

Former county judge keeps peace with Indians in West

Alexander Brooks Montgomery was born near Tip Top in Hardin County, Kentucky on December 11, 1837. His father was William W. Montgomery, Esq. and his grandfather, William Montgomery, one-half of the Bleakley-Montgomery mercantile firm once located in Elizabethtown on lot #6 of the Public Square inside a log house shortly after 1801.

He attended the common and private schools including Georgetown (Ky.) College where he graduated in 1859 followed by the Louisville Law School graduating in 1861. He was admitted to the bar and commenced the practice of law in Elizabethtown in 1870.

Montgomery was the first president of the Bank of Elizabethtown but is remembered for a political career that he embarked on soon after his education was completed.

Montgomery served as county judge of Hardin County, Ky., 1870-1874; member of the State senate 1877-1881; elected as a Democrat U.S. Representative to the Fiftieth and to the three succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1887-March 3, 1895); chairman, Committee on Expenditures in the Department of War (Fifty-second and Fifty-third Congresses); unsuccessful candidate for reelection to the Fifty-fourth Congress.

Montgomery was a member of the Dawes Indian Commission, appointed under act of Congress to treat with the Five Civilized Tribes, serving as a commissioner from March 2, 1895 to June 30, 1897.

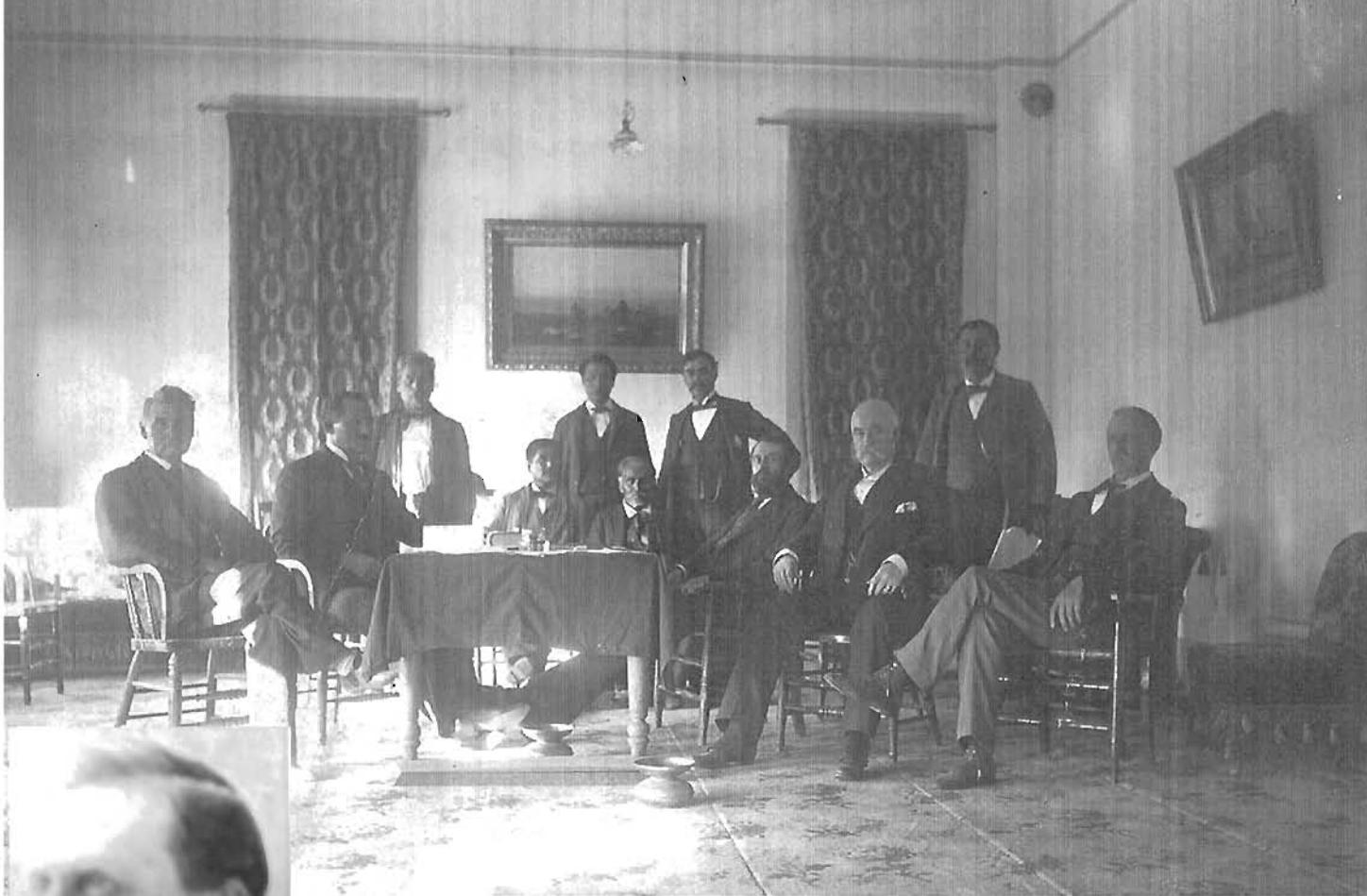
Cherokee, Creek, Seminole, Choctaw, and Chickasaw nations comprised what the U.S. government referred to as the Five Civilized Tribes. These tribes were originally from the South East



This two-story brick Italianate-style residence at 616 Montgomery Avenue in Elizabethtown was built by A.B. Montgomery soon after he began practicing law in the town.

portion of America and moved by the Federal government to the newly designated Indian Territory west of the Mississippi River. Indian Territory originally included all of present-day Oklahoma north and east of the Red River, as well as Kansas and Nebraska. But, in 1854 the territory was cut down when Kansas and Nebraska territories were created. White settlers continued to invade the West and half the remaining Indian Territory (West Oklahoma) was opened to whites in 1889 creating a need for Congress to have a commission negotiate with the Indians. By 1907 Oklahoma became a state of the USA, and Indian Territory was no more.

Upon completion of his duties as a member of the Dawes Indian Commission, Montgomery resumed the practice of law in Elizabethtown. He died December 27, 1910. He is buried in the Elizabethtown City Cemetery.



Above: Mary Jo Jones received this historic photo from Betty Allam of Corpus Christi, Texas. The reverse is marked with the following inscription 'Muscogee, IT September 27, 1987.' IT is the abbreviation for Indian Territory. The photo is one taken of members of the Dawes Indian Commission. The gentleman seated at the far right is Alexander Brooks Montgomery of Elizabethtown, a commissioner appointed by the U.S. government to negotiate land deals with the Indian tribes. Left: Photo of Montgomery as found in 'Who's Who's in Hardin County.' Montgomery was the grandfather of Tom Pritchard of Elizabethtown.

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1. On September 16, 1897, an agreement similar to that with the two southern nations was negotiated with the Seminoles. No so much opposition was encountered in getting this ratified, and when, in June 1898, the Senate confirmed the treaty it was immediately placed into operation; the first agreement with any of the Five Civilized Tribes went into operation.¹

Several days after the Seminoles had dealt with the Commission, the Creek commissioner entered into an understanding. This treaty, dated September 27, 1897, was transmitted to the National Council of the Creek Nation, by Isparcheche, Principal Chief, accompanied by a special message, on October 8th. In this message, the Head Man sets forth some very convincing arguments why it should not be ratified. The system of allotment was pointed out as being dangerous. "Some of us, however, tried the sad experiment in Georgia and Alabama a little over a half century ago, resulting in our final removal therefrom." The Creeks had never had a homeless wanderer under the prevalent system of land tenure, but would probably be faced with that if it were changed. Court cases, over titles would multiply. To adopt allotments would be merely to substitute individual strength for the strength of a united people. "In other words, every citizen will take upon himself the duty of protecting his home that is now being done by a combined wisdom and strength of the Muscogee Nation. Not only so, but he assumes the responsibility of coping single-handed with the avaricious land sharks of the American continent. Many of the shrewdest and enlightened citizens of the United States are homeless simply because they are not able single-handed to protect their home from sharper."¹

¹. Loren H. Brown, 302 E. Third St., Edmond, Okla.

Mary Jo and WWII

By Mary Jo Jones, Hardin County Historical Society member

(CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE)

The war was over; we were finally able to take some vacation time.

One occasion when Martha and I were at Gardone, our sleeping accommodations had been arranged by an officer we knew at Fort Knox. We had had a ride to the north, and upon arrival, he loaded us into his jeep. On the way he explained he'd arranged for us to stay at the home of Baroness Reitzenstein, just a couple of blocks from the mess hall in which he ate. He said she would treat us as her house guests and would be insulted if we offered to pay for the room.

Later I discovered why she was so generous. All the houses around hers had been requisitioned by the Army, and were occupied by officers of Fifth Army Headquarters. Her house was very fine, and I can't understand why it was passed over. But apparently she was trying to be very friendly with the Americans in the hope they wouldn't take it, too. She was obviously German and spoke English fairly well. Her husband spoke no English. It felt rather strange at first, in a house with a German baroness and her husband, but our friend assured us it was perfectly all right, that we shouldn't worry a minute.

I had had the good fortune during my stay in Caserta to run into Col. John Smith (not his real name) with whom I had worked at Fort Knox. I saw him from time to time in our various daily activities. He and Martha became friends immediately, and he became her escort whenever the occasion arose.

After the war ended, Col. Smith became commander of the 88th Division, which was referred to as the "prisoner of war" command, and was in charge of all Axis PW's in Italy then in Allied hands. Among the transports the command had available were two airplanes, a A-20 two-seater and a C-47 troop transport. In the meantime, Martha had resigned, and was taking her accrued leave while awaiting transportation back to the States. She was staying with me sometimes, and spending time traveling about at others.

Col. Smith (by then well on his way to becoming a major general) popped in one day, accompanied by a lieutenant colonel and a major, and they took Martha and me to Naples for dinner, along with Kay, a date we arranged for the major. They invited the three of us to fly to visit them over the weekend for a couple of parties which had been scheduled. Kay couldn't go, but Martha and I took off Saturday afternoon with Smith's liaison officer to AFHQ who was going up on business. Of course, the parties had nothing to do with his business coming up right at that time!!!!

We took off from Caserta about 3 PM, arriving at Villa Franca airport near Verona at 4:30 Quite a quick trip. We were in the A-20, which has room for only two persons. The pilot had his accustomed place. The liaison officer seat beside him. Martha rode in the nose of the plane, and



Top: The Villa on Lake Garda, Italy. Right: Mary Jo poses for the camera during weekend visit to Lake Garda.



the crew chief rode on the floor in the tail of the plane. I was in what I'd call the turret of the plane, right under the plexiglass dome. It was like an oven on the ground, but quite cool and comfortable in the air. I couldn't see any way except up, toward the blue, blue sky, but the trip wasn't long. A colonel we met later told us we should feel quite honored at having had a ride in an A-20; said he'd bet there weren't more than half a dozen women in the Mediterranean Theater who'd ridden in one.

Martha and I stayed in Gen. Smith's ten-room villa right on Lake Garda, half an hour by boat from the Division headquarters. It was a beautiful place, but rarely used. Three Italians lived there to take care of the house and gardens.

Saturday night we went to a dance for the officers of the Division Headquarters, in the garden of the hotel where the officers lived. We and two Red Cross girls were the only American gals there. Some of the Italian girls were very pretty, not similar to the girls of southern Italy who were darker-skinned.

Sunday morning I took a long drive around Lake Garda with my date for the weekend. Along the western shore, in the distance of about 20 kilometers, there were seventy tunnels through the mountains, cut from solid rock in places where the mountain makes almost a right angle with the water. These tunnels, some of which were quite long, were used to house a German airplane factory, and a lot of the machinery was still there.

Sunday afternoon and evening Gen. Smith had a very informal party at his villa; it was *his* party, because he'd just been promoted, and it was also the third birthday of the 88th Division, so there were two things to celebrate. There was a huge birthday cake, and a picnic supper. Everyone swam until after seven, ate until after nine, and went home by ten. The part was quite a "high level" affair; the general's aide (a lieutenant) and the liaison officer whom we rode up (a major) were the only officers below lieutenant colonel. Again, Martha and I and the two Red Cross girls were the only American gals, but the Italian girls were quite nice.

Our transportation back south from Verona had been arranged for Monday morning. However, things don't always work out like they're supposed to. But that's another story.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

In 1832 a three-year cholera epidemic began that virtually affected every area of the state. It was extremely deadly, one of the most rapidly fatal illness known to mankind. A healthy person within a hour of the onset of symptoms could fall ill enough to die in the following 2-3 hours without treatment. In many towns across the state, cholera laid claim to victims faster than coffins could be built. Large numbers of people succumbed to the disease; sometimes entire families were extinguished.

This deadly killer, known as Asiatic cholera or epidemic cholera, is a severe diarrheal disease caused by bacterium. Transmission to humans is by ingesting contaminated water or food. The major reservoir for cholera was long assumed to be humans, but in the late 1880s evidence suggested that transmission was aquatic in nature.

The county has been stricken by other epidemics over the years caused by contaminated water supplies such as typhoid fever. And by simple disease, like smallpox, spread when returning home from a visit in an infected neighboring community.

The following is reprinted from Thursday, December 10, 1914 edition of The Mirror

IN A MILD FORM

Several Cases of Smallpox Discovered Near Cave Spring

Dr. F. P. Strickler discovered several cases of smallpox among the colored residents of near Cave Spring in the East End yesterday. The disease was located in the families of Ike Klinglesmith, Geo. Bowling and Marie Barrett, all colored. As the families are somewhat isolated it is thought that there will be no further spread of the disease. Dr. Stickler immediately after diagnosing the disease placed the families under quarantine, expects no further, spread of the malady among the colored population, none of the white residents have been exposed to the contagion. The County Board of Health meets today to take action upon the disease. The disease is supposed to have been contracted from colored residents in LaRue county, where the disease is said to have been rifle for some time, as several colored families, who are afflicted, have moved from that county to the East End recently.

1852 Cholera Victim Member of Prominent Hardin County Family

Fielding Friend was born in Hardin County, Ky. In his early life he was a stage-driver; later became a merchant in Elizabethtown and Louisville, Ky. He was landlord of a successful tavern on Main Cross in Elizabethtown known as the Perciful House and also kept the Exchange Hotel in Louisville for three years. His last days were spent at West Point, Kentucky where he was actively engaged in the mercantile business, when he was taken sick with cholera and died in 1852 as the epidemic swept the county. He was a very active man during his life; was an active worker for the Whig party, and a devoted member of the Christian Church.

His father, Charles Friend, married Sarah Huss on November 19, 1804 in Hardin County. This couple were both German descent natives of Pennsylvania that arrived in Hardin County as early as 1795. Charles Friend was a farmer and owner of slave property. His farm was in the eastern part of the county (now LaRue Co.) about 3 1/2 miles southeast of Hodgenville. The couple are interred at the South Fork Baptist Church Cemetery near Hodgenville.

Fielding's wife, Elizabeth, was born in Pennsylvania and married the enterprising young Fielding on February 28, 1838 in Hardin County. She was a daughter of Capt. John S. Culley, who was an early pioneer of Hardin County.

Fielding's father-in-law, Capt. Culley, was a contractor for public and other works, conducted a hotel for many years on Main Street in Elizabethtown known as the Washington Inn. He located in Hardin County about 1825 and became one of its leading and representative citizens as he was elected to the Legislature from Hardin County for four terms. Samuel Haycraft, Jr. in his writings referred to Cully as being 'very popular, of fine wits.'

Fielding was survived by 7 children: five boys and two girls (six of who lived to be grown.) His youngest son, J.C. Friend, was born November 7, 1851, in Elizabethtown, a year before the family moved to the bustling riverport town of West Point and cholera claimed the ill-fated head of household victim.

As for J.C. Friend, he was reared and educated in Elizabethtown, Louisville and West Point, becoming a professor and taking charge of the school at Hodgenville in his adult years. It is interesting to note that during the year of 1867, at the age of sixteen, J.C. began a stint as a clerk in Hill's Hotel here in Elizabethtown. He worked there for Aunt Beck for several years serving the likes of George Armstrong Custer and his wife, Libby while they were stationed in the city.

Hardin County Cholera Epidemic of 1873

The following is reprinted from 43rd Congress, 2nd Session of the House of Representatives Ex. Doc. No. 95 published by the Washington Government Printing Office in 1875. Its message delivered on January 12, 1875 by U. S. Grant, President of the United States, to the Senate and House of Representatives was made in accordance with the requirements of a joint resolution, approved March 25, 1874, authorizing an inquiry into the causes of epidemic cholera by the Secretaries of the Treasury and War Departments.

Elizabethtown, the county town of Hardin County, is located upon the line of the Louisville and Nashville, and the Elizabethtown and Paducah Railroads. This town is therefore in almost hourly communication with the cities of Nashville, Memphis, Paducah, and Louisville, as well as all intermediate towns.

The site of the town is well drained by a small creek which flows in a southwestern direction between the town and the line of the Nashville Railroad. On the banks of this creek, and heading from Main street toward the northeast, is a small street known as Race alley. The ground over which this alley passes slopes to the creek, and is lined upon each side of the pass-way by negro cabins. During the month of June, 1873, the roadway of this alley was filled several inches above the level of the surrounding grounds, and the drainage thus obstructed flooded the ground under the cabins on the western side of the alley with the washings from the higher ground upon which the main portion of the town is built.

The ground around these cabins was filthy in the extreme, being covered with debris of all kinds in the various stages of animal and vegetable decomposition; and although the first case of cholera did not occur among the inhabitants of this row of cabins, yet, the disease once developed in this locality, its virulence was exhibited.

A careful examination into the surroundings of this demonstration of cholera determined the following significant fact: On the 4th of July, 1873, a negro celebration was held at Elizabethtown, which gathering was attended by a large number of negroes living at towns upon the line of the railroad. A large number came from Bowling Green, at that time a point infected with cholera. These negroes arrived early on the 4th and remained over the 5th, returning to their respective homes on the 6th instant.

On the 8th day of July a case of cholera occurred in the person of an aged negro man, who, although not living on Race alley, was in constant communication with the families who did. This case terminated fatally in twelve hours.

The second case occurred on Race alley, July 10, and died after an illness of ten hours. From that date until September 2, the disease was epidemic. Forty-one cases occurred, twenty-two of whom died. The disease was almost entirely confined to Race alley; one or two cases occurred in the town late in the epidemic.

In a family living upon the banks of the creek, in the northeastern borders of the town, five individuals were taken with cholera, one of whom died. On the creek southwest of the town, in another family, three persons were attacked, all of whom died.

Dr. McMurtry stated that on the 26th of August a farming

community, some six miles southeast of the town, were infected by a refugee from the town. Four cases of cholera occurred in rapid succession, all of which terminated fatally.

Dr. Anderson reports a case in which the infection was carried by a young man to the house of a friend in the country, where a fatal case of cholera occurred.

On the night of August 14 cholera was developed in a group of cabins occupied by laborers employed on the extension of the

Cholera swept the entire state in 1873 with a reported 49 deaths in Marion County, 47 in Simpson County, 33 in the town of Lancaster, and 22 in Adair County; Paducah and McCracken County reported 180 deaths, Bowling Green 66 dead, Louisville & Elizabethtown over 20 deaths each, and 11 fatalities in Maysville.

- *Kentucky: Decades of Discord, 1865-1900*
by Hambleton Tapp, James C. Klotter

Elizabethtown and Paducah Railroad, at a point called Round Hollow, about three miles from the town of West Point.

These cabins were built upon the banks of a small branch which empties into back-water from the Ohio river. They were miserably filthy, and were occupied by Irish and negroes, who lived indiscriminately in them, in utter defiance of all hygienic laws.

The ground around these cabins was covered with filth of all kinds, which drained into the creek, upon the banks of which were built stables, pig-pens, &c. From this creek, which at this season of the year was almost dry, water for all domestic purposes was obtained.

One man on his way to Indianapolis, Ind., reached the town of West Point, when he was stricken down with the disease. Through the influence of Dr. Davis, he was received into a house and every precaution was taken to prevent the spread of the disease. At this home he was treated and nursed until he recovered, and no member of the family was attacked.

Dr. Fletcher reports that none of the families who lived on the creek when the disease occurred, and who used water from wells remote from the creek, were affected. That at a railroad settlement one and a half miles, on the same creek above Round Hollow, where spring water was exclusively used, no cholera occurred.

Dr. H. R. Pusey, of Garnettsville, who attended many of the cases at Round Hollow, states that all the persons living in the locality were affected with the premonitory symptoms, which in the incipient stages were relieved by the free use of calomel and opium. Dr. Pusey saw no case recover that had advanced to the stage of collapse. The exact facts as to the importation of cholera to Round Hollow cannot now be obtained; but as railroad employees are essentially a migratory people, it is more than probable that it was carried from Elizabethtown.

Did YOU? Happen To Know?

Cholera is any of several acute infectious diseases of men and domestic animals, characterized by severe intestinal disturbances. At one time doctors treated victims by letting of the blood. Those who succumbed to the disease experienced severe loss of body fluid from diarrhea and extreme dehydration that was followed by death.

Ex-slave reminisces on conditions in area

From Slave Narratives: A Folk History of Slavery in the United States

I was born on the farm of Wattie Williams, in 1855 and am eighty-two years old. I came to Mitchell, Indiana, about fifty years ago with my husband, who is now dead and four children and have lived here ever since. I was only a girl, about five or six years old when the Civil War broke out but I can remember very well, happenings of that time.

My mother was owned by Wattie Williams, who had a large farm, located in Larue County, Kentucky. My father was a slave on the farm of a Mr. Duret, nearby.

In those days, slave owners, whenever one of their daughters would get married, would give her and her husband a slave as a wedding present, usually allowing the girl to pick the one she wished to accompany her to her new home. When Mr. Duret's eldest daughter married Zeke Samples, she choose my father to accompany them to their home.

Zeke Samples proved to be a man who loved his toddies far better than his bride and before long he was "broke". Everything he had or owned, including my father, was to be sold at auction to pay off his debts.

In those days, there were men who made a business of buying up negroes at auction sales and shipping them down to New Orleans to be sold to owners of cotton and sugar cane plantations, just as men today, buy and ship cattle. These men were called "Nigger-traders" and they would ship whole boat loads at a time, buying them up, two or three here, two or three there, and holding them in a jail until they had a boat load. This practice gave rise to the expression, "sold down the river."

My father was to be sold at auction, along with all of the rest of Zeke Samples' property. Bob Cowherd, a neighbor of Matt Duret's owned my grandfather, and the old man, my grandfather, begged Col. Bob to buy my father from Zeke Samples to keep him from being "sold down the river." Col. Bob offered what he thought was a fair price for my father and a "nigger-trader" raised his bid. Col. said he couldn't afford to pay that much and father was about to be sold to the "nigger-trader" when his father told Col. Bob that he had \$25 saved up and that if he would buy my father from Samples and keep the "nigger-trader" from getting him he would give him the money. Col. Bob Cowherd took my grandfather's \$25 and offered to meet the traders offer and so my father was sold to him.

The negroes in and around where I was raised were not treated



After a 1937 interview, Mary Crane posed for a photo.

badly, as a rule, by their masters. There was one slave owner, a Mr. Heady, who lived nearby, who treated his slave worse than any of the other owners but I never heard of anything so awfully bad, happening to his "niggers". He had one boy who used to come over to our place and I can remember hearing Massa Williams call to my grandmother, to cook "Christine, give Heady's Doc something to eat. He looks hungry." Massa Williams always said "Heady's Doc" when speaking of him or any other slave, saying to call him, for instance, Doc Heady would sound as if he were Mr. Heady's own son and he said that wouldn't sound right.

When President Lincoln issued his proclamation, freeing the negroes, I remember that my father and most all of the other younger slave men left the farms to join the Union army. We had hard times then for awhile and had lots of work to do. I don't remember just when I first regarded myself as "free" as many of the negroes didn't understand just what it was all about.

Negro slave buys freedom from owner

From the Hardin County Clerk 1834 Court Order Book Page 261-262

A deed of emancipation from Thomas Davis to his negro man slave named Lexington was produced in Court and proven by the oath of David Burcham, Jr. and Thomas V. Davis the subscribing with neighbor to be the act and deed of the said Thomas Davis and the same is one to recorded and is as follows to wit—

"Whereas Thomas Davis of Hardin County and State of Kentucky being desirous to emancipate his servant a man named Lexington about fifty-six years old of a black complexion, pleasant countenance and about five feet six inches high — Therefore and for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred dollars he the said Thomas Davis hath this day emancipated set free and discharged and by these presents doth forever Emancipate set free and discharge from servitude the said Lexington and with him to have the benefit of and enjoy all

privileges of a free negro under the several laws insuch cases made and provided. In Testimony whereof the said Thomas Davis hath hereunto set his hand and seal at Elizabethtown, Kentucky this 21st day April, 1834.

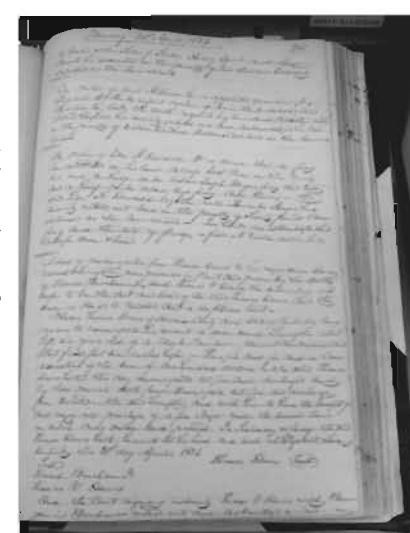
Teste

David Burcham, Jr.

Thomas V. Davis

Thomas Davis Seal

And the Court requiring indemnity Thomas V. Davis with Benjamin Burcham entered into and acknowledged a bond in the penalty of two hundred dollars conditions to keep the said Lexington from becoming a county charge — and therefore leave is granted the said Lexington to take out a copy of these proceedings with the seal annexed as the law requires.



Hardin County Clerk records show that many slaves were given freedom prior to the Civil War.

Colored man recalls life as a 'gift slave'

William M. Quinn was a slave up to ten years of age—“when the soldiers come back home, and the war was over, and we wasn’t slaves anymore”. Mr. Quinn was born in Hardin County, Kentucky, on a farm belonging to Steve Stone. He and a brother and his mother were slaves of “Old Master Stone”, but his father was owned by another man, Mr. Quinn, who had an adjoining farm. When they were all freed, they took the surname of Quinn.

Mr. Quinn said that they were what was called “gift slaves”. They were never to be sold from the Stone farm and were given to Stone’s daughter as a gift with that understanding. He said that his “Old master paid him and his brother ten cents a day for cutting down corn and shucking it.”

It was very unusual for a slave to receive any money whatsoever for working. He said that his master had a son about his age, and the son and he and his brother worked around the farm together, and “Master Stone” gave all three of them ten cents a day when they worked.

Sometimes they wouldn’t, they would play instead. And whenever “Master Stone” would catch them playing when they ought to have been at work, he would whip them—“and that meant his own boy would get a licking too.”

“Old Master Stone was a good man to all us colored folks, we loved him. He wasn’t one of those mean devils that was always beating up his slaves like some of the rest of them.” He had

a colored overseer and one day this overseer ran off and hid for two days “cause he whipped one of old Mas’ Stone’s slaves and he heard that Mas’ Stone was mad and he didn’t like it.”

“We didn’t know that we were slaves, hardly. Well, my brother and I didn’t know anyhow ‘cause we were too young to know, but we knew that we had been when we got older.”

“After emancipation we stayed at the Stone family for some time, ‘cause they were good to us and we had no place to go.” Mr. Quinn meant by emancipation that his master freed his slaves, and, as he said, “emancipated them a year before Lincoln did.”

Mr. Quinn said that his father was not freed when his mother and he and his brother were freed, because his father’s master “didn’t think the North would win the war.” Stone’s slaves fared well and ate good food and “his own children didn’t treat us like we were slaves.” He said some of the slaves on surrounding plantations and farms had it “awful hard and bad.” Some times slaves would run away during the night, and he said that “we would give them something to eat.” He said his mother did the cooking for the Stone family and that she was good to runaway slaves.

This article was originally submitted September 9, 1937 in Indianapolis, Indiana as part of the Slave Narratives: A Folk History of Slavery in the United States.

A Common Law Marriage between Simon Quinn and Phelba Stone was noted in LaRue County, Kentucky records dated April 10, 1866.

-Common Law Marriages 1866-76 Colored Marriages 1866-1913 Colored Compiled by Ruby Heady By LaRue Co. Genealogy Society

Local slave owner's home part of the Underground Railroad

By Susan McCrobie, Hardin County History Museum Promotions Chair

Sometimes you can learn a lot by reading between the lines. Bits and Pieces of history can come together to solve a jigsaw puzzle that has set on a shelf for sometime and in this instance almost 150 years!

The Underground Railroad operated in this area. Indeed there was a large number of crossings made via the Ohio River in Meade County leading toward Corydon, Indiana and in the Louisville region, including New Albany, Jeffersonville and Clarksville, Indiana. Hardin County's location made movement across her boundaries most certain when reaching these crossings. However, because the Underground Railroad was a closely guarded network of secret safe houses, we know next to nothing about sites and/or persons associated with this great journey to freedom in our very own backyard. That is until now. History unraveling as we look at the past, are you excited?

William M. Quinn in his personal recollections of life as a slave sheds a glimmer of light on local area Underground Railroad activity. “Some times slaves would run away during the night, and we would give them something to eat. Mother did the cooking for the Stone family and that she was good to runaway slaves.” Yes, Phelba Stone was a conductor on the Underground Railroad. She gave aid to runaway slaves and her home, Stone Farm, was a safe house. Most likely ‘Old Master Stone’ knew nothing of his contribution to the freedom of the enslaved blacks other than emancipating his own slaves a year before President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation.

Just where was this safe house that offered aid to fugitive slaves? Steven W.D. Stone owned several properties in the area, some in Hardin County and some in LaRue. According to tax records, the Stone and Quinn farms were in the 2nd District of LaRue County. A close look at deeds recorded in the County Clerk office indicates the general location of the farmhouse. Maybe someday a roadside sign will mark the spot and tell this unique story.

There may have been many more conductors and stops in this great human rights movement of American History right at our doorstep. Historical evidence is there to be uncovered even today as we study the past.



1/23/1816 - 2/25/1890

William M. Quinn's owner, 'Old Master Stone,' was Stephen W. D. Stone (pictured here) was the Uncle of Rebecca Davis Stone Hill, 'Aunt Beck,' owner/operator of the Hill House in Elizabethtown. Stone, a lawyer, served as Elizabethtown postmaster (1841-43) and first county clerk of LaRue County (1843-64). Buried Section M, Lot 221, Elizabethtown City Cemetery.

Local man helped lay foundation for constitutional government of the Confederate States of America

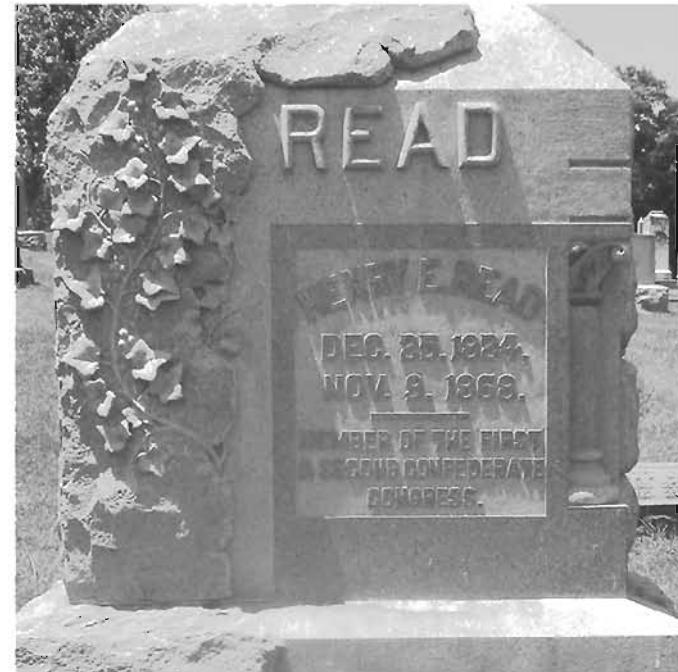
By G.D. Gardner, Hardin County Historical Society member

Of all the historical personages of the War Between the States with central Kentucky connections, none gave as much yet were so completely forgotten in those post-war years as Hardin County lawyer Henry English Read. Born in 1824 in that portion of the county that would later break away from Hardin, Henry's father, Lewis, was instrumental in petitioning for a new county that would be named for the influential pioneer LaRue family. Lewis would become a first justice of the new county and prosper for a time, until war brought ruin to his family some four decades later.

Unlike his brother William, it seems Henry first calling was not the law. It is from a bill before the 35th Congress in 1858 that we discover Henry Read began his adult life as a blacksmith in Hardin County. Like many Kentuckians, though, the romance of war called to him, and he volunteered for service in the Mexican War. Acting valiantly in the Battle of Chapultepec, Read, though severely wounded, bore the colors of the United States flag through the encounter. For his bravery, then Sergeant Read would be honored by the Legislature of the Commonwealth in 1854 with a sword commemorating his bravery. Ironically, the flag that Read was so determined to preserve would be the same flag he would consider an enemy banner by 1861.

Due to his Mexican War service and injuries sustained, Read received a government pension. Apparently his war wounds ended his career as a blacksmith, so Read studied for and passed the bar, entering into practice with his brother William about 1860. A short-lived partnership, for Read joined the active service of the Confederate States of America. Reporting first to Buckner in Bowling Green, 'General' Read (denoting his 1850's commission in the Kentucky State Militia) would commandeer a train and munitions in Elizabethtown for Confederate service and work actively to recruit soldiers. His old wounds, though, prohibited an extensive service in the field. When Kentucky's Secession Convention met in Russellville in December 1861, one hundred and sixteen delegates from 68 Kentucky counties elected to depose then Governor Beriah Magoffin and the current Kentucky government and create a provisional government loyal to Kentucky's unofficial Confederate Governor, George W. Johnson. Read attended as a delegate from Hardin and LaRue Counties, casting his vote on behalf of his constituents for secession from the United States. December 10, 1861, Kentucky became the 13th state "admitted" to the Confederacy.

Read would go on to be elected to Congress from his district, a position in which he faithfully served throughout the war. He would become known as an advocate for the support of the soldiers, introducing substantial legislation for their benefit during his tenure. While a congressman in Richmond the General would serve on Medical Department Committee as well as the Quartermaster & Commissary Department and Military Transport Committee. In such a capacity Read was able to work to relieve in what small way he could the suffering of the boys wounded in battle, much as he himself had been over 20 years before. With oversight of



Above: An impressive monument erected on Lot 385 in Section M of the Elizabethtown City Cemetery bears tribute to the life of Henry Read. Read was the son of Lewis Read and his wife, Aylsey Brown Read.

the quartermasters of the army, Read could also make sure desperately needed food and supplies reached the troops. This became a daunting task as the war neared and end and state governors began fighting with President Davis and the Congress over power, and by doing such depriving the army of both food and fresh troops.

Despite adversity and separation from his family in Kentucky, Read remained in Richmond until the very end. One of his final duties was to give a final pay to the seasoned Kentucky soldiers who volunteered as escorts for President and Mrs. Davis as they made a desperate and futile attempt to relocate the capital of the Confederacy.

The terms of Lee's surrender granted to soldiers failed to apply to high ranking government officials like Read who was arrested and imprisoned for treason against the United States. As no record of a trial has surfaced, it would seem that amnesty granted by succeeding President Andrew Johnson applied to Read. At last he could come home, but there was little to come home to. Family property had been confiscated, a precious child and even his own parents had died, all due in Read's mind to the hardships of war that he had helped perpetuate. The South as he had known it was long gone, and Read, like many Confederates, could not make the adjustment. Grieving for personal losses as well as the loss of his country, coupled with continuing agony of wounds suffered for the county he had forsaken, Read could take no more. Though he had tried to pick up the pieces and practice law again, the reality of post-war society was more than he could handle. Read took his own life in his law office in Louisville on November 9th, 1868.

An excerpt from the November 10, 1868
Louisville Daily Democrat.

DEPLORABLE SUICIDE

Gen. H. E. Read Shoots Himself,
Sad End of a Brave Man, His last Letter:

We were inexpressibly shocked and pained last evening at intelligence of the sudden taking off of Gen. Henry E. Read by his own hand. This very distressing event occurred about 5 o'clock in the afternoon. A few minutes before that time General Read entered the law office of his former law partner, Bryan H. Allen, Esq. on Sixth Street, and called for writing materials. These were promptly furnished him, and the apartment vacated by all save himself, in a few moments the loud report of a pistol was heard, and several persons repaired to the room. There, to their utter consternation, they found Gen. Read lying dead upon a lounge, with a Derringer pistol grasped in one hand, while the other was folded quietly upon his breast. The ball had penetrated the right temple, passed through the brain and entered the wall.

Upon the table was found the following note, unfolded and unsealed. It was written without the slightest evidence of tremor, in unusually free and manly chirography, and gives no index to the frame of mind of the unfortunate gentleman. The said, piteous, heart-broken, and yet bold utterances of the letter reveal how a brave man can be reduced to such a dreadful alternative. We subjoin the note:

'My life has been one of varied successes from the creation of my existence to the present.

I have been the farmer's son, the merchant, the soldier, the magisterial officer, the professional gentleman, in all of which I am confident that all am entitled to respectful consideration.

The pecuniary want of my life has at all times been embarrassed, which, perhaps, is the cause of my

discomfort—at least so much so as render my life unhappy.

So, with the fresh memory of the honor of my native State, and with love and kindness towards my family, I bid farewell. H.E. Read.'

Intelligence of the heart sickening catastrophe was soon bruited about, and hundreds crowded about the premises. Coroner Moore summoned a jury and returned a verdict in accordance with the facts.

Mrs. Read, having been advised of the terrible occurrence, repaired, with her children, to the scene. Of the utter, overwhelming grief of the wife and her now fatherless offspring, we cannot speak. It would be beyond the power of pen or pencil to convey the faintest idea of their great and inconsolable woe. There lay the noble form of the brave, lion-hearted, tender and true husband and father, and over him ben, in paroxysms of sorrow, the wife of his bosom and the darlings of his fireside. Heaven spare us such another scene. Not an eye but filled with tears, nor a heart but beat, with sympathetic pity.

We need not comment upon this self destruction by person of such great will and gallant spirit as General Read. His own sorrowful letter best of all can explain the motive.

General Henry E. Read was a native of LaRue County in this State, where he was raised. He was a brother of Hon. Wm. B. Read, a State Senator from that district, and of Joseph B. Read, Esq., formerly a member of the Legislature of this city. In 1846 he volunteered in the regiment of Voitigeurs, chiefly raised in this State, of which T. P. Andrews was Colonel. Joseph E. Johnston, (afterward General) was Lieut. Colonel, and Geo. Alfred Caldwell, Major. He was assigned to the position of Ensign, and right gallantly did he bear aloft the stars and stripes in every battle from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico. At the desperate storming of Chapultepec, with Gen. Johnson and himself far in advance of the regiment, he fell desperately wounded. For his conspicuous services and his especial gallantry at Chapultepec the General Assembly voted him a magnificent sword."

Bits and Pieces Note:

The Voitigeurs was a regiment in the Kentucky State Militia that saw action in the Mexican War.

Longtime resident offers final history on family home

By Sue M. Holbert, June 1993

This house was built c. 1886 by my grandfather, Joseph Lott, Jr. He was the son of German immigrants and like his father, he was a carpenter. He and his father are listed in Haycraft's History and are referred to as "good carpenters." He built this house to be his home and he brought up his family here. We are the only family that has lived here since the house was built. There were only 4 in my family — George King Holbert, Josephine Elna Lott Holbert (my parents) and my brother, Joseph Howard. My father died November 17, 1954, my mother died October 27, 1969, my brother died March 31, 1993. I was 73 years of age on April 29. I am the only one left.

My mother always referred to this house as a "country cottage" and that is the way I think of it. My father called the property "the ranch" and I like that too. I was told that the house was built of yellow poplar and oak. When it was



For some eighty-seven years, Sue Holbert lived at 206 North Main Street in Elizabethtown. She is the last of her line to call the place home.

remodeled by my parents a slate roof was put on it.

My grandfather Lott died when my mother was about 19 years old and my grandmother stayed in this house and brought up the family. My father helped her stay here. She later sold the house to my mother and father and we have been here ever since.

Look at Long Grove, KY through resident's ledger

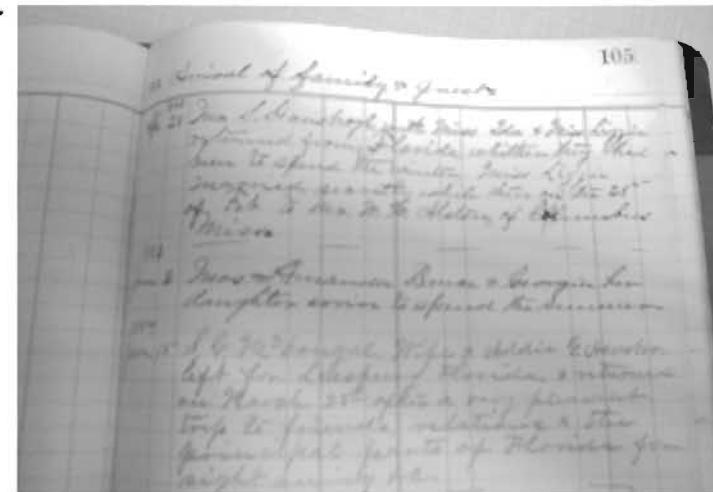
By Meranda Caswell, Hardin County History Museum Curator

Stiles G. McDougal lived in Long Grove, Kentucky. He purchased a ledger from T. A. Orr, a druggist in Elizabethtown on May 12, 1882. In this ledger he kept track of his monetary transactions such as: house building, livestock trading, and store purchases. Sheets of paper were stuck between the pages of the ledger: receipts, pamphlets, bulletins, prescriptions, report cards, car registration and even swine pedigree applications and certificates among other things. 1932 was the last entry in the ledger.

A receipt for a watch purchased S. G. McDougal purchased a watch for \$14.00 at Virgil Hewitt Churchill's Jewelry shop in Elizabethtown on 2 December 1903. The watch came with a 20-year guaranty, insured for five years, and was described as an open face filled case 16 Size Elgin movement case.

McDougal had built a new residence 1907 in Long Grove. A receipt dated 17 December 1907 from Hegan Manufacturing Company is where Mrs. S. G. McDougal purchased wood mantels, fire place supplies, and gas and electric fixtures. McDougal bought a car from Joseph Moberly of Elizabethtown for \$543.80. The Certificate of Registration from the State of Kentucky certified that S. G. McDougal of Long Grove was an owner of a motor vehicle described as a ford made by Ford Motor Company with the Serial No 87440-9 Horse Power 20 and had that day caused same to be registered in this department and numbered 18274 dated Sep 15, 1915. M. Y. Stone and C. F. Crecelius as Secretary of State signed it.

Some historical events were stored in the ledger, too. Lizzie Hansbrough secretly married in Florida on 28



Courtesy Hardin County History Museum Files

February 1883 to Mr. W. W. Alston, from Columbus, Miss. Edwin H. Mote and Miss Lutie Hansbrough married 5 October 1885. Bettie Hansbrough, an honor roll pupil, attended Lynnland Female College in Glendale in 1890, according to her report card. Elrod and White were the principals. A letter dated 21 June 1907 from First National Bank stating that S. G. McDougal was appointed on the committee of the Board of Directors to examine the bank on Tuesday 25 June and signed by the president Horace Hays. In 1904 S. G. McDougal was on the Board of Directors along with Virgil H. Pickerill, Dr. C. Z. Aud, John L. Helm, H. A. Sommers, I. H. Mossbarger, James H. Sweets, Horace Hays, and W. H. Gardner.

Dr. C. S. Stewart of Stephensburg wrote a prescription for weak back or sores of any kind. The ingredients were rosin, bees wax, tallow, spirits of turpentine, oil of spile, camphor gum. Melt all together over a slow fire. Dr. Charley Clegg had given Mr. Dougal a horse remedy: 54 worth of Spanish fly ointment for scratches, 54 worth oxide of zinc, and 1 table spoon of lard.

Your opinion really counts

STATE SPONSORED SURVEY UNDERWAY AT MUSEUM

Kentucky has contracted with the American Association for State and Local History to administer a performance management program for the twelve major Lincoln sites. The Hardin County History museum as one of the designated sites is surveying its visitors to find crucial information of effectiveness of interpretation and visitor satisfaction. It is hoped that the assessment will help in more effectively in telling Hardin County's own unique story.

The museum staff cordially invites you to tour and fill out the short questionnaire-we will even give you a pin (*Lincoln Commemorative Pin*) for your valued opinion.

New exhibit fabrication and design underway at museum

History lovers will want to make sure to stop by the museum during August to check out all the work going on. The Old County General Store will be stocking its shelves with merchandise from the past as well as the equipment and advertising signage from the times. It promises to be a stroll down memory lane for museum patrons.

Like looking at photos from the past? Check out our Photos of Yesteryear exhibit. Old Charley's Restaurant liked these great photos so much that they will be using some of them as they renovated and redecorate the Elizabethtown restaurant in the upcoming months.

Work also begins in August on the Abraham Lincoln Family and Friends exhibit to open in October.



Message From The President

It has been less than four years ago that we opened the Hardin County History Museum. It sometimes amazes us what we have accumulated and have on display for the people of Hardin County and visitors to this area to peruse and enjoy.

Recently, the City of Elizabethtown hosted a meeting for the Kentucky League of Cities. Tim Walker, Elizabethtown City Councilman and Chairman of the History Museum Board, encouraged several of the attendees to stick around and tour the museum before leaving town. Not only were the city officials from other communities impressed with the museum, they took the time to fill out a survey and they left glowing reviews. The surveys are now available for anyone to fill out and you are encouraged to fill one out the next time you visit the museum.

Susan McCrobie traveled to Frankfort and represented the museum board in an effort to secure a grant. The Hardin County History Museum has received \$17,000.00 to date in grant funding for the upcoming Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Celebration. The board is hopeful that an additional project will receive matching state funds to proposed local dollars. During the review Ms. McCrobie attended, HCHM proposed a life-sized bronze statue of Lincoln using computer digital age-regression techniques to sculpt the facial features for an accurate image in lieu of early photos. This project, the creation of a statue of the younger Abraham Lincoln, will bring museum guests face to face with the "Knob Creek Boy" who's first memories of family life was in then Hardin County. The museum hopes to receive a green light for this \$11,015.00 project in mid-July. A great deal of gratitude goes out to Susan McCrobie for all of her efforts on this project.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting on July 23rd.

- Kenny Tabb

Squire Boone leaves his mark on Hardin County

By Meranda Caswell, Hardin County History Museum Curator

Squire Boone, the brother of Daniel Boone, was born about 1744 and died 1815. As a Baptist minister, he had preached at Mill Creek during the residence of Thomas Lincoln, father of President Abraham Lincoln. According to the land records of Hardin County from 1795 to 1858, Squire did not own land in the present boundaries of Hardin County. Squire Boone lived in Meade County. Squire Boone had acquired title to land about 1786 in Little York, Virginia, the Doe Run section of Meade County. Little York became the county seat of Meade County in 1824 until it was changed to Brandenburg in 1825. Meade County separated from Hardin County in 1824. Squire's son Enoch (1777-1862) was buried near Garnettsville in the Boone Cemetery on the Fort Knox Military Reservation in Meade County.

Richard Henderson, the founder of the Transylvania Colony, enlisted Daniel Boone, his brother Squire and at least 30 other men to blaze a trail to a location at the Kentucky River. Squire Boone was a gunsmith and a land surveyor. In the 1797-1799 Hardin County Court Records, Squire Boone had been a witness in land dispute cases. There are at least six known depositions given by Squire Boone. Depositions are oral question-and-answer sessions. These particular depositions were to establish and identify the survey markings in land entries from 1778 to 1783. Squire Boone had carved his initials with a diamond symbol on trees in Hardin County. Squire located lands, a good deal of lands for the Larue family,



Squire Boone

who had been neighbors of the Boones back in Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

In the early records, Boone is spelled with and without an "e". As a side note, only two Boone names are in the early Hardin County land records: Charles Boon and John Boone.

Sources: Hardin County Clerk's Office, Brown-Pusey House (Little York subject file, Boone family book, Hardin and Meade County books, etc.), Ancestral Trails Historical Society (Hardin and Meade County books), Hardin County Historical Society (Two Centuries book).

Historical Society announces next meeting

The Hardin County Historical Society will meet Monday evening, July 23, 2007, at the STATE THEATER GALLERY, 209 West Dixie Avenue, in downtown Elizabethtown. The buffet dinner, catered by BACK HOME, will be served at 6:30 PM. The price is \$7.50 per person. Call Mary Jo Jones at 765-5593 or the HCHM at 763-8339 for dinner reservations.



2nd Lt. Crittenden

The dinner is followed by a program at 7:00 PM. Special Guest Speaker, Berry Craig, Associated Professor of History at West Kentucky Community and Technical College in Mayfield, KY will talk about 2nd Lt. John J. Crittenden. Crittenden was the grandson and namesake of the famous KY Senator. He was a member of Custer's 7th Calvary and died in a hail of Indian bullets and arrows at the Battle of the Little Bighorn. He had suffered an eye wound less than a year before, and had to have his eye replaced with a glass one. It was this prosthetic eye that helped identify his remains after the battle.



Berry Craig