quarles and myself leave for Danville. It snows and the road (National) never was worse. We reached Plainfield 16 miles west about sundown and stayed at (---?---). His little child was sick with the Quinsey or cramp (croup?) and I advised to send for a doctor which they did but the child a fine little boy of about 2 years old died since. Plainfield now has 2 stores - 2 taverns etc. and about 30 houses. (Page 420 Volume I)

Sunday April 9 Went to Belleville after breakfast in company with Dr. Moore stopped at General Johnsons. Cold disagreeable day. After dinner went to Danville put up at Mr. Blakes

Wednesday Oct. 6 1841 On last night I rode out with Robert McCowan 4 miles to see a yoke of oxen which I talked of buying. They asked \$60. I have left word at Hendricks to buy them.

Oct. 7 1841 -----left Danville at 5 o'clock came thro Plainfield to David G. Werth. I have promised to give him a horse if he goes to preaching & have bought the oxen so I can spare the horse -----

Sunday 10 1841 -----In the eve old David Matlock called with a yoke of oxen which I bought of McCowan for \$60 4 years old very large. (Pages 357 and 358 Volume II)

Calvin Fletcher names other Hendricks County citizens tells of Methodist camp meeting and preachers and pictures the past in vivid fashion.

Ruth M. Pritchard
Belleville, Indiana

HCBS HCBS HCBS HCBS HCBS

The past is to remember and to relive, to share with those who came later.

Recently THE INDIANAPOLIS NEWS started a REMEMBER WHEN feature, and it was deluged with memories from its readers. Here are some of them, and I wonder if some of our readers might have some to share with us. If so, send them in.

REMEMBER WHEN

- You could make homemade ice cream with snow?
- The cost of an office visit to the doctor was \$1 and the drug prescription was usually 75c?
- Some barberships had facilities for taking a bath for a charge of 25c?
- And haircuts were 50c and a shave was 5c?
- Mondays were washdays and doing the laundry was an all-day back-breaking job?
- Cookies and crackers were in bulk and were bought and brought home in a brown paper bag?
- People clipped colorful candles in small clip holders on Christmas trees?
- You could buy dill pickles from a large barrel at 5c each?
- Some one played the piano during silent movies?
- You used to get a bag of candy from the grocer when you paid your bill each week?
- People rode the interurban train from the small towns to Indianapolis?
- Ice trucks delivered ice to your house and you put a card in the window?

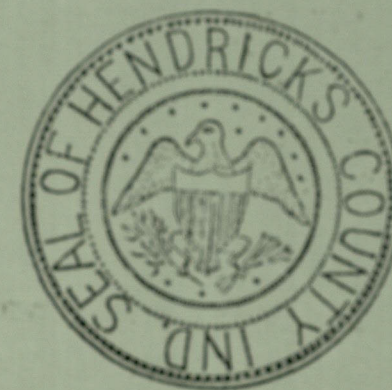
- It cost 2¢ to mail a letter?
- There were one-cent postal cards?
- People wore long underwear all winter until spring?
- People cooked and baked on coal-burning stoves?
- You heated the house with a pot-bellied stove?
- You used wood ashes to scour your cooking utensils?
- You could buy five gallons of gasoline for \$1?
- You could buy one gallon of gasoline for \$1?
- People made lye soap in a thirty-gallon kettle?
- You filled your straw bed every fall after wheat was thrashed?
- A brick was heated to warm the bed?
- Bricks were also heated to keep your feet warm during winter buggy rides?
- The neighborhood grocer provided free delivery service?
- Ladies stockings had seams up the back?
- The grocer put a potato on the oil can spout?
- People sliced their bread? and made it themselves?
- People scraped the ashes out of their stoves daily?

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

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HENDRICKS COUNTY

HISTORY BULLETIN



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H C H S

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H C H S

Imparting knowledge is only lighting other men's candles without depriving ourselves of any flame.

Jane Porter

Greetings from the desk of your president (which is his dining room table).

Columbia, the spaceship was sent into space again and was followed by wind, snow and rain. The bad weather gave me time to look over and read some of the magazines which I receive.

In the monthly publication of the Smithsonian magazine, there was an article on the entertainment that was enjoyed during the turn of the century. It was about the nickelodeon which was a type of a theater with a five cent charge, and not a record player for five cents as we knew it. It was under the heading, "Romance and Joy, Tears and Heartaches, and All for a Nickel."

The women's cheeks were flushed with pink, the men were dapper and sleekly handsome; right was right and wrong was wrong, and love was hearts and flowers. Those were the days-- the days of the nickelodeon.

These turn of-the-century glass song slides evoke memories of pleasant afternoons at the nickelodeon, when every one sang along. Over the course of 20 years, hundreds of thousands the glass slides were made in the United States. Unfortunately most of them were destroyed, and these relics of the nickelodeon and vaudeville, today are among the scarcest of memorabilia of the theater. It was revealed that at least 20 stars of silent films had, prior to their film careers, posed for song slides. Their initial slide screen appearances were in color and was probably more glamorous than in monochrome "flicks". Live model song slides first appeared at the turn of the century in cabarets and variety theaters. There, professional vocalists billed as "song illustrators" introduced new ballads with projected slides, obviously to stimulate the sales of sheet music. By 1906, a new form of entertainment spread throughout the land, it was the nickelodeon - the so called five-cent movie houses that were the ancestors of today's motion picture theaters. Whether an illustrated song performance was given as an opener or a between-reels pad in some tawdry, ill-ventilated storefront nickelodeon (vaudeville joke: You pay a nickel but you get a scent back) or in a vaudeville theater, the routine was pretty much the same. An illustrated song performance usually required three staffers: A vocalist, often a hometown semipro; an accompanist, the house pianist; and a projectionist with a series of hand painted (colored) glass slides. Standing beside the screen, the vocalist would sing the verses of a popular song but only a single chorus, while the screen was filled with a succession of appropriate scenes on slides. Then came the sing-a-long.

Words of the chorus flashed on the screen, headed by the request: ALL JOIN IN THE CHORUS. The singer (turned choral director) invited the audience to join in singing the chorus and an encore, and finally pleaded, "just one more time". On and on until, homeward bound, the participants would sing, hum or whistle the tune, determined to buy the music on the morrow. That is how the sponsors (the music publishers) had it planned. This mass brainwashing was one of the hottest plugs in the music business.

The Nickelodeon's receptiveness to local talent was a boom for local aspiring young singers and provided an excellent showcase for their talents.

Among the show-business luminaries whose careers began as semipro song slide illustrators were: Lillian Walker, Anita Stewart, Alice Joyce, Norma Talmadge, George Jessel, Al Jolson.

Some time ago I saw a bumper sticker (on a pick-up truck) which I thought was a master piece. It read, "All in favor of saving gasoline, Please raise your right foot". I have a bumper but have no bumper sticker. If I had a bumper sticker, I would want it to read: "All in favor of the meeting of the HCHS meeting on May 2 at 2 P.M., Please steer your cars in the direction of the Brownsburg Library".

You All Come

Maynard

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

FEBRUARY MEETING

Fifty-four members and guests gathered, February 7, at the Security Savings building located at Old Farms in Danville for our February meeting. Danville Cub Scout Pack #310 gave opening ceremonies and Michael Thornburg, pastor of the Danville Friends Meeting gave the devotions. During the business meeting, our president, Maynard Nolan, suggested we emphasize youth in our group. Dorothy and Kathi Kelley, Eloise Castetter and Debbie Higgins were appointed as a committee to interest the young folk. The treasurer reported a balance of \$86.92. Dorothy Kelley said the Christmas Open House at the museum was well attended and the museum is in need of a bed room suite as the one we had was on loan and the owner wanted it back. A committee comprised of Maxine Osborn, Margaret Baker, Maxine Cox and Audrey Martin was appointed to compile a history of the Danville Public Square.

The program, in charge of Robert Castetter, was presented by Ed and Cassie Sworn and the Rev. Henderson Davis from the AME Methodist Church in Plainfield who told of their families coming to the county in 1886. Cassie Sworn was a member of Plainfield High School's first graduating class. The Rev. Davis is working on a history of the Plainfield AME Church. The meeting closed with the group singing CLIMBING JACOB'S LADDER. The program was most interesting and instructive and much in keeping with the February National Negro History Month.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

May Meeting

We are all looking forward to the May 2nd meeting of our Society which will be held at the Brownsburg Public Library. We are urged to park on the south part of the parking lot and we are told there are no steps to bother with and they even have a ramp to accommodate wheel chairs. We will gather in the Clear Space and librarians, Billy Jo Kaufman and Wanda Pearson, will greet us and give us a tour of the new facilities and explain the intricacies a most modern library. Special guests will be Judy Bobb and her Little Hoosiers of the Avon Grade School. Ladies of Brown and Lincoln Townships will be in charge of the social hour. I have discussed the weather with Mr. Springmaker and he assures me that May 2nd will be a lovely day! (I think!) The library is located at 450 S. Jefferson. From Road 267 turn east on Tilden St. at the Methodist Church, approximately three blocks south of the stop and go light, and, well, the library is sort of in the back yard of the Methodist church. Do come. Our president, Maynard Nolan, has worked up a lot of enthusiasm and our program committee has planned four absorbing meetings.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

The committee working on the history of the businesses on the Square in Danville requests that anyone having photographs of the buildings and businesses "on the Square" contact Betty Bartley at the Danville Public Library to arrange to make copies of them.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

The following is a continuation of the notes from Calvin Fletcher's Diary as compiled by Ruth Pritchard:

CALVIN FLETCHER - BANKER - FARMER -

LAWYER AND CHURCHWORKER

Calvin Fletcher's business travels took him to many places and over roads hard to imagine with all of today's conveniences. Hendricks County readers see familiar names of people and villages on the pages of his diary. The following excerpts are from Volume III.

Page 22 Monday February 19 (1844)

I left home at 8 went in stage with Judge Morrison N. B. Palmer Billy Young & a Mr. Walner deputy Marshall of Cincinnati Ohio & 2 men from Ill. The mud was deep having just thawed thro'. We arrived at Franklin about 4 at Edenburgh at 9. Mrs. Dunn the landlady had just died. We agreed to go on & we arrived at Columbus only 10 or 11 miles at 5 next morn. There went to bed. At 8 was up.

Feb. 20 We breakfasted & then was carried about 2 1/2 miles to the railroad S.E. of Columbus where we waited in the woods. To be sure a sort of temporary depo of log huts tavern & c was erected. Here were a goodly number of waggons loading & unloading and the woods around about looked like a camp meeting. We waited some time and the cars arrived. They were soon unladen & laden & we at 12 left for Madison. As we were hindered much on the way we did not arrive there until 5 P.M.

Page 78 Sunday Oct. 13 (1844)

I went to church. Mr. Balis absent at conference. Mr. Millikin of Rochester preached. Mr. Reynolds came over staid all night to go with me to the Danville Court.

Monday Oct. 14

Left early & rode to Danville by 9 A.M. Cloudy day - a little rain. Oct. 15 I left Danville at 11 A.M. & rode home by 3 P.M. Learn Ohio have a whig legislature & governor & Pennsylvania have elected a Democrat Jersey Whig.

Page 103

Dec 17 (1844) I arrived at Madison at 6 put up at Fitzhues & there met Messrs. Samuel Moore of Mooresville John Matlock & Waters from Danville Dr. Huzy (?) of Pittsburg.all engaged in putting up pork or the shipping of the same.

Feb. 6 (1845) Pleasant day. B. Cole, Joe Stevens, Walker of Ewing & Walker & Co. here - want & get \$4000. Matlock returned from a sale of his mules [-----] at Circleville Ohio at 65 a piece. wants 6000 \$ to go to Missouri to buy cattle & mules. Several apply to get money to buy cattle.

March 19, (1846) Received word from Mr. Ungles that his commission merchants Miller & Brown & Hankins had sacrificed his pork & Beef in N. Orleans just on the rise of the market

(The letter of W. (Wilford) J. Ungles of Belleville Hendricks County, dated March 18 is in the correspondence of the Indianapolis branch of the State Bank.)

Feb. 27 (1846) I have an old acquaintance by the name of Thomas Irons who sold his pork last fall a 2.75 when others were looking for \$3 wct (CWT.) But it soon fell far below his asking price. On an inquiry a few days past I asked him his reasons for his sale at that time. He replied that he never bought to keep when the market was influenced by excitement & that it always had been a mighty puzzle to him that when an article was very low like pork very few & they the most indifferent would buy altho there were 10 chances of 12 in not losing whereas when the same article was very high & any little chance of making & 10 chances in 12 to loose men of capital & young adventurers would go on to it. These are the remarks of an old plain man. (Evidently Thomas Irons of Belleville)

April 29 (1846)

In the eve left for Danville where I staid over night. It looks like a deserted village nothing doing. Cool. (1846) 11 (1846) Sunday Oct. 13

May 1st

.....I left (Crawfordsville) in the rain at 11 rode in the storm to Brownsburgh where I arrived at 6. Very slippery as I rode over the pole bridges & my horse fell down. It was a wonder I was not killed or injured. But God preserved me. The country the wet slashes between C. & I. (Crawfordsville and Indianapolis) are greatly improving. Good farms will soon be made. This is the anniversary of our wedding day 25 years ago today 1/4 of a century. Staid at Morton Greens Tavern.

April 7, 1846 It rains. I must soon leave for Hendricks. I started at 9 & rode in a very heavy storm to Danvill where I arrived at 2 1/2 P.M. Before I reached D. (Danville) the streams became very high so that I had to go over a ford at Rammels mills. I stopped at Mrs. Comengoes (Comingore)..... I remained till 8 at 1 P.M. I left for home. Dr. Barthelmew (Bradley Bartholomew, M.D. who established his practice at Belleville in 1832) rode out with me.....

MUSEUM MUSINGS

What a winter! The building that houses the museum was build back in 1866 and it has seen many winters come and go. If the bricks could talk we'd bet that they couldn't remember many, if any, that were any worse than the past--past?--one. This one just won't let go, at least judging from the slap endured in recent days. "Hold still, just one more round, you're used to it!" it seems to say. "Get out! You've done too much already!" we'd all say. We haven't heard any pining for a good old-fashioned winter with lots of snow and cracklin' cold. Wonder why! Good old days? Back to wood stoves? Fireplaces? All that is being used in full force. There's that bit of physical exercise that goes with it. Cleaning out the ashes. Although ashes do make a nice non-slip footing on ice, how about the mess in the house? How many grand-children are going to hear the story: "Now when I was a kid back in the winter of 1982 the temperature got down to 21 below zero, Fahrenheit. (They will probably be using Celsius entirely then and won't know what the former was) The wind was so strong we didn't dare stick our nose outside. And the snow drifts? Why they were so big they hid cars. They were so big that a big man looked small standing on top of one!" And so it goes. There will be as many stories as there are people to tell them.

One of the old arm-chairs we mentioned earlier was repaired. Will Templin and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Templin furnished the cane, William Bell did the repair work, and Mary Bell did the caning. All are from Danville. Thanks to all who had a hand in the project for a wonderful job! The chair is in the library where browsing through the books is so much easier if there's a comfortable place to sit. The other chair that needs repairing is in the basement of the museum. These chairs originally came from the court house.

There's a piece of wood, looks like walnut, lying on the desk in the basement of the museum, that was once part of the corduroy road in Brownsburg, now U.S. 136. This piece of wood was taken up when work was being done on a water main.

Clothing classes interested in the construction of our antique dresses have visited the museum. The construction of the dresses is interesting because lots of work went into a dress then. Lots was expected of a dress and it must look just so as long as it lasted.

Memorabilia from the early days of Hendricks County Rural Electric Membership (R.E.M.C.) was received. There was information dating from the start in 1936-1937, to a picture taken in 1963 when the first Hendricks County R.E.M.C. owned sub-station was energized.

A copy of the book "Christian Bodenhamer of Rowan County North Carolina, and His Descendants" was presented to the museum by its author, Dr. N. James Bodenhamer of Hillsboro, Ohio.

Articles from the court house, one of which is a gourd-dipper, an article used a lot in another day, and is from the former museum, was received recently. Another yet to come is a book-case.

A lot of you know about this but more of you don't. It's been a while, but the drapes we started with in the parlor of the museum have been replaced with

cream color lace curtains. They really add to the Victorian decor of the room. Lots of you know what a difference they have made.

There is an article in the craft shop that is a sure-fire attention getter. It is a planter in the shape of an elephant, complete with a rope tail! Then there are a couple of draft dodgers. Now don't get carried away! Nobody's being unpatriotic at all. These characters go down in front of doors to keep out unwelcome breezes. This past winter weren't there plenty of those? There are pretty sofa pillows too. One is in crewel embroidery, and another one that comes to mind is in latch-work. There is a painting on the west wall of an old-time blacksmith shop. Now if that doesn't stir up some memories..... There are some nice knitted caps, just right for cold weather. They are done in bright, fresh colors that would chase out the blues and add to the bright sunshine against the snow.

Then there are some miniatures of knitted caps, nice lapel ornaments. There are a couple of fisherman ornaments that always make one wonder why they don't fall over into the water. They are made up in such a way that for all their leaning over and back, they never lose their balance.

There's always something just a little different going on here at the museum.

Oh, yes! The tulips are up in spite of the snow and will soon be blooming. That will help us forget the snow and ice.

Jewell

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

LIMITED SUPPLY AVAILABLE

THE HISTORY OF HENDRICKS COUNTY, 1914-1976. A compilation of historical material and biographical profiles written by the people of Hendricks County. Published by the HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Danville, Indiana, October, 1976. 640 pages, hard bound, profusely illustrated. \$25.00 plus tax, while they last.

and

Complete INDEX OF THE HISTORY OF HENDRICKS COUNTY, 1914-1976. Approximately 125 pages, paperbound, subject and every-name index. \$2.00 plus tax.

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Box 128
Danville, Indiana 46122

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

Information is wanted about the descendants of any of the following clan. Their parents are unknown, but the 1830 census indicates that the family lived with or

near their grandfather, Christian Staley in Hendricks County. The children and their marriages are:

1. Nancy Staley - Jacob Harper, Jan. 24, 1830;
2. Sarah Staley - Uriah Rushton, Oct. 27, 1831;
3. Jacob Staley - Melvin Bolen, Feb. 2, 1834;
4. Susannah Staley - George Davis, Feb. 12, 1829;
5. David Staley - Agnes Cleghorn, March 22, 1839;
6. George Staley - Polly Bray, Nov. 26, 1840;
7. Male born 1819;
8. Female born 1821;
9. William Staley - Mary Winstead, Nov. 10, 1848;
10. Frederick Staley - Harriet Sprouse, Oct. 8, 1846;
11. Male born 1836;
12. Rebecca Staley - Daniel Winstead, Dec. 17, 1848. Grace Cox would appreciate any information.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

IN MEMORIAM

We lost one of our most loved and fascinating members when Joe Davidson died February 10, 1982 at Greencastle. He was a singer of songs and a teller of tales and he could hold an audience, old or young, spellbound. I brought him to Danville one year to speak to a high school class and they were completely enthralled. For many years he was a regular contributor to the BULLETIN. He can never be replaced and we extend our love and deep sympathy to his wife, Mabel, and his daughter.

A former member, Beula Bell Muston passed away February 14, 1982. A nurse, she had served in Riley Hospital, Indianapolis and the Hendricks County Hospital. Her contributions in civic, school and church activities were many, and she left this world a much better place. Her family can be proud of her accomplishments and we sympathize with their loss.

"Esteem them highly in love because of their work"

I Thessalonians 5:13

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

This Stilesville item appeared in the HENDRICKS COUNTY REPUBLICAN, September 17, 1885:

Our excellent assessor, A. R. Williams, has kindly furnished us with the following list of old citizens, over sixty years, which he promised them to have published in the Republican: Samuel Elmore, born April 4, 1804, 81; Eleazor Harlan, born June 5, 1809, 75; David Masten, Jan. 2, 1825, 60; John W. Brown, Oct. 15, 1817, 67; R. P. Walls, Dec. 3, 1824, 60; Russel Hodge, Nov. 28 1812, 72; John Scherer, July 27, 1799, 85; James Shipley, Feb. 15, 1815, 69; Reuben Stringer, Dec. 9, 1807, 75; Jos. Simmons, Nov. 18, 1824, 60; Jas. Snoddy, Jan 4, 1799, 86; Wm. Tinscher, Mar. 1, 1825, 90; Anthony Cosner, April 7, 1799, 86 - has not failed to cut oats with a scythe and cradle every year for 76 years, and can now lay his foot on the back of the tallest horse in the county; John Cosner, May 9, 1822, 62; Samuel Cosner, Mar. 1, 1825, 60; Mahlon Cosner, July 13, 1826, 61; Lewis Cooper, Feb. 25, 1809, 74; David Clements, Aug 14, 1815, 69; Wm. T. Clark, April 5, 1920, 55; Wm. Baldock, June 18, 1920, 64; Silas J. Bryant, Mar. 18, 1819, 64 - has never failed to help plant corn every year for sixty years, never fired a gun or milked a cow, and was the first white child born in Hendricks County; Wm. Bryan, Jan. 25, 1822, 63; Jehu Hadley, Oct. 10, 1810, 75; Winfield Hines, 66; David Reitzel, Nov. 17, 1806, 78; Jno. A. Grimes, 66, B. M. Gentry, Jan. 16, 1821, 64; John W. Gentry, 61; Jonathan L. Newman, Feb. 7, 1826, 65;

C. V. Newman, July 30, 1823, 62; Daniel Osborn, June 25, 1811, 73; David Allee, May 5, 1821, 64; W. W. Johnson, 61; A. W. Johnson, July 21, 1819, 66; L. N. Woods, Mar. 4, 1810, 74; Lewis Whicker, 60; Geo. Kreigh, Jan 4, 1813, 72; Jesse Mason, May 15, 1812, 72; Morgan Mahorney, Jan. 11, 1824, 61; Richard Arnold, Aug. 12, 1805, 79; Reuben Masten, Oct. 4, 1806, 78; Dan'l McAninch, April 17, 1819, 66; Elisha McAninch, Oct. 12, 1815, 69; Manuel Masten, Nov. 23, 1820, 64; A. L. Masters, 65; R. M. Siler, Jan. 25, 1810, 75; A. S. McCormack, Feb. 26, 1822, 63.

Bourgeois

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

I can always count on Frances Fisher when I need her and she has contributed this delightful tale:

A STORY FROM THE PAST

The main character in this sketch, Mary Job Hale, was one of the most prominent and popular citizens of Pittsboro during the late 80's and early 1900's.

Born into a pioneer family and being associated with her elders, she had an almost inexhaustible fund of lore of early days and knowledge of historical interest concerning Indiana.

Mrs. Hale's father, Luther Job, bought the first coal oil lamp in the community and at the same time purchased a coal oil can which was considered so valuable that it stood on the mantel alongside the lamp. The lamp was used only when company came.

The Job family owned the first cooking stove in the country, and neighbors from miles around came to see such a contraption.

"Moly," as she was familiarly called, remembers the introduction of many things that later became commonplace. One of her favorite stories was the tale of an old lady's experience with coffee. The old lady had heard of coffee but had neither seen nor tasted it until her husband brought home a dollar's worth of green coffee--no small amount then. To the woman, the coffee looked like beans, so she put them in an iron pot with a ham bone. All day it bubbled vigorously, and she complained to her husband that she had "biled" it but it was as tough as when she began!

She was married to Jacob Hale whose family was well known in the community, and Jake and Molly were a wonderful team whose memories produced a treasure trove of early history. Jake went to school in Pittsboro during the Civil War. A picture of the boys and girls attending that old school was hung on the wall of the old interurban station in Pittsboro during the many years he served as station master.

For years Molly ran a dress making establishment in Pittsboro. With her excellent judgment and impeccable taste, she became famous throughout the countryside. She had a shop close by her house, and many women stopped by to consult her about the latest styles and newest fabrics. It was always a pleasant pastime to stop at Molly Hale's shop to try on the stylish hats displayed in her window. Her occasional trips to Indianapolis by way of the daily train brought exotic fashions to our little town--the latest in trimmings, fabric, and colors. One graduation day, especially, many young girls appeared in beautiful

creations of favored white over blue or pink.

When "Molly" was well into her 75th year, she had the unique experience of watching her grandson, Luther Job Dillon, a young air pilot, soar over Pittsboro, circling and dipping for the benefit of home town folk. It was a real thrill to her and inspired her to recall a trip of her youth when transportation was quite different from today. This following account is based on an interview she had with Mrs. Eva S. Waters, familiarly known as "Tiny Mite". The article appeared in the Indianapolis Star in 1929.

"Long before there was a railroad in this part of the country, Molly, with her mother, grandmother, and other relatives, took a journey to Carlisle, Indiana, which required more than two days.

The seven of them started from home in Pittsboro in a "jolt" wagon and reached Danville in the late afternoon where they stopped over night in a tavern. Next morning they took a stage coach to Cartersburg where they waited for the train to Terre Haute.

Some of the party had never seen a train, and they boarded it with fear and trembling, afraid that they might be knocked off at any minute, as they had been told. She remembered clearly their getting on the train, clutching firmly to something and bracing their feet on the floor, expecting the worst. She was impressed with the tall smoke stack and the stack that was topped with something resembling a washing tub from which the smoke poured.

The recital continued. "We saw that the windows were securely fastened to insure against falling out, but finally "Grandma Junken" who thought she hadn't much longer to live anyway, said she would as lief die one way as another and she was going to smother to death if they didn't raise a window. So they took a chance and raised one window. The men, being more courageous, read papers despite the possibility of their being killed any minute."

They finally reached Terre Haute and had to take a stock train to complete the journey to Carlisle. Mrs. Job, Molly's mother, had a sick headache and the jostling around in the stock car added little to her comfort. When they finally reached Carlisle, the train stopped at a steep embankment where the crowd started throwing off their luggage and jumping off.

Molly insisted that she felt well repaid for all the discomfort of the journey, for she made her acquaintance with the delights of chewing gum which she confessed was probably paraffin. At the home of the uncle whom they visited she noticed one of the girls when called to supper, deposited what she was chewing, under the rose bush. Without hesitation, Molly retrieved the gum, sampled it with pleasure, then passed it around for others to enjoy.

One interesting description she gave was of the hats the travellers wore called "sundowns", with wide floppy brims held on with wide ribbons reaching over the crown and brim and tied under the chin.

A survivor of Mrs. Molly Hale's immediate family is a granddaughter, Julia Dillon Miller, a resident of the Pittsboro community for many years, now living in South Bend. The grandson, Luther Dillon, with whom she enjoyed a plane ride over Pittsboro and the old Job farm, has been deceased for many years, but there

are still a few residents who remember all the lovable and picturesque qualities of this highly esteemed pioneer.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

Betty Bartley, who reigns in the Indiana Room of the Danville Public Library, has been a great help to your editor with her interesting contributions. Libraries are veritable treasure troves of tidbits of Hendricks County lore and we extend an invitation to all Hendricks County Libraries to send in articles appropriate for THE BULLETIN. It will give your library free publicity, and, in the bargain, it will help your editor tremendously. Thanks!

The following three articles were handed to me by Betty:

CENTRAL NORMAL COLLEGE REUNION

The Indiana Room of the Danville Public Library will be observing the annual Central Normal College reunion with an exhibit of photographs taken by Prof. C. A. Hargrave. These photographs were taken in the late 1890's and early 1900's, and include views of the campus, the CNC book store, and Commencement exercises in the Chapel. One very interesting photo shows the entire student body of 1899 having their picture taken by Wilkinson, the local photographer. Other items on display will include yearbooks, postcards, diplomas, and a variety of CNC memorabilia. The exhibit will last through the months of June and July. Be sure to stop in and take a look!

HARGRAVE ANECDOTES

Among the items purchased by the Danville Library at the Kate Hargrave Smith estate auction was a small, leather-bound notebook that had belonged to Kate's father, Prof. C. A. Hargrave. In it he had written various anecdotes for use in his lectures at Central Normal. An index in the front of the book helped to locate the appropriate anecdote for a variety of subjects. Here are a few of Prof. Hargrave's favorite stories:

Industriousness: A man tried to cross his bees with lightning bugs, so that they would work after night.

Bad education: A boy wrote as follows: The body consists of three parts - the head, the chest, and the abdomen. The head contains the brains when there is any. The chest contains the stomach, heart, and lungs. The abdomen contains the vowels, which is a, e, i, o, and u.

Economy: A man when asked to buy a new stove because it would save half the fuel, said he would buy two and save it all.

Astronomical illustrations: A little boy asked his mother if he could go out in the street to see the comet. She said, "Yes, but do not go near it."

The following article was taken from the first issue of Central Normal News, published at Danville in March, 1881. The ideals it outlines could well be used in the schools of today.

THE "NORMAL IDEA"

".....True normalities are emphatically and peculiarly distinguished by a practical application of the following principles: They believe that man's natural condition and happiness are to be found in work; that in work he may find his greatest delight; that labor, though pronounced on him as a curse, is his greatest blessing.

.....They believe that study can be made more attractive than mischief--pleasant, delightful, rather than irksome, hateful. To accomplish which every energy of the true teacher should be bent.

.....They believe that good teaching is an essential element of good governing; that the teacher who can inspire his pupils with an earnest and determined spirit of investigation will have little trouble in governing them.

.....They believe that a good recitation should represent the best views of the best authors, on a given subject. The training in school should be such as to beget and nurture in the pupil a habit of self-reliance, originality and forcible and easy expression.

.....They believe that thoroughness does not mean the memoriter, humdrum recital of the words of a given text-book, but consists of the mastery of the subject, from the material gleaned from various sources.

.....They believe that the age demands young men and women of energy, enterprise and accuracy, and that school-life should develop and strengthen these essential qualifications.

.....They believe in doing with their might what their hands find to do.

.....They believe that the individuality of a pupil is sacred, and should be faithfully preserved and carefully developed.

.....They believe that if you would teach well, you must teach yourself; that if you would govern well, you must govern yourself; that if you would succeed as a teacher, you must love the work.

.....They believe that the co-education of the sexes is essential, under all circumstances, to the intellectual development of both, and to their good behavior and purity.

.....They believe that a true teacher is a friend and guide ALWAYS, a master (in the sense of "boss") NEVER.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

REMEMBER WHEN

.....Students took off their high button shoes and warmed their feet around a pot bellied stove?

.....Ladies' permanents were only a dollar?

.....Only females got permanents?

.....Only females went to beauty shops?

-Three pounds of coffee sold for 25 cents?
-People dressed up for church and didn't wear blue jeans there?
-People used pitcher pumps with bucket and dipper to get water to prime the pump?
-You had to empty the drip pan under the ice box every day?
-Cars came with hand cranks?
-People dipped lace curtains in heavy starch then took them outside and put them on a curtain stretcher?
-People cleaned the oil lamp chimney with newspaper?
-When it rained, you had to put side curtains on your automobile?
-You had to thaw out an outside pump before you could get water?
-You had to go to the grocery with a can to get oil for the lamps?
-A girl with hidden charms hid then?
-You waited for the threshing machine to get to your house? And the thrill of being water boy? Or girl?
-Fanning the threshers/ table or a picnic table with cut newspapers to keep the flies away?

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

THE SUBJECT IS DUES AND HISTORY BOOKS

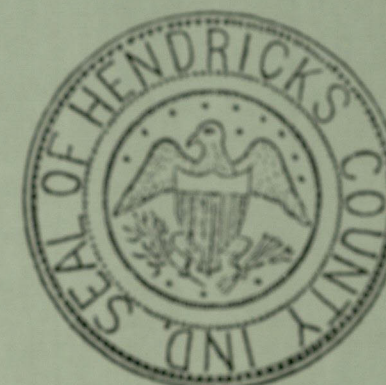
When dues are only \$3.00 per year, it is easy to overlook paying them, especially if you miss the first meeting in November. Because of this, we don't cut off your Bulletin immediately. We can't, however, continue to send your Bulletin unless your dues are paid. Please check to see if your dues are current. We want you to continue as a member and if you enjoy the Bulletin, please see that your dues are paid up.

And now that the copies of the HISTORY OF HENDRICKS COUNTY 1914-1976 are limited, you will be smart to get all the copies you will need. It is a beautiful book with hard back cover with pictures depicting early life in each of the townships of the county and the Index Book has a matching cover. The books are bargains now, for as the supply becomes depleted, the price will probably increase. The law of supply and demand, you know. Don't be sorry....get your books while the supply lasts!

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

HENDRICKS COUNTY

HISTORY BULLETIN



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H C H S

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H C H S

I live in constant endeavor to fence against the infirmities of ill health and other evils of life by mirth; being firmly persuaded that every time a man smiles, ... but much more so, when he laughs, that it adds something to this Fragment of Life.

Laurence Sterne

Greetings from our President

Space ship COLUMBIA has made another trip beyond the atmosphere. Wouldn't that announcement have startled our forefathers if it had been made at the birth of our country, 106 years ago!

As the hatred and strife, war and destruction, sickness, suffering and starvation throughout the world is made so real to us in our living rooms via T V, I sometimes wonder if we here, in our own beloved country, in our own Hendricks County, appreciate our great blessings. As one cruises about on the highways and byways of our county, one cannot help but be impressed with the richness and abundance, the health and happiness, and the love and good will with which we are all surrounded. How can we help but say with William Herschell, "Ain't God good to Indiana? Ain't He fellers? Ain't He though?"

Among our many freedoms ... freedoms that many people in the world do not enjoy ... is the freedom to go where we want to, when we want to. Let's exercise that freedom August 1st, our next meeting. Hope to see you there.

Maynard

HC HS HC HS HC HS HC HS HC HS

MAY MEETING

Fifty-three members and guests gathered at the Brownsburg Public Library, May 2, to see and enjoy the beauty, the newness, the comfort and the many modern features of this spacious facility. Billy Jo Hoffman and Mrs. Pearson of the library staff were gracious hostesses, explaining the many functions of the library and answering questions. Following the meeting, we were free to browse and inspect.

The meeting opened with devotions by Margaret Hufford. Dorothy Kelly introduced a group of young people from Avon known as the Little Hoosiers. They gave an interesting program telling of their various activities, their experiences in making an Indiana flag and decorating the Museum one Christmas. Two of the boys gave a skit about Avon history. We congratulate the Little Hoosiers and hope they will come back.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of two members, the late Beulah Muston and Joe Davidson. The committee working on the history of the Danville Square reported and it was decided, as a new project, to work up the histories of schools in Hendricks County. Maxine Cox and Grace Cox are indexing the records of the Hendricks County Sesquicentennial and the book on the cemetery project will be at the next meeting.

Following the meeting refreshments were served by the ladies of Lincoln and Brown Townships.

AUGUST MEETING

A MEETING OF THE OLYMPIAN LYCEUM will be held, August 1st at the Pittsboro United Methodist Church and all members of the HC HS are invited. You will be delighted to see such names on the program as Elnora Hadley, Mabel Hadley, Willus Collins, Verlin Moon, Pearl Hadley, Olin Hadley, Orien Hadley, Lawrence Hadley, Ozro Hadley, Jesse Hardwick, Elwood Kennedy, Frances Bray, Alva Shirley, Florence Nicholson and Wilson Shaw and Mary Carter. Lois Crayton flatly refuses to reveal any more about the program, so come and see for yourself. August 1st, at 2:00 P.M.

First off we must compliment the Hendricks County Garden Club for the flower bed at the museum. You did it again, gals! There is a profusion of marigolds, coleus, geraniums, and maybe some we overlooked, all gorgeous.

We've had scout troops visit us and individuals of all ages. For some, seeing the items in the museum is a new experience. Simply remarkable, almost unbelievable how mankind got along without electricity! Well, it's been a long time since those days. Lots of people today don't know the thrill of turning on the lights for the first time. To some, lighting a lamp would be fascinating. One didn't need to belong to an exercise club even if one were available. What with the chopping wood, beating rugs, and doing everything else that we flip a switch for now, it was a relief to stop for a while. Then older visitors can talk at length about each thing they see. Why, they'd helped their parents use them many a time. Just sit back and listen to the stories. We have, and they are interesting, and oft times funny. The memories come out from all over. Yes, and sometimes we'll get a new name for something we thought already had a name! "Yes, that's what that is! Why my grand-daddy used one of them things for years, and that's what he called it." Well, usually grand-daddy's word was considered RIGHT.

We recently received a family album with all the pictures identified. How wonderful! We've had so many pictures brought in that aren't identified. There is a churn, made of wood, in a five gallon size, that operates with a crank instead of a dasher. More like the little glass churns of later years. Another item that caught this writer's eye was the book of minutes of an old threshing ring dated back to the early years of this century. For those familiar with the procedures of old-time threshing, this would certainly bring back a lot of memories. We've got a picture to back it all up right here in the museum.

In the gift shop is a wall hanging done in needlepoint entitled "Remembered Times, Familiar Faces". Subjects included were the old school house, country church, country store, and the farm house. That takes us back to when communities were smaller, and transportation was slower. The horse and buggy, and shank's pony took care of that. The church, where most everyone went, some regularly, some not so often, brought neighbors closer together. Community news was exchanged. They rejoiced with one neighbor's good fortune, and grieved with another when bad luck struck, and tried to do what they could to help. The store made a good loafing place for some. The stories grew more mellow with each telling. News was swapped there too. The school was a place of learning. Not just "books", but life. No one dared to pull any funny stuff because news traveled fast and got home before the culprit did. The farm house in the picture shows three stories! There were lots of big families, but how did the mother negotiate all those flights so many times a day! Surely she got "rheumatiz" some where along the line.

Yes, communities were smaller, folks were largely farmers. They most usually all knew one another. Now, it's different. In lots of instances families don't know their next door neighbors. They go for miles to associate with friends. Their church is often not very close. Schools are consolidated and many parents have likely never been in their child's school. Homes, more and more are on one floor. Not that there's anything wrong with that. The store today is a super-market where one rushes in and out and very seldom sees many one knows.

Jewell

We have Susan Carter, Historical Librarian at the Plainfield Public Library to thank for the following informative article:

Family and local history buffs will be pleased to learn of some important research tools recently acquired by the Plainfield Public Library's Guilford Township Historical Collection with gifts donated by two loyal friends.

A five-volume set of "United States Local Histories in the Library of Congress: A Bibliography," and a three-volume set of "Genealogies in the Library of Congress: A Bibliography," were purchased with funds given by Chase M. Smith, a Plainfield native now residing in California. These impressive publications list the thousands of local histories and family genealogies, published and unpublished, which have been deposited at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., and which are available there for researchers' use.

Anyone who has started to reconstruct a family tree soon finds that he or she has embarked upon a lengthy and complicated task that may become a lifetime passion. The enterprise entails months and even years of patient, often tedious, searching in courthouses, churches and libraries. Any previous research in the same or related families is invaluable but extremely hard to locate.

Americans have been compiling genealogies at least since the first one known to be printed in 1771, according to Willard Heiss of the Indiana Historical Society. Similarly, local histories have proliferated, studded with valuable nuggets of information about individuals and events. Since most of these materials were privately printed in limited editions, or often not printed at all but simply compiled as manuscripts or typescripts, their very existence is exceedingly difficult for the genealogist to discover. That is why these volumes listing the thousands of family and local histories in the Library of Congress are of such value to genealogists.

Many family histories never get to the Library of Congress, but are scattered around the nation's libraries. Marion Kaminkow, compiler of the "Genealogies in the Library of Congress," also searched 45 other institutions, including Indiana's own Fort Wayne and Allen County Public Library, to produce "A Complement to the Genealogies in the Library of Congress." This book was also purchased by the Plainfield Public Library with a gift from the Gerald R. Christl family of Plainfield in memory of Adeline Bauch Christl who died this past December.

These nine large volumes provide a useful starting point for family history researchers, according to Historical Librarian Susan Carter. They can readily ascertain if something has been compiled on their antecedents, and if so, where it is located.

The donors of these bibliographies have made a significant and enduring contribution to the community. Chase M. Smith, who was born near Plainfield and was graduated from its high school in 1910, retired to California after a career in the insurance business in the Chicago area. He has maintained ties with Plainfield, and was honored as Alumnus of the Year in 1980.

Gerald Christl has used the Plainfield Public Library's local history collection and other services extensively in his own genealogy searches.

from:

Susan Carter, Historical Librarian
839-6602 - Plainfield Public Library

The Historical Collection is open to the public:

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: Noon - 5 p. m.

The last Saturday of the month from 9 a. m. to noon and 1-5 p. m.

Other times by appointment

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

CORRECTION

In the MAY BULLETIN there were two errors. In the report of the February meeting, we said Cassie Sworn was a graduate of Plainfield High School's first graduating class, but it was Edgar Sworn's father Carey who was among the first graduates. And we referred to Edgar Sworn as "Ed", a nick name he never used. We are sorry for the mistake.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

MORE NOTES FROM THE DIARY OF CALVIN FLETCHER

These notes are from Volume N of the diary.

Page 81 - Saturday 10th Dec, 1848

This is a wet gloomy day. I have not been very well. Anne Wood, who has lived with us a year or two left on the persuasion of her mother and as I cannot do with out help will get Almira Thompson who has been left here by W. L. Matlock to (in) the Lunatick hospital as she is partially insane. I shall try and keep her. I hope it may not be presumption in me to consider it one of the indications of providence that I am to keep her. --- Foot note adds that Almyra Thompson was listed as a member of C.F.'s household in the 1850 census. She was born in South Carolina and in 1850 was fifteen years old.

Page 148 - November 17, 1849, Saturday

On my return our bank thronged with customers - Jas. White of White Walner & Co., Philadelphia; Bill Matlock, Mathias Floyd & others were in. All arranging for hogs the they are low selling (fat hogs) at 150 (1.50) gross weight.

Page 165 - Jan. 14, 1850 - Monday

-----Went to the bank found all right there. -----Ambrose White came up to settle some matter with Bill Matlock & C. Our discounts are some \$609,000 & we cannot go much farther.

Pages 211 - 212 - 213 - 214 - Starting Tuesday Aug. 20, 1850.

This long entry describes the Cholera Epidemic of 1850 in Indianapolis from the Fletcher household. Calvin Fletcher names some who died. He tells in more detail of the efforts to save Almira Thompson from death of this disease. He also wrote how "God in his providence sent her to me in the winter of 1849 when she was on her road to be put on a steamboat for a small crime which she committed in consequence of a slight lunacy caused by sickness -- soon after I so fortunately found her & took her from Wm. L. Matlock the cholera broke out on nearly every steamboat on the river. I had often congratulated myself being in the way through the goodness of God to save her from that scourge."

Calvin Fletcher wrote that Almira had requested that "Ann & a little Matlock girl to have her things & wished to be buried in a white shroud."

Page 361 Wed. Dec. 31, 1851

I wind up the year with gratitude to God for mercies & wonderful works to the children of men ---- many very good men have died ---- S. W. Morris --- Dr. Wiley, president of Bloomington College ---- Aaron Johnson ---- Wm. L. Matlock of Danville who had a most sterling wise mother who never gave bad advise, who always saw things clear as to his good was fatally misled by false affection for the youngest son John who was an indulged spoiled child. W. L. had acquired some 30,000 \$ when his mother urged him to take the young profligate into partnership. Had it been any other person she would have seen clear the impropriety --- This profligate broke & ruined the worldly concerns of W. L. He struggled 10 or 15 years to recover from the loss.

Contributed by Ruth Pritchard

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

(Editor's note ... In the name of progress, a four lane highway from Avon to Danville, the Indiana State Highway acquired land behind the Hendricks County Home, the site of an old cemetery. The bodies there were removed and reinterred in the Danville South Cemetery. We thank Betty Bartley, Historical Librarian at the Danville Public Library, for this information and the following two articles.)

The following inscriptions are from the monument recently placed in the Danville South Cemetery:

HENDRICKS COUNTY HOME CEMETERY

ALBERTSON, PHOEBE	23 JUN 1907
BARKER, JEMIMA	13 SEP 1915
BERRY, LUCINDA	15 DEC 1915
BERRY, WILLIAM B.	5 FEB 1910
BROCK, WILLIAM	6 FEB 1904
BUIS, WILLIAM C.	20 SEP 1945
COX, FRED	5 MAY 1919
CRANK, HOMER	15 NOV 1910
CUMMINGS, INFANT	9 JUL 1908
EAKERS, WILLIAM	7 OCT 1901
ERSKINE, JOHN	22 JUN 1907
GIVENS, HARRY J.	20 AUG 1906
HALL, MARY	6 JAN 1935
HATTON, MELVINA	13 APR 1916
HEDGES, JANE	23 JUL 1901
HENSON, WILLIAM	13 JUN 1911
HOCKETT, ISAAC	16 JUN 1913

HENDRICKS COUNTY HOME CEMETERY (Cont.)

HOPSON, MARY M.	9 JUL 1919
HUNT, CANTLEY W.	17 JAN 1921
JOHNSON, HOMER	19 FEB 1912
JONES, WILLIAM	18 DEC 1915
LAWRENCE, JOHN	1 JAN 1918
McDANIEL, LIZZIE	4 FEB 1925
McOWEN, WILLIAM	12 NOV 1910
MENDENHALL, TEMPLE	30 JAN 1937
MILLINGER, JACOB	3 NOV 1929
MORPHEW, ROBERT	29 FEB 1920
MORPHEW, SARAH	26 JUN 1900
PATRICK, JULIA MAY	12 MAY 1946
PATRICK, LAVENDER	17 SEP 1902
PELK, WILLIAM C.	27 AUG 1937
PFAFF, ELIJAH	25 NOV 1909
POORE, DAVID	20 JAN 1910
QUAKENBUSH, MARY	14 MAY 1909
ROBERS, DOROTHY E.	24 SEP 1901
ROGERS, RUPERT	5 OCT 1901
RUTLEDGE, ELIJAH H.	8 JUN 1936
SECREST, BUCK	28 JUN 1923
SMITH, MARY	21 DEC 1914
SPURLING, JAMES	25 DEC 1901
SWEAT, FRANK	5 JUN 1935
TORTONENT, ALONZO	17 FEB 1937
TROUBLES, CORA	7 NOV 1906
TROWBRIDGE, LOUIS	3 MAR 1912
TUBBS, JAMES	23 APR 1901
UNDERWOOD, WILLIAM	11 DEC 1929
WHITE, THOMAS	2 MAY 1911
WILLIAMS, LOU	14 FEB 1922
WOOD, CAROLINE	25 APR 1907
WOOD, JAMES	1 DEC 1906
(?) FRED	21 DEC 1910
UNKNOWN MALE INFANT	15 MAY 1914
UNIDENTIFIED NEGRO MALE	25 MAY 1911
UNKNOWN MALE KILLED ON RR	6 JAN 1911

AND 16 UNKNOWN PERSONS WERE DISINTERRED FROM THE HENDRICKS COUNTY HOME CEMETERY AND REINTERRED HERE IN MAY, 1982.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

AN "ORPHAN TRAIN" STOPS AT DANVILLE

A notice appeared in the April 24, 1890 issue of the Hendricks County Republican stating that Mr. G. T. Green, of the Children's Home, Cincinnati, Ohio, would be bring a group of children to Danville for placement on Tuesday, April 29. If the weather was good, they would be at the platform in the Court House yard; otherwise they would be at the home of Capt. J. G. Miles. Those interested were to contact E. G. Hogate or B. Frank Howell for details.

According to the May 1, 1890 issue of the same paper, the following children were placed: baby girl with O. H. Barnhill; girl 11 years with Eli Maston, Amo; boy 12 years with John W. Tinder and brother 6 years with J. M. Hieatt; boy 10 years with H. W. Wilson, Maplewood; boy 13 years with Mrs. Mary Huron, Avon; boy 7 years with James W. Smith, Tilden.

On May 20, Mr. Green returned with another part of boys and girls. He placed the children as follows: girl of 7 with R. T. Jones, Belleville; girl of 7 with Nathaniel Benson, Parke county; boy of 10 with John Dunbar; boy of 8 with Perry Porter; boy of 12 with Granville Spicklenire; boy of 10 with T. M. Shofner; boy of 6 with F. M. White; boy of 7 with Edward Ray.

Mr. Green stated that he "may come again but cannot say positively". A search through the remaining issues of 1890 found no further mention of his return.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

MEMORIES OF MILL CREEK

(The following is taken from a book recently donated to the Indiana Room of the Danville Public Library by Dr. I. Lester Furnas. The article was written by his father, Miles Julian Furnas.)

As stated before, I was 16 years old when we moved to the Dover-Mill Creek neighborhood (ca. 1882). It was strictly a Quaker neighborhood, the Church was known as the "Mill Creek Friends Church". There was quite a large membership and it was outstanding as for its musical talent. I never before had heard such good singing. There was a man living in the neighborhood by the name of Will Shirley and it seemed to me at that time that he knew all that there was to be known about music. He was a good farmer but he found time to teach singing schools and the young people attended. Ozella, Orlando and Orien (Hadley) were in my opinion his three best pupils, altho Ozro was good. All of Ozella's brother and sisters were good singers and the young people often went to Father Hadley's place to hear them sing. They had a fine Quartet right in the family. The Quartet was in demand to sing almost every picnic or other meetings. Ozella was a very good Alto singer. There were quite a large group of young people in the neighborhood. I will name a few of them: Elmer Stanley, Cal. Dickerson, Will Dickerson, Will Shaw, Allie Wilson, Thos. Nickelson, Orlando Hadley, Ozella Hadley, Anna Dill, Eva Dickerson, Elva Carter, Betty Williams, the Hodson Girls, Minnie & Eva Marshall & Lizzie, Nan Bringle, Jim Rodgers.

We had many oyster suppers, ice cream suppers, taffy pullings and parties, our favorite place to meet was at Al Carters. I will not go into details any farther as Ozella is going to write her memoirs and I will let her tell about the "Ghost Hunt", Hickory nut hunting, trip to the Cave in Putnam County, Yearly

Meeting, etc. etc. But I must add that this group was high class in all respects. Of course I fell for Ozella from our very first meeting and I was kept so busy looking after her and trying to keep other young men from stealing her away from me that there is little else for me to write about, but by hard work and much scheming and lots of head work I did finally persuade her to marry me on November 24, 1887. The Rev. David Hadley tied the knot and he did a good job for it has not even slipped in 62 years.

On the farm at Mill Creek we had two fish Ponds. During the summer they were used as swimming pools. About 3 nights a week Elmer Stanley and Will Dickerson would come down and we would spend about 2 hours in the water, go home and how we would sleep!

About the year 1878, as near as I can recall now, there was a "split" or division in the Quaker Church. One side was composed of the younger or more "Progressive" (as we would call them today) members, who were in favor of singing in church, discarding the old time Quaker garb, also the plain language. The older members opposed these changes -- they were called "Old Foggies". Considerable ill feeling was the result. The "Progressives" fell heir to most of the church property, so the "Old Foggies" were compelled to build new churches for worship. (Let me say here that in my opinion the "Old Foggies" were the Back bone of the church. They were men and women whose honesty and integrity could not be questioned.) Father & Mother, while their sympathy was largely with the Foggies did not go along with them. But Uncle Al Furnas did. There were quite a number of the members of our meeting at Mill Creek who withdrew and built a meeting house and school house about 3/4 of a mile north of our farm. It was called "Sorghum Chapple" the right name was "Mill Creek Meeting". It got its name "Sorghum Chapple" because it was near a Sorghum Mill on Uncle Al Furnas' farm.

The school house would seat about 30 pupils. Teachers were imported from Philadelphia, PA., and other Eastern schools. They were high class and well educated. The first teacher was a Sarah Hallack, a niece of Gen. Hallack. I did not attend the school while she was the teacher, but I did attend later. My favorite teacher was a Rachel Hall from Philadelphia. We got along fine. I liked her very much, she was a good instructor. The school was conducted along the old fashion Quaker lines and believe me the teachers held to the line, too. Many of the pupils wore coats with no collars, the girls were not allowed to wear gay colored dresses. On one occasion one of the girls wore a sort of wine colored jacket to school and the teacher made her remove it. It was a sort of a boarding school, the Dormitory would house 8 or 10 pupils. There were several pupils attending from quite a distance. I now look back with no little pride on the scholars there as nearly all of them grew up to be some of our best citizens. Both the church and the school have long since been abandoned.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

IN REMEMBRANCE

Another member dropped from our ranks with the recent death of Leon Day Pritchard, a brother of Roy Pritchard of Belleville. Leon lived in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he died, but he had always thought of the communities of Belleville - Salem - Center Valley in Liberty Township as "home base". The service was in Cincinnati and interment in the Center Valley Cemetery, south of Belleville.

His work had taken him far and wide but his thoughts often turned to scenes of his childhood, so he naturally was an enthusiastic member of H C H S, he was an avid reader of THE BULLETIN. To Roy and Ruth we extend our deepest sympathy.

Another death of interest to many members was that of Mrs. Esta Sallee of Pittsboro. Esta will be remembered as the organist of the Pittsboro Christian Church where, at our 1980 August meeting, she entertained us with a delightful organ concert. She had furnished music at one other of our meetings and she will be greatly missed by the Pittsboro community. She will be remembered by many of our members as a gracious and wonderfully talented lady.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

SIMPLE RITE TRIMS GRAVE OF VETERAN OF U.S.' FIRST WAR

Brownsburg, IN - The nation paused Monday to honor its war dead who fought to keep the United States free.

A Brownsburg couple paused to honor a war veteran who fought to make the United States free.

There were no parades, bands or declarations by politicians as Winston Coffman, 64, and his wife, Mary, both dressed in colonial clothing, visited the grave of Revolutionary War veteran Jonathan Ward.

They had to trudge nearly a mile through mud and high weeds, across a creek and up a small hill to the nearly hidden 140-year-old grave.

It was a trip Coffman has made hundreds of times. It was the ninth trip on Memorial Day to remember the veteran of the country's first war.

The American Legion had placed a small American flag on the grave at Coffman's request. Girl Scouts had placed a fence around the grave several years ago. Coffman and his wife have tried to keep the small site clear of growth.

Nature was ahead of them this year.

Mary Coffman, clad in a bluish quilted, calico, ankle-length dress and a bonnet to match, bent to straighten the flag and pull away ground cover.

Her husband, with a beaver hat perched on his head, reached into his horn pouch for a pellet and then squeezed gunpowder from his "possible" bag. The rifle loaded, he pushed the powder and pellet deep into the barrel. Then with his homemade musket poised, he fired one shot over the grave.

"God knows, people may think I'm crazy for doing this, but I feel good about it. My wife does too and I hope this is continued by my son after I'm gone."

As a youngster, Coffman's grandfather often visited with Jonathan Ward. Ward died in approximately 1840, about a quarter of a century after Indiana became a state.

Martin Van Buren was concluding a term as President of the United States and a former Indiana Territory governor, William Henry Harrison, would take office the following March.

When Ward settled in the late 1780s after service in the American Revolution, the area was part of the Virginia Territory and inhabited by Indians.

Coffman's grandfather remembered and passed it on to his son. Coffman heard it from his father. As a child, he visited the grave site while playing near White Lick Creek.

The grave is west of Ind. 267 and south of I-74. It is on the crest of a steep hill overlooking White Lick Creek. The grave is practically impossible to find by someone unfamiliar with the area.

Mrs. Coffman, a retired teacher, said, "Winston loves doing this. He feels few would remember Jonathan Ward."

As the shot echoed through the trees and smoke blew skyward, Coffman looked at the grave and reflected; "I wonder if any of his relatives are buried around here. I heard there are several Indian graves."

The stone, bearing the simple words, Jonathan Ward, U.S. Soldier, Rev. War, is worn by decades of weather.

Memorial Day was established in 1868 after the Civil War. The few surviving Revolutionary War veterans and the dead of American wars were honored that year.

Jonathan Ward may have been missed that year.

But Winston and Mary Coffman made sure he wasn't Monday.

This article written by William E. Anderson
Star Staff Reporter appeared in
The Indianapolis Star Newspaper

Footnote:

A member of our Society, Mary Ward, of Pittsboro, married into the Ward family who are distant descendants of Jonathan Ward.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

CLARK KELLUM'S MEMORY KEPT FRESH

Exerpts from the June 2 HENDRICKS COUNTY FLYER:

"The combined gifts of 67 individuals and three organizations in memory of the late Clark Kellum have made possible a large microfilming project at the Plainfield Public Library.

"The indexing of the newspapers, a task that has been undertaken by Betty Bartley, with help from other staff members and volunteer typist, Ursula Lamb, will vastly ease the finding of information in the paper and increase their usage. The card index and the newspapers on microfilm are just two more services that make the Historical Collection a uniquely valuable feature of the library.

"The Clark Kellum memorial gifts have paid for the microfilming of 14 bound volumes of Plainfield newspapers dating from 1886 to 1945. The microfilms are now stored in the Historical Room of the Library where patrons may view them on the library's microfilm readers."

What an appropriate memorial to a man who loved the Plainfield Library and gave so much time and effort in its behalf. It was truly a labor of love.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

NOTICE

The committee working on the history of the businesses on the Square in Danville needs photographs of the buildings and businesses. Anyone having such photos may contact Betty Bartley at the Danville Public Library (745-2604) to arrange for copying.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

COLLEGE DAYS RECALLED BY RETURNING STUDENTS

More than 200 graduates and former students of Central Normal College and Canterbury College returned to Danville Saturday for another reunion of the two colleges ... the last of which closed its doors in 1931. The day long program ended at the Danville Friends Church, where former college president, Virgil Hunt, presented a tribute to the late Bertha Watts, former CNC English teacher. The church was filled to capacity.

The following article appeared in THE CAMPUS CRIER which was published after the reunion:

TO A LIVING MEMORY

Why have a Reunion for a College which has not been in existence since 1931? Generally a reunion is a time of planning for the future and raising funds for improvements or scholarships!

None of that happens at the Reunion of former students and alumni of the Central Normal - Canterbury College. But it is so wonderful to bridge the gap between former days.

The group has certainly made its contribution to the education programs. Tributes are given to those who are now retiring. At one time approximately one-third of the teachers of Indiana had attended CNC.

Politically CNC has rendered a service. Governors, congressmen and county leaders have made a lasting contribution.

But probably best of all has been the answers to question about the next generation of the CNC-Canterbury prodigy. "They are doing things locally, nationwide, and world wide."

We could philosophize about the history that we have all given to this generation - a sense of right vs. wrong, of responsibility and willingness to work. These were definitely fundamental traits of those students who gathered at CNC without much money but with an aim to make a real contribution.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

STUDENTS LEARN HISTORY FIRST HAND

Bib overalls, neckerchiefs, long dresses, and bonnets were much in evidence as the fourth grade of St. Malachy School finished their year-long study of Indiana History, with a day of "pioneer activities".

The various activities and events, which filled a full school day's schedule, were planned by teachers Mrs. Beth Lewis and Mrs. Mary Ann Holt with help of classroom parents.

The day began in the classrooms with making horn books for the "loud school", a spelling bee, and craft activities such as dipping candles and making pioneer balls which were used later in the day for pioneer games.

The students also had a muzzle loading and pistol demonstration by Richard Tuttle. They joined together for a square dance.

The scene shifted to nearby Arbuckle Acres Park for an old-fashioned pioneer lunch prepared by 4th grade mothers under the direction of Mrs. Mary Kay Devlin. The day was completed with pioneer games under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Tuttle.

This article appeared in the
Hendricks County Flyer
Wednesday, June 16, 1982

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

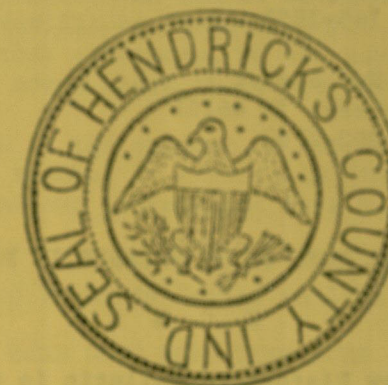
REMEMBER WHEN

- Lamp oil sold for 11 cents a gallon?
- Gasoline pumps rang on every gallon?
- Six bars of soap sold for 23 cents?
- You could buy three dozen eggs for a quarter?
- Girls wore middy blouses with sailor collars and box pleated skirts?
- The first permanent waves were done by long electric wires under a big metal hood?
- Most drug stores sold ice cream as a side line?
- Radio fans became excited when they picked up a station other than KDKA - Pittsburg?
- The "Golden Girl", with her abbreviated costume, caused a sensation at the opening of the Purdue football season?
- Mail was delivered twice daily?
- A lantern was hung on the side of the buggy for night driving?
- The doctor made house calls?
- You could go sliding down the newly threshed hay stack?
- The pleasurable car ride somehow always incurred a flat tire?
- The Saturday night bath was taken in a tub behind the heating stove?
- Cream was skimmed from the top of a crock of milk for making butter?
- And remember how butter was made? And the taste of new butter on a cracker?
- The living room rug was on the clothes line for its annual beating?
- Grandma never had to baby-sit?

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

HENDRICKS COUNTY

HISTORY BULLETIN



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DANVILLE, INDIANA

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H C H S

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H C H S

DISCOVER THE PRESENT BY STUDYING THE PAST.

To be seventy years young is sometimes far more cheerful
and hopeful than to be forty years old.

Oliver Wendell Holmes

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

AUGUST MEETING

Our Society met August 1st, at the Pittsboro Methodist Church. Our president, Maynard Noland demonstrated another of his many talents (new to many of us) by playing the organ and asking us to join in singing FAITH OF OUR FATHERS. Hazel Raines led our meditation time with devotions entitled GIVING THANKS TO GOD.

The treasurer reported a balance of \$193.81. Dorothy Kelley gave an interesting report on the Museum and a committee was appointed ... a committee consisting of a member from each township ... to locate old schools in the county.

The program was a playlet, written by Frances Fisher, entitled A MEETING OF THE OLYMPIAN LYCEUM. This was based on the minutes of that society at the old Dover School. The cast, dressed in costumes typical of 1895, assumed the names of actual members. It proved to be an entertaining afternoon. Afterwards, the 66 members and guests enjoyed a social hour with refreshments.

NOVEMBER MEETING

Our November meeting will be the 7th at Bartlett's Chapel Methodist Church located between Avon and Danville on State Road #36. Since a small wedding is to take place at two o'clock that afternoon, we are asked to park on the north of the church and to enter on the north where there are few steps.

INDIAN WARS IN INDIANA is the subject of the talk which will be given by Mr. Jerry Hankins, history teacher at Plainfield High School. Mr. Hankins has made a thorough study of Indiana history and is a highly respected authority on the subject.

Washington and Guilford Township ladies will be in charge of the social hour.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

Betty Jean Volpp, of Danville, brought this marriage certificate to the Danville Public Library to be copied and Betty Bartley, historical Librarian, passed it on to us. It is a nice example of a Friends marriage "according to discipline."

Whereas Caleb Hunt of Mill Creek in the county of Hendricks, in Indiana, Son of Asahel Hunt of the same place, and Rachel his wife (deceased), and Mary Dixon, daughter of Eli Hadley of the County of Morgan and state aforesaid (deceased) and Margaret his wife, having declared their intentions of marriage with each other, before a Monthly Meeting of the religious society of Friends held at Mill creek and having consent of Parents their said proposals of marriage were allowed by said meeting. These are to certify whom it may concern, that for the full accomplishment of their said intentions, this seventeenth day of the Twelfth month, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight-hundred and fifty one, they, the said Caleb Hunt and Mary Dixon appeared in a public meeting of said people held at Spring; and the said Caleb Hunt taking the said Mary Dixon by the hand, declared that he took her the said Mary Dixon to be his wife, promising, with divine assistance to be unto her a loving and faithful husband until death should separate them and then the said Mary Dixon did in like manner declare that she took him the said Caleb Hunt to be her husband, promising, with divine assistance, to be unto him a loving and faithful wife until death should separate them.

And moreover, they, the said Caleb Hunt and Mary Dixon (she according to the custom of marriage, adopting the name of her husband) did, as a further confirmation thereof, then and there to these presents set their hands

Caleb Hunt
Mary Hunt

And we whose names are also here unto subscribed, being present at the solemnization of the said marriage have, as witnesses thereto, set our hands the day and year above written

Asahel Hunt
James Kersey
Robert W. Hodson
Jonathan Mendenhall
John Edward
Miles Mendenhall
A. M. Hunt
Addison Hadley
Timothy Swain
Newlin Carter
Elihu Dixon

Catharine Hodson
Amila Foster
Elizabeth Kersey
Louiza Harvey
Aletha Hunt
Margaret Mendenhall
Dellah Swain
Sarah Dixon
Beulah Carter
Aletha Hunt
Cynthia Hunt
Wm. F. Harvey

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

MUSINGS AT THE MUSEUM

The Hendricks County Historical Museum had a display of churns and a "whatsit board" at BOFF, Brownsburg Outdoor Fun Festival. The "Whatsit board" consists of small articles used around the home in years past, and proved to be popular with the crowd who tried to identify as many as they could. We were sponsored by Hendricks County Bank and Trust of Brownsburg. According to reliable sources, workers in the booth were kept busy by the wind which decided to be brisk those days.

We were open during the recent Swap 'n' Shop days. Approximately 100 people registered. The weather tried it's best to be ornery on Saturday. Dampened the crowds some, then chilled them. But Sunday was just the opposite. The weather was on its best behavior.

The Clayton High School Class of 1923 celebrated its 59th anniversary last summer and plan to have their 60th one next summer. Isn't that wonderful? Not many can match that record. They have had a reunion every year since graduation. The class picture is now upstairs in the library and receives a lot of nice comment.

"Christmas at the Museum" Open House will be on December 4 and 5, and 11 and 12. The house will be decorated in keeping of yester year.

While browsing around the primitives room we came upon a carpet bag. It has been in the museum almost ever since we opened. It is quite old, but then quite new. Some of our large purses, or tote bags resemble them, at least the ones done in needlepoint. They look alike on the outside and one wonders if they are one big cavern of a barn on the inside. Cram in a lot, but can't find anything. Sound familiar? Then there is a billfold. We'd have a hard time with one that size now. But, who needs one that big when the money is smaller (more ways than one). Now that sewing machine, as many of you know who ever used one, takes

coordination. The treadle is made the shape of the feet and these happen to be generous.

In the parlor there is a display of purses, and fans. Well, with no air conditioning the air in a room needed something to stir it up.

Ladies these days would be out of luck with the purses on display. But then, they didn't carry all the stuff considered so necessary today. Driver's licenses weren't needed to drive a horse. A few cents and a hankie were about all that was needed.

The specs shown are somewhat different from today. "Pinc Nez" or nose glasses were a must for some. Some of us have enough trouble with the ones we wear now, let alone pinching one's nose. But that was the style then. Do you suppose it will come back? Others have. There is a pair of sun-glasses on the stand-table in the parlor that belongs to a by-gone day. Sun-glasses were worn rarely and were not so fashionable as now.

Jewell

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

Susan Carter, Historical Librarian of the Plainfield Public Library, writes that Lynn Hopper will have a display of Depression Glass in their Historical Collection exhibit windows during November and December. It should be ready for viewing by the second week in November. She also sent the following report:

The Historical Collection at the Plainfield Public Library has just received a wonderful new resource for Hendricks County genealogists and history researchers.

One hundred twenty rolls of microfilm which were recently purchased by the library contain all of the old Danville newspapers, dating from 1854 to 1932, which formerly could be consulted only at the Hendricks County Recorder's office in the Courthouse. Also filmed were:

The Indiana County Agent, May - December, 1915 (published at Plainfield)

The Plainfield Messenger, January - December, 1939

County Courier, July 1977 - August 1978 (published at Brownsburg)

The actual filming was done by the Indiana Historical Society's Newspaper Microfilming Project and all costs associated with the filming itself were paid by the Project. The IHS made copies of the film available to libraries at a cost of \$00.04 per page. 52,225 pages appear on the 120 rolls of film. Plainfield Public Library Director Mary McMillan and Historical Librarian Susan Carter feel that this investment in Hendricks County's printed heritage is well worthwhile.

A year ago the library purchased a Canon microfilm reader/printer which enables a paper copy to be made from microfilm, much as one would use a photocopy machine to reproduce papers. This service is available at the cost of \$00.20 per page and it is applicable to census copies as well as those made from newspapers.

The Historical Collection already owned an excellent file of Plainfield newspapers on microfilm. The index to these papers, begun in October 1979, covers the period from 1881 to 1957. Personal names and subject references are included

and each citation gives the newspaper date, page and column where information may be found. Indexer Betty Bartley and volunteer typist Sue Lamb have prepared over 10,000 index cards for patrons' use.

It is also worth noting that the Historical Collection includes an obituary file for Hendricks County residents containing in excess of 27,000 names with newspaper references. Volunteers have worked diligently on this file since 1968, most notably Virginia Hadley Bourdon and Ida Mae Miller, and it is current to date. Patricia Gaddie of the library staff takes care of the typing and filing involved.

Researchers are welcomed during the Historical Collection's regular hours from noon until 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday each week and on the last Saturday of each month from 9 - noon and 1 - 5 p.m. Appointments for other times may be scheduled by calling Historical Librarian Susan Carter at 839-6602. The library's address is 1120 Stafford Road, Plainfield, IN 46168.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

TOWNSEND TIES

Marian McClure Carter of rural Coatesville, owner, has permitted a number of Townsend Family letters to be photocopied. The William Townsend to whom these letters were written, was a great grandfather of Marian Carter. The Danville and the Plainfield Public Libraries have copies of these letters.

Background information on William Townsend was found in Willard Heiss's "Abstracts Of The Records Of The Society Of Friends In Indiana" and some added notes were found in William Wade Hinshaw's "Encyclopedia Of America Quaker Genealogy" in the Plainfield Library Historical Room.

William Townsend of Perquimans County, North Carolina, married his first wife, Nancy Copeland, daughter of Eli and Ann, at Eli Copeland's house 1803 - 1st mo - 18th day. Rich Square Monthly Meeting records give Nancy's birth date as 1796 - 6th mo - 19th day.

Minutes of White Water Monthly Meeting show the Townsend Family in Indiana, received on certificate from Centre Monthly Meeting, North Carolina 1820 - 5th mo - 27th day. At that time William and Nancy had children: Eli, Josiah, Elizabeth and Catherine. The minute for 1824 - 3rd mo - 20th day, states that William Townsend and children Eli, Elizabeth and Josiah were granted a certificate to White Lick Monthly Meeting.

Original land owners records show that William Townsend entered land in Guilford and Liberty Townships in 1825. He was a consistent voter beginning in 1826.

Ruth Mitchell Pritchard

March 14 1852

Often Remembered 'Father & Mother, this may inform you that we are all tolerable well at present truly hoping when those few lines may come to hand they may you all enjoying a good degree of health and strength we received your letter last evening which was dated they 22 of last month which was a great satisfaction to us to hear from you though sorry to hear that Mother was so unwell and that thy eyesight had failed so much for it is such a melancholy thing to lose they faculty of sight and yet retain they faculty of hearing that which we can not see well

the said that you have had they coldest winter that has been for they 12 or fifteen years well you have not had as cold a winter as we have for our coldest weather they mercury stood 27 degrees below zero and i can tell you it was some one thing you have not had that we have and that is they wind i do think i can say in truth that i never did see and hear as much wind in all my life as i have since we have been in iowa just our common winds here you would think it was a storm in indiana they wind is now a blowing to all night well might well i reckon i must quit about they wind for i no that you are tired of hearing about it before now as to george stalkers coming back this spring they will not come they staid all night at our house three weeks ago last fourth day on their way back they went on the next day down to William Henshaw on pleasant plain prairie and has rented a place down their two miles and a half south of Richland so we cant get him to oregon i dont want any of you to think hard of what we said about going to oregon for we had no thought of going there we said it because that is all we can hear tell of here is a going oregon and Father we thank the very much and take it as a kindness from a Father for that money the sent na for to get a barrel of flour to start to oregon with but i am a going to get some flour to start back to indiana with for we aint had any biscuit in our house but once since last June and we would not of had that but some moovers staid here they night before christmas and they had a sack of flour in their wagon and their horse got to it that night and tore their into and spilt some on the ground and after they went away i went and gathered up enough to make us a first rate mess i think uncle Joel hodgin is a doing very wrong for selling out and moving to iowa for i just do now that him nor aunt lizza will not like they country if they was here to day they would say well well dont this beat out any thing well Father we bin hinting about coming this some time and now i am just a going to come out right plain about it i am a going to come back sell or not sell if i am permitted to live that long and i want to now what the and they rest of the thinks about it for we can rent our place most any tim e we say so but daniel is afraid we cant get any house to go into nor nothing to do but i tell him he can work enough in harvest and corn gathering and get enough wheat and corn to last us a year and the balance of his time he can work at something else and i certainly can get something to do for i have improved right smart in sewing and good many other things and Mother i have got my flax and toespun and is awaiting for the weather to turn warmer so i can have the loom in the porch for their aint room enough in the house to have the loom in it and i made too kettles of soap yesterday which is first rate they reason we cant sell our place is because the emigration to oregon is so great that is land down to almost nothing some would almost give their land away rather than to miss going most of the people think that the price of land will be up in a few years and daniel dont want to sell his till he can get the worth of it the reason that daniel dont right any in this letter is because he is a righting a letteto Samuel Lotchers and tell John Ramsey Betsy Jones has been very sick for the last eight or nine weeks with a pain in her hip and thigh so that there was no hopes of her ever a getting well but i was down to see her last fourth day and she was considerably better so i must come to a close for i now you are tired of reading this now Father i want the to answer this as soon as it come to hand or have it done this from Danielle Martha Ramsey to their affectionate

Father & Mother
William & Ann Townsend

Perquimans County
Northcarolina 10 of 11th moth
1835

Dear Brother

I hav taken my seat on purpos of writing a few lines to the I can inform the that we are all well at present and hope these few lines may find the and thy family enjoying the same blessing I live with Jacob and Martha yet tha all well Frederick and Thomas a familys have been very sickly this faul tha hav had the meassels verry bad in their familys and sorrowful indeed it is that I hav to convey the melancholy news of the death of my dear sister Mary I hav lost one of my best friends she has been a mother to my pore little fatherless children but now she is gone and I hope my great loss is her eternal gain She departed this life the twenty first of the eighth month 1835 I think she would of hav come to that country if she had a lived Frederick and Jacob talks of coming next spring and if tha do I shall try to come if if I can get there but I dont no how that will bee I have neither horse cart nor not much of any thing else than here is the black ons old sarah and her childran I cannot bare the thoughts of leaving them here and tha hav nothing to carry them away old sarah says she will go if we do my dear sister has been verry much concerned about them for many years not noing what would become of them she told me a few days before her death to wright to the to come here and help us to get them away to a land of freedom we should bee verry glad to see the come to this land if it was not too great an undertaking for the I expect thee begins to feel old age a creeping on I think it is likely it would bee better for my children if tha ware there prehaps tha would get some schooling if nothing else I shall have nothing to by land with I cannot know what would become of me if I was to come I want one time more to have my children both to live with mee for a home is a home be it ever so homely I am at a great loss to know what to do and hav been for a long time I expect we shall leave brother Thomas behind if we do come and that would bee hard fo me to do he is married again and I do not know whethe he will ever come or not I think if the could come it is verry likely the would get a smart chance of us of tho I do not expect I shall ever bee satisfied if I come tho I am not satisfied here I think it would bee better for my children if tha ware there tha are pore tha have no property I hav a small bit of land my life time then it will be theirs I tried to get an order of Cort to sell it and tha say it cannot be done an that will not bee worth any thing when tha get grown it will take what it rents for to keep it up I should be verry glad if the would come or send something to help to get these black ons away for if tha stay here tha will cetainly bee made slaves of some day or else I expect Frederick and Jacob has each of them one lives with them I expect the will bring them if tha come then there will be old Sarah and her little boy her daughter Ann and her children I am not able to carry my self an children it would of take all I have to buy a horse and cart and I should have but verry little to carry mee I want the to write to me as soon as the can the I may know whither to try to get them ready or (hold in paper) And I hope the lord will reward the please write to me as quick as possible the spring will soon bee here the fourth month we want to get of if we come I have nothing more at present so I conclud and remain thy affectionate sister
Esther Hollowell

Dear Brother I have taken my pen to write a few lines to the for the first time as my dear sister has often rote the I thought it sufficient but she is gone and I hope wher Joys abound and songs of noble praises sung She departed this life 21 of the 8 month after about 10 days illness I can inform the that I and family are all well I have 2 children Margaret Ann and Exum Newby Winslow I have not

much to writ as Esther has wrote to the I have rote a few lines to let the now that I had not forgot the we think of moving to that country nex spring If nothing happens to hinder So I conclud and remain thy ever loving sister
Martha N. Winslow my husband sends his respects to the
Jacob W. Winslow

HCNS HCNS HCNS HCNS HCNS

HENDRICKS COUNTY COMMISSION ON PUBLIC RECORDS

On October 15, 1982, a meeting of the Hendricks County Commission on Public Records was held at the Court House. Many people had expressed an interest in the outcome, having read that "old, unwanted records" were going to be destroyed.

John Newman, State Archivist, and member of the State Commission on Public Records explained the procedure to those attending the meeting. He stated that no records of permanent value would be destroyed, including those of value for historic or genealogical research. At the next meeting, to be held November 12, 1982 at 1:00, in the Circuit Court room, those officials wishing to dispose of records will submit a list of those records. The county historical societies then have 30 days to examine these lists and determine if any of the records should be retained by the historical societies.

For further information on the procedure involved, those interested should read Indiana Code 5-15-5-1 through 5-15-6-7. Copies of the Indiana Code can be found at any county library.

HCNS HCNS HCNS HCNS HCNS

This amusing verse was found in the papers of the late Marie Settles and was passed on to THE BULLETIN by Patricia Settles of Hazelwood. Thanks, Patricia!

Grandmother, on a winter's day, milked the cows and fed them hay;
slopped the hogs, saddled the mule, and got the children off to school;
did a washing, mopped the floors, washed the windows, did some chores;
cook a dish of home-dried fruit and pressed her husband's Sunday suit;
swept the parlor, made the beds, and baked a dozen loaves of bread;
split some firewood and lugged in enough to fill the kitchen bin;
cleaned the lamps and put in oil, stewed some apples she thought might spoil;
churned the butter, baked a cake, then exclaimed "For goodness sake!
The calves have got out of their pen", went out and chased them in again;
gathered the eggs, and locked the stable, then back to the house to set the table;
cooked a supper that was delicious, and afterward washed all the dishes;
fed the cat and sprinkled the clothes, mended a basketful of hose;
then opened the organ and began to play,
"When you come to the end of a perfect day."

HCNS HCNS HCNS HCNS HCNS

HENDRICKS COUNTY CHURCHES MARK 150 YEARS

Religious stirrings were prominent in Hendricks County in 1832 as is evidenced by the reports of sesquicentennials observed. THE BULLETIN has received detailed accounts of three such celebrations and it is unfortunate that space will not allow us to print the full account of each church. So with apologies to those of you who so thoughtfully contributed these articles, we attempt to condense these histories to accommodate our space.

LIZTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Lizton United Methodist Church began their 150th celebration August 8th. The first church, known as the Montgomery Chapel, was built on land purchased from the Montgomerys for \$50. It stood $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south of Lizton and the old church cemetery is still there.

The first bible used by the church was printed in 1793. The bible's cover was so worn from use that it had to be recovered with deerskin from an animal shot by the founder, William Montgomery. The bullet hole still shows on the front cover of the bible. The first church lasted for 39 years when a frame building was built.

Members of that first Sunday Class at the Montgomery Chapel include: Joseph Plummer, Sarah Burgin, Clayborn Davis, John Pritchett and William Montgomery. Present at the August 8th Founders' Day service were several descendants of these five members of the original church.

A solo, HOW GREAT THOU ART, by Dan Pritchett, a great-great-great-grandson of John Pritchett, high lighted the day with the Rev. Loren Maxwell the speaker.

HAZELWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

Hazelwood Baptist Church celebrated its 150th anniversary Sunday, September 26th. This church, properly named The Friendship Missionary Baptist Church of Hazelwood, was started in 1832 by 13 Indiana pioneers. These hardy Christians felt the need of a local church to help them in their spiritual life and labored to found one despite the day-to-day struggle to provide the basic necessities of life.

After meeting in homes for many years, they built their first building near what is now Center Valley Cemetery. Their next meeting place was located on C. R. 900 South, just west of Hazelwood Road. The present building, located in Hazelwood, was built in 1909 and has seen several additions over the years.

The church was pleased to have as speaker Dr. Bob Jones, III, president of Bob Jones University, Greenville, S. C. Dr. Jones is the grandson of the founder of the University in 1927.

THE FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF DANVILLE

The early records of the First United Presbyterian Church of Danville have been lost, but it is known that the church was formed in 1832. The only three members for whom there is any documentary proof are William Miller, Daniel McAuley and Samuel McPheters. On 6th of June, 1837, property was purchased from Simon T. Hadley and Mary for the sum of \$35. A building was soon erected as a house of worship and was used for such purposes until the second house was built, dedicated in 1858.

According to the 1885 HISTORY OF HENDRICKS COUNTY, the following people were also members: William McLeod and wife, Jacob K. Moore and wife, Alexander Morris and family, Dr. Henry G. Todd and wife and Samuel King.

The first known pastor who served the church was the Rev. Samuel Lowry/Lowrey, who also served the Presbyterian Church in Greencastle, leading us to think he was also a "circuit preacher". Henry Ward Beecher is reputed to have preached in the old church during sessions of the presbytery.

The Danville Presbyterian Church, also known as the Cumberland Presbyterians, started work on a new church building in the spring of 1884, completed in November of that year. This structure is the present house of worship, and, except for two short periods, it has been used as the Presbyterian place of worship for 98 years.

The congregation of the FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH invites one and all to their various activities during December.

(Editor's note: After the devastating Christmas Eve fire in 1976, it was feared by some that the church might have difficulty recovering, but the congregation was undismayed and they now have a lovely sanctuary with pewter-colored pipe organ matching the pewter of the chandeliers. An ultra modern kitchen has just been completed. Mrs. Henry Cox, who furnished this material, asks us to search attics and trunks for any records concerning this church and if any are found to contact her at 310 Urban St., Danville 46122 or call 745-2628.)

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

SEPARATION OF SCHOOL AND CHURCH?

For forty-nine years the Salem school in district number eight of Liberty Township existed immediately east of the Salem Church property.

When this school was discontinued in the spring of 1903, some of the material, bricks, floor joists etc., were used in the construction of the first house north of the church in 1904.

That property was then owned by Ervin E. Stanley. The late Opal Good of Danville remembered helping his father, John Good, haul the bricks and other material from the school house site to its new location and use.

The Belleville Bible Church purchased from Indiana South Conference of the United Methodist Church, the Salem Church property in 1977.

The elders of that church negotiated with the recent owner of that adjoining former school ground, Glenn Horton Cook, with the intention of purchasing it for church parking. On October 5, 1982 the papers were signed deeding to the church the ground bought by the school trustees of Liberty Township from David and Hannah DeHoss, June 9, 1854.

So now the school grounds and the church grounds are joined into one property.

HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS HCHS

THE FOLLOWING TRIBUTE WAS WRITTEN BY MARY ANN MOORE AND IT APPEARED IN THE HENDRICKS COUNTY FLYER IN AUGUST:

DIYANO LADY HELPS COUNTY

Her birthday is coming up on Aug. 25 - this special person I have in mind. Last year when she turned 70 and also became a great-grandmother, her family really celebrated. Now she looks forward to a new T-shirt with the new birthday number on the front.

You can all help me applaud her: Dorothy Kelley. A retired school teacher was left a widow in 1976, she was not one to wallow in self pity or sit and twiddle her thumbs. She found some really worthwhile projects. Not long before that time, the Hendricks County Museum had been born. It started from scratch in the old jail, in Danville, when the new jail was finished.

Dorothy began to do volunteer work on each Tuesday. Now she is available any time day or night, to show groups through this delightful old Victorian home and the adjoining cells. That's the icing on the cake - showing folks what all is there and explaining it all.

What else at the museum does this dynamo of a lady do? Well, name it - just about everything. She's not against getting dirt under her fingernails or smears on the knees of her slacks. Every time it rains really hard, water runs across the basement floor. With a sponge in the right hand, a pan in the left, she heads down there and stoops or kneels to sop it up.

Weeds to pull, mulberry trees to cut out, windows to wash, curtains to make, displays to set up, records to keep, 14 mannequins to dress (oh, can they be stubborn) then sweep, dust, mop, wax - again on the knees - un huh, just like at home. Put out the flag, take down the flag. Shovel the steps when the snow gets deep. It is never too hot or cold to find Dorothy at her volunteer work. Just last Tuesday she was down there until 10 p.m. with her daughter, painting the gift shop.

Dorothy has boundless energy, grit and determination. At home (not far from Brownsburg or Pittsboro) she mows two acres, has a large garden, paints, and often sews until long into the night. Doesn't that make you tired just to hear about it? Really - she can outwork most any two, half her age. If a volunteer is needed for almost anything, she's there. Dorothy was chairman of Extension Homemakers' International Day this past year and worked beneath sweltering tent at Open Class, at the fair, on the day the exhibits were brought in.

She tutors slow students, newcomers to our country and those on probation. I could go on and on listing the organizations she belongs to and the things she does. I've often told her that if I wrote a story about her, folks might not even believe me. She doesn't know that I really have gotten around to writing this story so I may be in BIG trouble!

If you've never visited the museum, then shame on you. The people of Hendricks County have given so generously that the three floors of rooms are almost full to the brim. Always, first timers are so surprised and the usual comment is, "I'm coming back when I've got more time."

Some people still say, "I didn't know we had a museum in Danville."

I wish some people would say, "I believe they could stand some more help down there at the museum. I think I'll get involved and get a piece of the action."

Maybe we all need to realize how many hours Dorothy has spent, how many miles she has driven and how much of herself she has poured into YOUR museum!

She is happy for every minute of it and hopes to see a whole bunch of you show up some Tuesday, 9:30 A.M. to 3:30 P.M., when she is down there working away! "Happy birthday, Dorothy!"

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOX 128
DANVILLE, IN 46122

Mrs Henry Cox
310 Urban
Danville
In. 46122

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