

Bits and Pieces
of Hardin County History
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Robert Beimdick, Editor

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RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE ELIZABETHTOWN

GRADED SCHOOL-1877

by R. Gerald McMurtry

Modern day educators would no doubt be amused and surprised to read the rules and regulations contained in an eight-page pamphlet published in 1877 relative to the "Government of The Graded School of Elizabethtown, Ky."

The Board of Education consisting of J. W. Matthis, C. Hotopp, and M. Sweets incorporated into their publication, which was addressed "To the Parents and Friends of Education" several divisions, namely: Course of Study; Government by Board of Education; Government of Teachers; Government of Pupils; Attendance, Absence and Tardiness; School Terms, Vacations and Sessions; Examinations.

One of the most surprising bits of historical information about the Elizabethtown Elementary School is that it only consisted of five grades, yet the curriculum appears so formidable for elementary pupils, one wonders if the courses of study were designed for older students. However, there is a statement in the Rules that "No pupil shall be admitted into the public school who is not six years of age and a resident of the school district."

One puzzling aspect of the curriculum is that the first grade is designated "Grade Fifth" and the fifth grade is designated "Grade First". To avoid confusion the grades will be designated in the modern order, namely, the first grade through the fifth grade.

In the first grade the student must spell words in the Reader and one hundred other familiar words, and the meaning of the words to be shown by their use in short sentences and phrases. To show a knowledge of punctuation such as the comma, semicolon, colon, period, interrogation as question mark and the exclamation or wonder mark. To count objects such as grains of corn, beans, etc., and be familiar with such Roman numerals as I, V, X, L, and C and their combinations. Likewise, the student should learn to read Arabic figures up to two hundred and make Arabic figures up to twenty. To print on slates such words or letters as learned from cards or blackboards.

In grades two, three, and four, McGuffy's (second, third, and fourth) Readers along with the same author's spellers, with Butler's Grammar and Ray's Practical Penmanship and Stoddard's Intellectual Arithmetic were the prescribed texts.

The fifth or final year embraced higher mathematics, science, Latin, Greek, history, German, and book-keeping. Robinson's Progressive Arithmetic was the adopted text. Additional texts included Montieith's Geography, Ray's Algebra, Quackenboss's Composition with advanced courses in penmanship, writing and declaiming.

(Continued on page 42.)

UNTERNEHRER, PATTON, JENKINS

Am interested in obtaining any info on the Unternehrer family who were farmers in the Tunnel Hill area of Hardin County around the turn of the century. Joseph Unternehrer md. Mary Jenkins 4 Oct 1875, Hardin County; L. J. Unternehrer md. Sue E. (Sudie) Patton 5 June 1901. What happened to this family? If you can help, contact Bob Beimdick, 1869 Miller Rd., Elizabethtown, Ky. 42701.

BOOKS FOR SALE BY THE SOCIETY

TWO CENTURIES IN ELIZABETHTOWN AND HARDIN COUNTY, KY 1776-1976
by Daniel E. McClure, Jr. Hardcover, illus, 850pp. \$31.25ppd.

HISTORY OF ELIZABETHTOWN by Samuel Haycraft, Sr. Written in 1869 by the County Clerk, it is interesting and informative. Hardcover, 256pp. \$12.95ppd.

WHO WAS WHO IN HARDIN COUNTY This is a compilation of 170 biographical sketches written by descendants of the subjects. Great genealogical source! Soft bound \$12.95ppd.

CHRONICLES OF HARDIN COUNTY by Mrs. T. D. Winstead Chronological listing of noteworthy dates and events in Hardin County 1776-1976. Hard bound \$5.00ppd.

All orders for books may be sent to Mrs. June Thornberry, 128 North Main Street, Elizabethtown, KY 42701

From the Editor,

We are beginning with the next issue the ninth year of publication. It has been a pleasure to work with the publication and with all of you. You have been very supportive of the publication's efforts to preserve and disseminate historical information that may otherwise be lost.

Your continued support and input is essential to keep this a viable publication worthy of your interest and support. Your continued submission of information for publication is essential as without it there is no publication.

Thank you for your support.

DUES Your 1987 dues are now payable. They are \$8.00 per member. They can be sent to Mrs. June Thornberry, 128 North Main Street, Elizabethtown, KY 42701

COURT ORDER BOOK, HARDIN COUNTY, KY 1797 (7 Nov)

At a Court held for Hardin County on Tuesday the 7th day of November 1797 Present Robert Hodgkin George Berry & George Helm Gentlemen Justices

A deed from John Kenaday and Elizabeth his wife to Charles Kenady acknowledged in Court She being previously Examined as the Law directs was ordered to record

Also the same to Peter Kanady ordered to record

Also the same to John Kenaday ordered to record

Patison against Jackson attachment returned on one grey horse

A deed from Thomas Carneal to James Wilson acknowledged in Court ordered to record

Upon the application of John Walker to the Court It is ordered that the County Surveyor resurvey the following tracts of land one thousand acres each lying in Hardin County and proceed therein as the Law directs he having produced a certificate from the register of the land office of Virginia that the original plats was lost

Upon the application of John Smith it is ordered that the County Surveyor resurvey one tract of land of a thousand acres having produced a certificate from the register of the land of state of Virginia that the original plot was lost

The last will and Testament of Abraham Funk Decd was proved in Court by the oath of Ignatius Pegman ordered to lay for further

On the motion Ignatius Pigman It is ordered that the Clerk of this Court do Issue his Warrant directed to Robert Mosley Harrison Taylor & Jefse Cravens Gent appointed Commifioners agreeable to an act of Afsembly intituled an Act to Afsertain the boundaries of land and other purposes Commanding them or any two of them to attend the said Ignatius Pigman to an Entry of nine thousand acres made in the name of Joseph Lewis & Philip Phillips adjoining the first remarkable falls above the mouth of Rough Creek Beginning at the South West Corner Joseph Lewises lower nine thousand acre Entry to Run West to the bank of Green river & down it to George Mays five thousand acre Entry then and there to take on Oath the depositions of Such persons as may be brought forward to prove any Special Calls in sd Entry & do such other acts as may be deemed necefsary & agreeable to Law

Upon the aplication the said Ignatius Pigman ordered that License be granted him to Celebrate the rites of Matrimony proceed to take the Oath required by law

A deed from Thomas Logsdon to Shepherd Gum acknowledged in Court Ordered to record

Ignatius Pigman made Oath that he saw Ann Cravens and Rebekah Barnet as Evidence sign the will of Abraham Funk which was before prove by the Oath of said Ignatius Pigman Ordered to record

On the application of Nathan Holeman who together with his Security Ignatius Pigman James Crutcher Samuel Haycraft & George Helm entered into and acknowledged their bond as the Law directs and took the Oath of an Administrator certificate is granted him for Obtaining letters of Administration on the Estate of Abraham Funk Decd with his Will aforesaid annexed in due form

On the Motion of Christipher Jackson who together with his Securities entered into and acknowledged their bond as the Law directs it is ordered that Licence be granted him for keeping Tavern in his house for the term of one year next Ensuing

James Nourse produced a nomination from Charles Helm appointing a Deputy Surveyor took the oath as the law directs

John Helm produced a nomination from Charles Helm appointing a Deputy Surveyor proceeded to take the oath as the law directs

A power of attorney from James Taylor to Benjamin Helm was prove in Court by the Oaths of James Crutcher Aaron Bradin & George Helm ordered to Record

On the Application of James Skaggs Ordered that the Clerk of this Court do Issue his Warrant to William Munford Henry Ditto & Peter Wooley Gentlemen appointing them Commifisioners agreeable to an Act of Afsembly intituled an Act to Afscertain the boundaries of land and for other purposes Commanding them or any two of them to attend James Skaggs at an Entry of one hundred & fifty acres entered in the name of James Skaggs in forks of Lynn Camp then and there take on Oath the Depositions of such persons as shall be brought forward to prove any Special calls in said Entry & do such other acts as Shall be deemed neccessary

Also it is ordered that the same be appointed to attend the same at another Entry of one hundred and fifty acres on linn Camp Creek & proceed therein as the law directs

Ordered that Moses More James Cochran Robert Elder and John McDowall or any three of them being first Sworn do appraise the Estate of Abraham Funk decd and make return thereof to this Court

On the application of James Nourse Ordered that Patrick Brown James Nourse and Richard Winchester be appointed Commifisioners to attend and perfectuate testimony in behalf of Moses Broyle and Identify the Special Calls in an Entry of said Broyles of Eight hundred acres including the north and up the South fork of a Creek running into Green River

Ordered that Philip Wormsly be bound as an apprentice to William Monford

Ordered that George Close junr Edmond Read & Andrew Read be appointed to Lay out and view a road from Mr. Hodgins Old mill pafsing George Closes Mill thence the nearest and best way to Amoses ferry on Green river

Ordered that Christopher Bush be appointed Constable

Christopher Bush together with his Security George Helm Entered into and Acknowledged their bond proceeded to take the Oath required by Law

On the application of Abigail Lee who made Oath and together with her securities John Lee and Joseph Kirkpatrick entered into and acknowledged their bond certificate is therefore granted her to obtain letters of Administration on the Estate of Charles Lee decd

Ordered that Thomas Redman Conrad Walters Joseph Follet & Richard Winchester or any three of them being first Sworn do appraise the Estate Charles decd [sic.] and make return thereof to Court

A Bill of sale from Samuel Forrester to Nathaniel Forrester produced in Court and ordered to Lay for further proof

Ordered that Richard Winchester be appointed overseer of the Road in the place of Allen Tharp

Ordered that the Court be ajourned till Court in Course
Geo Helm

ELIZABETHTOWN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES 1820-1821

At a meeting of the board of Trustees for Elizabeth Town on Saturday the 2nd day of September 1820 at the Clerks Office Present Samuel Martin President John Morris James Park & William Parcels Gentlemen Trustees

Whereas It is represented to this board that Richard Potter has arrived at this Town and intends exhibiting certain feats for the amusement of the citizens & for the purpose of gain to himself. Resolved by the board that that he be taxed the sum of two dollars for each nights exhibition. And that he pay the same to the Clerk of this board or on failure thereof that the Collector of this Town be and he is hereby empowered to collect the same

Ordered that the board adjourn
Attest Sam Haycraft Jr. Clk S Martin Pres

At a meeting of the Trustees of Elizabeth Town on Wednesday the 22nd of November 1820 at the Clerks Office Present Samuel Martin James Park William Parcels & Robert Bleakley Trustees

Whereas it is represented to this Board that Thomas Brookes has arrived at this Town and intends exhibiting a Lyon for the purpose of gain to himself Resolved by the Board that he be taxed the sum of one Dollar per day and that he pay the Clerk of this Board or on failure thereof that the collector of this town be and he is hereby empowered to collect the same

Ordered that this board be adjourned to Court in Course
Attest Robt. Bleakley Clk P. Tem Saml Martin Pres

At a meeting of the Board of trustees of Elizabeth Town on Saturday the 23rd day of December 1820 Present Samuel Martin President James Park Robert Bleakley and John Morris Trustees

Leonard B Parker the undertaker of the Market house having compleated the same according to the terms and conditions upon which the same was let It is ordered that the same be received And that the President of the board assign to the said Leonard B Parker a subscription raised for that purpose dated 14th August 1820 authorising the said Parker to make collections upon the same at his own proper costs & risque the amount of the subscription being \$285 the amount of which the building was undertaken \$289 leaving a balance of \$4 due the said Parker from this board which is ordered to be paid by the Clerk out of any money in his hands belonging to this board not otherwise appropriated

Robert Bleakley one of the Trustees reported that he had two dollars in his hands received of Thomas Brooks under an order of this board which is ordered to remain in his hands untill the further order of the board

Resolved that the board meet on the 30th of the present month at 9 o'clock AM in the Clerks Office for the purpose of appointing a market master establishing market rules & making other regulations relative to the market house and that the Clerk advertise that the office of Market Master will be let to the lowest bidder

Ordered that the board adjourn
Attest Sam Haycraft Jr Clk Sam Martin Prsd

RULES for School

Under the division devoted to Rules there are many statements relative to attendance, absence, tardiness, order, tobacco, deadly weapons, immoral conduct, damage to school property, cleanliness, disease, injurious conduct, detention, and going to and from school.

A somewhat shocking method of discipline was available to the school principal in 1877 as outlined in the Rules adopted by the Board of Education, namely: "Private admonitions, appeals to the conscience, public reproof, the monthly reports, suspensions, detention at recess, and for a reasonable time after school hours, and as a final resort, in some cases, the rod, are some ways by which good order may be secured".

The Elizabethtown Elementary School was to be open "the first Monday in September, annually, and shall be held forty weeks, and shall close on or before the Friday before the last Monday in June of each year". Of course the school was taught five days in each week. The Christmas vacation extended to New Years Day inclusive. Thanksgiving Day was a holiday when set apart by the civil authorities of the State, and this was true of any other national celebration by order of Congress or the President of the United States.

The morning session of the school began at 9 o'clock. From November 1st to April 1st, the afternoon session began at half-past 1 o'clock and for the remainder of the school year at 2 o'clock. Each session continued for three hours. At the expiration of each hour there was a recess of ten minutes.

Oral examinations for transfer or graduation were public exhibitions. They could hardly take written examinations on slates. The examinations were held at the convenience of the Board of Education. If the pupil could sustain an examination satisfactory to the Board and Teachers on all the studies to which he or she was enrolled they would be promoted. Whenever a pupil fell behind the rank of his class, he or she, might, by extra effort regain their original position or be sent back into the class below.

When one attempts to evaluate the merit of grade school instruction a century ago with its diverse curriculum taught by teachers of whom we know nothing of their training or ability, accompanied by a dearth of teaching materials and a rather primitive school house environment, one wonders how successful was the effort. Modern educators would immediately note that there were no courses in music, art, drama, manual training, and physical education. Nevertheless, we can assume with complete confidence that an 1877 fifth grade graduate of the Elizabethtown Graded School could read and write.

NOTES:

1. Photocopies of Rules and Regulations Adopted September 1, 1877
By the Board of Education for the Government of the Graded School
Elizabethtown, Ky. H. M. McCarty Printer, is to be found in the
Library of the Brown-Pusey Community House and the files of the
Hardin County Historical Society.

2. The Rules and Regulations contain no provision relative to religious instruction or prayer in the classroom, however, it is well to note that the McGuffey Readers were replete with examples of morality.

WHITE MILLS--Resort Hotels Brought Prosperity in Early 1900's
by Mrs. T. D. Winstead (Elizabethtown Examiner 18 Jun 1975)

A pile of rubble beside the dam is all that remains of the landmark mills that gave a name to a town on Nolin River in the southwestern section of Hardin County.

It was an ideal site for a grist mill and some early enterprising settler built the first one, it is thought about 1830 or 1835 possibly even earlier. Whether the settler's name was White or whether it was because the mills were always painted white was the reason the settlement that grew up around the mill was called White Mills is not now known. What is known is there were at least two mills, for one was washed away in the flood of 1853. It was of frame construction on a stone foundation and a wooden dam had been erected beside it.

It is a tradition, supported by records, that White Mills is located on land once owned by James Buchanan of Franklin County, Pennsylvania, father of President James Buchanan. The original owner of the land was John Larue for whom Larue County was named, according to Collin's HISTORY. Larue died in 1792 and devised in his will that his whole estate be equally divided among his children but the executors were to sell enough of his property to discharge his debts which amounted only to £27.

However, the executors sold slaves and land greatly in excess of amount needed and the Larue heirs brought suit against them. The 5900 acres of Larue land which Buchanan had purchased, along with James Dickey, had passed through several hands after the executors had sold it and they had purchased from a subsequent owner. Litigation began in 1803 and lasted for almost twenty years. It was for this reason Buchanan sent his son, James (later the 15th President of the United States) to Elizabethtown in 1813 to defend his title. The slow process of court action prevented him from accomplishing his mission and it was not until 1822 that the title was finally cleared. The Buchanans were then able to sell the land at a profit.

The Nolin River is scenic all the way, providing good fishing, swimming, and boating; but its greatest claim to fame is its meandering. According to the U. S. Geological Survey it is the crookedest river in the United States. It winds 20 miles to go 6! "I can stand in my front yard and throw a rock in the Nolin River on my right and without moving I can throw a rock in it on my left and there is a 150 acre tract of land between!" said Mrs. Robert Carroll who lives in White Mills. Residents of the town accept philosophically the regular flooding of the river. The high iron bridge spanning the river in the center of town was built in 1899. In the 1937 flood, the river was 9 feet over the floor of this bridge. Almost every winter, at least once, the river rises over the bridge. When that happens, Mr. Scott Morrison, who keeps a boat for the purpose, rows his wife, who has been a teacher at West Hardin High School, and others across the river where a bus picks them up. Mail is delivered in the same manner at flood time.

By 1855 the last mill, replacing the one destroyed by the flood, was completed by Dan Wortham and knowing his river, he built a higher dam of huge boulders in front of the wooden one that can still be seen when the river is low.

Mr. Wortham built well for his mill stood a hundred years. It served a large area and was the center of the town that grew up along the river. The White Mills post office was established June 19, 1866 and the first postmaster was Granville S. Hastings. Present postmaster is Russell Sullivan. There has been little change in population in 25 years. It is about 150 now and was the same in 1950.

Several years after he built his mill, Mr. Wortham sold it to Joe D. Richardson, who made it one of the best mills in the area. The buhrs were imported from France. Two cording machines operated from the mill power and for this he purchased wool from all over the county. Cording materials were taken in ox drawn wagons to East View, the nearest railroad station, for shipment. This proved to be a very profitable business in his day, but eventually the cording business declined and was discontinued. Mr. Richardson later turned over the mill to his son, Marshall who operated it until his death in 1925. In 1943 the mill and the adjacent Richardson Hotel were purchased by the Louis Songsters.

Over the years when the town was flourishing, it had the services of four doctors and one dentist. Dr. C. C. Carroll, who passed away in 1945, was the last doctor to practice at White Mills and his memory lingers on. Other doctors were Dr. Owsley, Dr. Duncan, and Dr. Hale. The dentist was Dr. Hayward Richardson, son of the miller.

A combined general store and post office has served White Mills for decades. Operators have been Phillip G. Bungler, a native of Germany who was among the first in about 1870, the Spurriers, Morrisons, Simpsons, Fonrose E. Wortham, Mrs. Burgess Hawkins, H. H. Tabb, who also operated the mill for a few years and who later became county judge, Floyd Booker and Russell Sullivan. There probably were others not now remembered.

Joe D. Richardson was practically the founder and cornerstone of the Christian Church of White Mills which was established about 1909. He was zealous in his religion and lived it in his business as well as in his church association. The White Mills Baptist Church was established soon after 1909 and both denominations have lovely small white buildings that are unmistakably churches in appearance. The Masonic Lodge has a modern building and all three are located on the east side of the river in town.

Real prosperity came to White Mills about 1907 when not one, but two, resort hotels were opened about the same time. They were situated side by side on the east side of the Nolin River near the mill. The Richardson Hotel was a large, three story, frame building with 50 rooms and a dining room capacity of about 200 persons. It was established by Dr. and Mrs. Hayward Richardson. They purchased mill rights from his father for power to operate the hotel. Both mill and hotel were operated as a family affair. Later, Dr. Richardson's sister, Crecia and her husband Joe Barnes joined them in the operation of the hotel.

The Hatfield Hotel was run by Doug Hatfield and his two sisters, Lena and Betty. Neither of the three married and each devoted full time to the management of the business. The hotel had 22 guest rooms and could seat about 100 persons in the dining room.

Guests for both hotels usually arrived by train at East View and were met by hotel hacks or station wagons driven by Negroes.

Guests enjoyed horseback riding, swimming, fishing and boating. Twelve rowboats and 12 canoes were available for hire and there was a large power boat holding 25 persons which made regular, three mile round trips to Dead Man's Cave and Pearl Island. Guests could and did spend hours on the river.

By no means the least attraction of the hotels was the wonderful food which was served family style. Huge mounds of golden fried chicken, country ham and freshly caught fish from the river graced each table. Fresh vegetables grown by local residents, homemade biscuits and cornbread, homemade pie and cake was some of the lure that induced guests to return summer after summer. The Hatfield and Richardson hotels were the only vacation spots of this type in Hardin County with the exception of the hotel and sulphur well at Hardin Springs a few miles away near Solway.

The two hotels often were unable to accommodate all their guests; so local families housed the overflow. The Spurriers, Carrolls, Dillinghams, Marshalls, Richardsons and Joneses were some of the families who entertained guests in their homes and there were probably others as well. The hotels prospered for more than 30 years and this period was the heyday of White Mills. The coming of the family owned automobile which provided wider vacation opportunities, the hotel's patronage declined and both were closed about 1938. However, in 1943 Mr. and Mrs. Louis Songster purchased the Richardson Hotel and operated it for about 10 years.

In the fall of 1948, several Christian churches in the area purchased the Richardson Hotel from the Songsters and started a summer camp for young people of all denominations. The group is the White Mills Christian Assembly, Inc., and the camp is still in operation. Two modern dormitories have been added and a large swimming pool built. An outdoor chapel with elevated individual seats and an indoor chapel have also been constructed. Baseball grounds, tennis courts, horseback riding, swimming, boating, nature hikes, and other recreational activities combine to make the 9 weeks of summer camp attractive to young people. The church group tore down the old mill about 1955 because it had deteriorated since its closing in 1945 and had become a hazard to adventurous summer campers.

About 1958, Mrs. Scott Morrison, a daughter of Dr. C. C. Carroll, and her husband purchased the Hatfield Hotel after the last of the owners, Miss Betty Hatfield passed away. The Morrises have restored the exterior of the building to its original appearance but it is not being operated as a hotel.

The first school at White Mills was the Lynnvale Academy which was conducted from 1870 to 1910. One room schools followed the closing of the academy. They, too, were closed when the present brick school was erected in 1933. The Lynnvale High School was established in 1921 with the first graduating class held in 1925. The end of the high school came when all Hardin County high schools were consolidated in 1962. High school students from White Mills now attend the West Hardin High School at Stephensburg.

There is peace and quiet aplenty in White Mills today. Turning off the main road is like entering another century. Towering trees that meet overhead line both sides of the road that winds beside the river on the east side. Large two story, frame dwellings have

been built well back from the river on the side of the hill above the road. Sometimes they escape the ravages of the periodic flooding of the Nolin. Hours may elapse without a car passing. Bird calls are louder in White Mills and often are the only sounds until one hears the water rushing over the dam. Even so, they only accentuate the serenity that prevails. City dwellers dream of the tranquility the natives take for granted in White Mills.

Thanks are due Mrs. Lila Dykes and Mrs. Scott Morrison for information on White Mills.

PAST MASTERS OF TEMPLE MORRISON LODGE NO. 76, F & AM
(Chartered on 25 August 1823)

- 1823 James Barker
 - 1824 James Barker
 - 1825 Thomas Johnson, No Return
 - 1826 Thomas Johnson, No Return
 - 1827 Thomas Johnson
 - 1828 Benjamin Helm, No Return
 - 1829 Benjamin Helm, No Return
 - 1830 Thomas J. Wathen, No Return
 - 1831 Thomas J. Wathen, No Return
 - 1832 Bryan R. Young, No Return
 - 1833 Bryan R. Young, No Return
 - 1834 John Morris, No Return
 - 1835 John L. Helm, No Return
 - 1836 John L. Helm, No Return
 - 1837 B. D. Montgomery, No Return
 - 1838 B. D. Montgomery, No Return
 - 1839 Sam I. G. Haycraft, No Return
 - 1840 Sam I. G. Haycraft, No Return
 - 1841 Bryan R. Young
 - 1842 Bryan R. Young
 - 1843 Harvey Slaughter
 - 1844 Charles G. Wintersmith
 - 1845 James W. Smith
 - 1846 William M. Dunavan
 - 1847 James W. Hays
 - 1848 Charles G. Wintersmith, 25th Anniversary
 - 1849 Warren C. Gray
 - 1850 Thomas H. Duncan, No Return
 - 1851 Warren C. Gray
 - 1852 James DeWitt
 - 1853 William M. Dunavan
 - 1854 Fayette Hewitt
 - 1855 William M. Dunavan
 - 1856 Thomas H. Duncan
 - 1857 Lafayette Hewett
 - 1858 James R. Mock
 - 1859 G. W. F. Strickler
 - 1860 M. H. Cofer
 - 1861 G. W. Maxon, No Return
 - 1862 Stephen Eliot
 - 1863 Stephen Eliot
 - 1864 James R. Mock
 - 1865 James R. Mock
- (List through 1970 will be concluded next issue)

CLAYSVILLE (Conclusion, from Summer, 1986)

It is not known who built the house which was a landmark for so long but it was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Dudley Brown when their only child, John Young Brown was born there in 1835. Thomas D. Brown was Hardin County Circuit Clerk for several years and represented Hardin County in the Legislature in 1841, 1844, 1845, 1846, and 1847. He was also a delegate to the Constitutional Convention which drew up the Constitution of 1850.

John Young Brown studied law at Centre College in Danville and after graduating in 1855, he was admitted to the bar in Elizabethtown in 1857. He served as governor of Kentucky from 1891 to 1895 and died in 1904.

Clarence Adams, father of Lila Adams Dykes, purchased the house about 1898 from the Dorsey family to whom he was related. It is not known when the large frame additions were added to the house. Mrs. Dykes who inherited the place sold it about 1940 and it was torn down in 1941. A Texaco service station stands at present on the location.

North of the brick house was the brewery storage built into the side of the hill and next to that was an oil well located on Helm land. Although oil was found in the well, the operators capped the well and left hurriedly one morning, leaving a large number of debts behind them.

Between Freeman Creek and the old Louisville and Nashville turnpike was a sulphur well, famed far and wide for the medicinal value of the water. A roof over the well was supported by four large posts set in the ground. It was opposite Charlie Ehret's blacksmith shop and Charlie collected coins from the people who came to the well and used the money to keep the pump repaired. The water was said to be black and brackish in taste with a very disagreeable smell but when it was allowed to settle it became crystal clear.

A familiar sight was the daily pilgrimage to the well from Elizabethtown beginning about 6 o'clock in the morning. This allowed plenty of time to walk to the well, partake of the water, return home, have breakfast, and get on to the day's work at the usual time. Whether the regulars benefited more from the water or from the walk is a moot question, but judging by the number of devotees making the daily trek it was evident most of them believed in the water cure. So famous did the well become, people from Louisville and other parts of central Kentucky came to Claysville and stayed sometimes for a week or so in the summer to drink of the water, boarding with people in the neighborhood.

The face of Claysville has probably changed more since 1900 than any other area near Elizabethtown. A poll of the people here would probably show there are considerably more persons who do not remember Claysville before it was built up and changed, than people who do remember. However, one thing is certain, the red clay soil still remains.

Note: From the memories of Lila Adams Dykes, Margaret Richerson, and Henry Hodges.

