

# *Bits and Pieces of Hardin County History*

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Robert Beimdick, Editor

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JAMES HAYCRAFT  
IMMIGRANT IN BONDAGE

by

Charles A. Haycraft

The history of the Haycraft family in America began in London, England, where James Haycraft was born in December, 1719, to James and Hannah Haycraft. He was baptised at St. Andrew's Parish Church in the Holburn district of London on December 27, 1719. We know virtually nothing of James's early years except that he was illiterate and took up the occupation of a chimney sweep. Whether he started as a "climbing boy" is not known for certain, but there is a high probability that he did because that was the usual path to that occupation.

The society of England in that period was highly structured and sharply defined. At the top was the aristocracy. Next was a growing middle class of shopkeepers and merchants. The majority of the population fell into the labouring classes. And, here you also found a rigidly structured class system beginning with skilled craftsmen and moving down to a vast variety of servants, laborers and peddlers.

Chimney sweeps were a distinct and peculiar class who were looked down upon as the lowest order of workers even by those who had no right to consider themselves as superior in any way. The nature of a chimney sweep's work was such that it gave him a filthy appearance and an offensive odor. As a consequence, other working people refused to associate with him. The natural effect of being ostracized led chimney sweeps "to herd together apart from others, and to acquire habits and peculiarities of their own widely differing from the characteristics of the rest of the labouring classes." Those are the words of Henry Mayhew in his studies of the poor, the laborers, and the criminals of London. He went on to state, "There seems never to have been any attempt made by them to wash the soot off their faces..." and "...scarcely one of them has a second shirt or any change of clothes, and...they wear their garments night and day till they literally rot, and drop in fragments from their backs."

The majority of chimney sweeps were addicted to drinking; beer being their favorite beverage, either because it was the cheapest or because they believed it to be the most effective for washing down the soot which they swallowed in the course of their work. They were also notorious gamblers, but seldom gambled for money directly. They gathered in low class drinking houses where they gambled for beer until they were drunk or broke. Mayhew reports that despite the low esteem in which chimney sweeps were held, there were many classes of workers beneath them in intelligence and that chimney sweeps, for reasons unknown, were in many instances shrewd and intelligent.

In 1744 James was working with another chimney sweep by the name of Samuel Smytheman, with whom he had committed several burglaries. James had a wife, Ann Henley, to whom he had been married about three years. We do not know if they had any children. Smytheman had a common-law wife, Elizabeth Eaton, with whom he had been living for about a year and a half. The four of them were close friends. About the first of April, 1744, Ann suggested that they break into a hardware store operated by a William Griffith. On April 6, 1744, James and Smytheman worked together chimney sweeping and sold soot for about 16 pence. That night they decided to burglarize Griffith's shop. About 10:00 PM they, along with Ann and Elizabeth, went to the shop where James or Smytheman broke open the door with a hammer and the two of them entered the shop while the women stood guard outside. They remained in the shop putting goods in sacks until midnight when they heard the clock strike midnight. The stolen goods were taken to their homes and the following day taken to Francis Whiting who operated a hardware shop in Holburn near Gray's Inn Gate. Upon hearing their offer, Whiting directed them to a nearby basement ale house where he soon joined them. The goods which were valued in excess of 30 shillings were offered to Whiting for 20 shillings and 6 pence. Whiting took possession of the goods and displayed them for sale in his shop window.

Meanwhile, back at the scene of the crime, Griffith's wife, Ann, was awakened at 4:00 AM and informed the shop had been broken into. Somehow, Mrs. Griffith learned that the thieves had disposed of goods of the type stolen from the shop and obtained a warrant for their arrest and for recovery of the goods. The goods were found on display in Whiting's shop window and identified by Mrs. Griffith.

When first interrogated after his arrest, James claimed to have found the goods on the street when returning home, but later agreed to confess in return for having his punishment commuted from death to transportation to the American Colonies.

James and his companions were indicted for "shop breaking and stealing hardware and other things" and confined to Newgate Prison until tried. On April 13, 1744, the four were transported to Old Bailey for the Gaol Delivery Session. James, Smytheman, and Elizabeth Eaton were found guilty and sentenced to transportation to the American Colonies for a period of seven years. James' wife, Ann, was acquitted as acting under the control of James, but she was ordered detained until the next Session of Gaol Delivery so that she could give evidence against Whiting for receiving stolen goods.

On April 18, 1744, James was led in chains, along with more than 100 other convicts, to the convict ship Justicia which set sail for the Colony of Virginia.

A word about the practice of transporting convicted felons to the American Colonies: In 1718 Parliament passed the Transportation Act providing for the deportation of convicted felons to the Colonies as an alternative to execution. An earlier Elizabethan act had an economic motivation, but this later legislation was essentially for the purpose of ridding England of undesirables. The usual term of indentured labor was seven years.

The administration of the act was a model of simplicity. The British Treasury contracted with a merchant to transport the convicts to the Colonies. For many years, this lucrative monopoly was granted to a merchant by the name of Jonathon Forward. Convicts were delivered to Forward on consignment just as if they were pieces of furniture or cases of wine. He then shipped his cargo to the Colonies where he sold them to the highest bidder. His profits were derived from the sale of the convicts. Since his profits depended on delivery of live, healthy goods, there was a substantial motivation to provide reasonable care for the health and comfort of his cargo. Later, Forward convinced Parliament that the price brought by the convicts gave him insufficient profit. Consequently, Parliament agreed to pay a fee per head for shipping the convicts. This fee was generally five pounds per convict payable upon presentation to the British Treasury of a receipt for sale or proof of death during the voyage. This fee had the unfortunate effect of making concern for the health and safety of the convicts less compelling.

The flagship of Forward's fleet was the Justicia. Until a few months prior to James's voyage, the captain of the Justicia was a Captain Bond. He was a particularly cruel and corrupt man who brutalized, robbed, and deprived convicts of adequate food, water, and medical care. Typically, one fourth of his cargo died en route and many of the survivors were unfit for sale because of illness or injury. Bond was eventually tried and convicted for his brutal treatment of his convict cargo. James was fortunate that Captain Jack Campbell, a more compassionate man, had replaced Captain Bond when the Justicia sailed with him aboard.

The Justicia arrived in Virginia about June 1st. We do not know who bought James because the sale receipt is among a group of records missing from the British Treasury. There is, however, sound reason to believe James was bought by George Neville, a wealthy landowner in Prince William County, Virginia. James served his seven year indenture after which he married and fathered three children who lived to maturity--James, Samuel, and Joshua. Family tradition has it that there was also a daughter who died in infancy. Nothing is known of her or her mother. James was living in Frederick County, Virginia, in 1760, about two years before his death. The three boys who ranged in age from about eight to eleven when James died were taken into the care of John Neville, the son of George Neville, who was then residing in Winchester, Frederick County, Virginia. While family tradition has the boys raised as members of Colonel Neville's family, there is little doubt that they were indentured servants. In any event, Colonel Neville, who was devoutly religious, was obviously a compassionate and decent person who saw to the care and education of the boys. There is ample evidence that the boys viewed Colonel Neville with affection and respect.

John Neville served as an officer in the Revolutionary War beginning as Commandant of Fort Pitt (which became Pittsburg) and later as a Regimental Commander under George Washington in the Northern Department.

Samuel and Joshua served as private soldiers, Samuel at Fort Pitt and Joshua at various places including in forces commanded by the brilliant and revered General Daniel Morgan who arguably

won the most important battle of the Revolutionary War. It has been said by some that James also served, but I am not aware of any authority for that belief.

All three of James's sons settled in the vicinity of Elizabethtown, Kentucky. Samuel and his wife, Margaret Van Meter, were with the party led by her father, Jacob Van Meter, on a perilous raft trip from Fort Pitt in 1780 which resulted in the death of at least two members, one killed by Indians and one by drowning. Since no mention is made of James and Joshua as members of that party, it must be assumed that they came later. In any event, they settled in the vicinity of Elizabethtown at virtually the same time. From Elizabethtown the descendants of the three sons have spread throughout the United States.

NOTE: The author is an eighth generation descendant of the convict.

#### ELIZABETHTOWN CITY COUNCIL MINUTES 1822, 1823

At a meeting of the board of trustees of Elizabeth Town at the Clerks office of Hardin county on Saturday the 24th day of August 1822 Present Gabriel Wathen William Parcels John Morris James Park & Allen Singleton Gentlemen Trustees

The board having been sworn to execute the duties of their office faithfully & impartially by Samuel Martin Esquire a Justice of the Peace in and for Hardin County proceeded to appoint John Morris president of the board

Ordered that Jonathan Hill be appointed Overseer of the streets of Elizabeth Town in place of James Park who has resigned

Ordered that the board adjourn

Test Jas E Stone C. Pro John Morris Prest

At a meeting of the board of Trustees of Elizabeth Town at the Clerks Office on Friday the 18th day of April 1823 Present John Morris President William Parcels Gabriel Wathen & Allen Singleton Gentlemen Trustees

On Motion made and seconded It is ordered that the following Tax be levied

Towit

On each person residing in Town & Owning a Lot or Lots in Town the sum of \$1.00

On each person owning a lot or lots in Town & not residing therein the sum of .50

On each person over 21 years of age with a family residing in Town .50

On each person over 21 years of age without a family & who has resided in Town for one year last past .50

On each person keeping a shop in Town as a tradesman or Dealer whether residing in Town or not .50

Ordered that the Town Collector immediately proceed to the collection of the above tax And out the proceeds thereof as soon as Collected pay unto Samuel Haycraft Jr the sum of Twenty Dollars the amount Due Lewis Quigley as Market Master for the last year ending the 7th day of March 1823. The said Lewis Quigley being present and consenting thereto Also to Samuel Haycraft Jr the sum of five Dollars over and above the sum in his hands which is eighty five cents for his services as Clerk to this board since his last allowance

Ordered that the Town Collector collect from Hezekiah Smallwood Jr the sum of five Dollars & twenty five cents And of John Park the Sum of One Dollar & fifty cents for rent of Market Stalls for the last year

On motion made & seconded Lewis Quigley is appointed Clerk of the Market for the space of One year from this date And he undertakes to perform the duties thereof for the sum of Twenty Dollars per annum which the board & their successors in Office agree to pay at the expiration of the year And for every day regularly established as Market days that the said Quigley shall neglect the duties of his Office without a reasonable excuse a deduction of twenty five cents shall be made from his salary

Ordered that the Clerk of the Market rent out the Two front Stalls of the Market house to the highest bidder for one year after advertising the same for ten days And if in the opinion of the said Market Clerk it is expedient to rent one of the back Stalls he may do so taking bond & security from the purchaser for the payment of the Amount bid at the expiration of the year from the time of sale.

It is ordered that when any dog hog cow cat horse or other animal shall die or be killed within the limits of any of the Town lots It shall be the duty of the owner or occupier of said Lot to remove the same within one day at least three hundred yards from the Town line If any such animal shall be found Dead in the streets alleys or public square it shall be the duty of the owner if known and residing in town & if not known or not a resident then the duty of the owner or occupier of the nearest lot to remove the same in the manner above directed The distance in the last case to be computed from the place where such dead animal is first discovered Any owner of such animal owner or occupier of lots failing to perform the duties in this ordinance contained within the time specified and it appearing that he was apprised of such nuisance shall be subject to a fine of two Dollars for the first day and twenty five cents for every hour the same shall be permitted to remain after notice or knowledge of the same to be recovered by this board before any Justice of the peace in and for Hardin County

Ordered that the board adjourn until meeting in course  
Attest Saml Haycraft Jr Clk' John Morris Pr

At a meeting of the board of Trustees of Elizabeth Town at the Clerks Office on Friday the 9th day of May 1823 Present John Morris President William Parcels & Gabriel Wathen Gent. Trustees

Ordered that John Shackelford Jr be allowed seven Dollars for two days work of his waggon & team in the streets in the 6th & 7th of May 1823 & that the Town Collector pay the same out of any money in his hands not otherwise appropriated

Ordered that Hezekiah Smallwood be allowed the sum of one Dollar & fifty cents for one days services of a cart horse & hand working on the streets on the 7th Inst. & that the Town Collector pay the same out of any money in his hands not otherwise appropriated

Ordered that the board adjourn  
Attest John Morris Pr

## COURT ORDER BOOK, HARDIN COUNTY, KY 1798 (September)

At a Court held for Hardin County on Tuesday the 4th day of September 1798 Present Bladin Afhby Stephen Rawlings and George Berry Gent Justices

A letter of attorney from Petti (sic.) Larue to Jacob Larue was proved by the Oaths of William Larue and James Larue Subscribing Witnefses thereto and was ordered to be recorded

A letter of attorney from James and Jabez Larue to Jacob Larue was proved by the Oaths of William Larue and James Larue subscribing Witnefses thereto and was ordered to be recorded

On the application of Samuel Patton and Catherine Morrison it is ordered that James Morrison son of the said Catherine be bound an apprentice to the said Samuel to learn the Art and Mistery of the Sadlers trade and with him as an apprentice to serve the Term of nineteen years from the 24th day of April last past

John Paul Clerk of the Court of Hardin produced in Court two accounts of Tax on deeds County Seals &c by him Collected the one from the thirtifirst day of October 1796 to November 1797 Also from the said first day of November 1797 to the fourth day of September 1798 which Accounts were Sworn to by the Clerk & was ordered to certified to the Auditor of Publick Accounts

Ordered that the Clerk be allowed five pounds for Examining the Commifsioners books for the year 1797 also five pounds for ditto in 1798 and that the Sheriff pay the same

John Crutcher appelant against Archibald McDaniel appelate upon an appeal from a Magistrates Judgment Continued till next Court

On the motion of James Young who owns land on both sides of Salt River at the mouth thereof it is Considered that a ferry be Established acrofs said River and that the said James be appointed ferry keeper and that he constantly keep one good sufficient boat for the transporting Horse and foot pafsingers and two good hands to attend said boat and that he be allowed six pence for ferriage per man and horse and other property to be regulated Accordingly the said James together with Henry Ditto entered into bond conditioned as the Law directs

An Inventory and appraisement of the Estate of Thomas Redman decd was produced in Court & was ordered to be recorded

The persons appointed to view a Road from the Old Station on Nolin to the Rolling fork made thier report in the following words Leaving the Old Road at the forks of said Creek near the Old Station pafsing between Mr Bradleys and Kirkpatrick's thence between Mr Mays & Mr Ashcrafts Thence a straight Course to the point that leads down to Clerks run and down the same to Strike the Old Road above Caleb Hazles plantation the said new road is a half a Mile and ten poles nearer than the Old one and the levellest way having viewed the River find the most Convenient way for a ferry and ford to be at Athertons and Considering both sides of the River we believe it will be the most convenient way for the Road to Crofs-- Robert Hodgins Richard Winchest Joseph Kirkpatrick

On consideration whereof it is opinion of the Court that the Road so laid off be Established

Ordered that Joseph Kirkpatrick be appointed overseer of Said Road from the beginning to the foot of the big hill and that all the Tithables that Afsisted Richard Winchester do Afsist him in Clearing & keepint said road in repair

Ordered that Benjamin Johnson be appointed overseer of the Said Road from the foot of the hill to the Rolling fork and that all the Tithables that Afsisted Caleb Hazel do Afsist him in Clearing & keeping said road in repair

The persons appointed to view a road from Hartford to Storms ferry on Green River made thier report in the following words (to wit) We Robert Mosby and Jefse Cravens being first Sworn to view Said Road from Hartford to Storms ferry Beginning at Hartford Thence to the Coperas bank of the Crofsing of Muddy Creek from thence to Intersect the Old road that leads from Hartford to Storms at Lewises Creek thence with the Old road Some distance Thence Crofsing to the East side of Lewises Creek on high ground about one Mile and a half thence a Small distance with the old Road thence leaving it to the left hand about a half a mile Thence the general Course of the old road to the ferry on Green River It is considered by the Court that the said road so laid off be Estab- lished

Ordered that George Willson be appointed Overseer of Said Road and that all the Tithables on the south side of Muddy Creek and between that and Green River do Afsist him in Clearing and keeping Said Road in repair

On the application of Robert Barnet it is ordered that this Court do Ifsue his Warrant directed to Christ<sup>t</sup> Jackson John Anderson Jefse Cravens Robert Mosley who are hereby appointed Commif- sioners agreeably to an Act of Afsembly intituled an act to afscer- tain the boundaries of Land and for other purposes requiring them or any two of them to attend the Said Robert to an Entry of 2281 acres of Land in the name of Joseph Barnet on the 12th day of August 1783 on the waters of Rough Creek about three Miles below the mouth of Cany to take on Oath the Depositions of such persons as may be brought forward by the parties to prove the Boundaries or any Special place called for in Said Entry and to do such other thing or things as by the Said recited Act they are authorised and required to do

A deed from Robert Baird & Nancy his wife to Jefse Cravens was acknowledged by the said Robert and was ordered to be recorded the same being proven at a former Court by the Oath of Robert Mosley

Ordered that Josiah Hedge Philip Taylor Willis Odum and John Howel Orny three of them being first sworn do view the most Con- venient way for a Road from Hartford to Vienna & make report there- of to the next Court

On the application of William Baley Smith Licence is granted him to keep a ferry acrofs Green River he having together with George Helm his Security entered into and acknowledged bond as the law requires it therefore ordered that the Said ferry be Established acrofs Said River below the mouth of panther Creek on Said Smiths land and it is ordered that he constantly keep one good Sufficent Boat for the Transporting horse and foot pafsingers and two good hands to man said Boat and that he be allowed one Shilling per man and horse and other property in proportion accor- ding to an act of Afsembly in that Case made & provided

Ordered that David Glen John Galloway Benjamin Taylor Philip Taylor and William Baley Smith or any three of them being first Sworn do view the most Convenient way for a Road from Hartford to Mr Smith ferry on Green River and make report thereof to the next Court

Ordered that Anthony Vernon be appointed overseer of the Road in the room of Mark Marshall and that the Tithables that were to Afsist him do afsist Said Vernon in Clearing and keeping Said Road in repair

Ordered that John Vertrees and Bladin Ashby be allowed four shillings Each for settling with Samuel Haycraft Gent Sheriff for the year 1794

On the Motion of Edward Rawlings Gent Sheriff Samuel Haycraft was admitted his deputy and Sworn according to Law

On the Motion of Edward Rawlings Gent Sheriff Nicholas Miller was admitted his deputy and thereupon took the Oath of a Sheriff

Ordered that Court be adjourned till Court in Course

Bladin Ashby

#### UNKNOWN LIST 1819-1820

The following list is on file in the Brown Pusey Library in Elizabethtown, KY. The list consists of 376 names with dollar amounts and balances. The list is broken by date and will be reproduced that way. There will be no dollar amounts shown. Elizabethtown, Kentucky

Tuesday 15th June 1819

- |                       |                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Benjamin Helm      | 27. John McDowell       |
| 2. George Helm        | 28. John Churchill      |
| 3. James Larue        | 29. Cad Churchill       |
| 4. Saml Haycraft      | 30. William Larue       |
| 5. Benjamin Shacklett | 31. Thomas S. Slaughter |
| 6. James Percefull    | 32. James Larue         |
| 7. John Miller        |                         |
| 8. Shaver & Allen     | Tuesday 22 June 1819    |
| 9. John Hodgen        | 33. Thomas Crutcher     |
| 10. James Young       | 34. Jas Crutcher & Son  |
| 11. Jacob Larue       | 35. James M. Hackley    |
| 12. James Miller      | 36. Richard Rudd        |

Friday 25 June 1819

- |                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 13. Thomas Neill  | 37. Samuel Able  |
| 14. Daniel Hayden | 38. Andrew Rowan |
| 15. Samuel Martin |                  |
| 16. Robert McLind |                  |

Friday 2 July 1819

- |                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 17. Thomas Crutcher  | 39. James Park      |
| 18. James Crutcher   | 40. Benjamin Wright |
| 19. James H. Wortham |                     |
| 20. Henry P. Helm    |                     |

Tuesday 6th July

- |                          |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 21. Samuel Hodgen        | 41. Thomas Crutcher    |
| 22. John Shackelford Jr. | 42. Isaac C. Chenowith |
| 23. Stephen Rawlings     | 43. James H. Wortham   |
| 24. John L. Chastain     | 44. Mathew M. Culley   |

Friday 18th June 1819

- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 25. Jacob W. Larue | Friday 9th July  |
| 26. Samuel Hodgen  | 45. Squire Larue |

Tuesday 13th July  
46. James Percifull

Friday 16th July  
47. John Redman

Friday 23rd July  
48. Benjamin Chapezie  
49. William Brown Sen  
50. John Hodgen

Friday 30th July  
51. Shaver & Allen

Tuesday 3rd August  
52. James F. Pendleton  
53. Benjamin Chapeze

Tuesday 17th August  
54. James Larue  
55. Samuel Hodgen  
56. James Young  
57. John L. Chastain  
58. Stephen Rawlings  
59. Cadwl Churchill  
60. James Crutcher  
61. Thomas Crutcher  
62. Shaver & Allen  
63. George Helm  
64. Saml Haycraft  
65. Thomas Meill  
66. Jacob Larue  
67. Robert McLure  
68. Daniel Hayden  
69. Ben Shacklett  
70. Ben Helm  
71. Saml Martin  
72. John Hodgen  
73. James Miller  
74. John Miller  
75. Henry P. Helm  
76. Robt. McLure  
77. John Shackelford Jr.  
78. James H. Wortham

Friday 20th August  
79. Thomas L. Slaughter  
80. James Larue  
81. John Churchill  
82. Saml Hodgen  
83. William Larue  
84. Jacob W. Larue  
85. James M. Hackley  
86. George Helm  
87. Ben Shacklett  
88. John Churchill

Tuesday 24th August  
89. Richard Rudd  
90. James Crutcher & Son  
91. Thomas Crutcher  
92. Andrew Rowan  
93. John McDowell

Friday 27th August  
94. Samuel Able

Tuesday 31st August 1819  
95. Henry Ditto

Friday 3rd September 1819  
96. James Park  
97. Benj. Wright

Tuesday 7th Sept 1819  
98. Isaac C. Chenoweth  
99. James H. Wortham  
100. Thos. L. Crutcher  
101. Mathew M. Culley  
102. Robert McLure

Friday 10th Sept 1819  
103. Squire Larue

Tuesday 14th Sept  
104. Moses Thomas  
105. Saml Haycraft Jr.  
106. Henry P. Helm  
107. George Helm  
108. James Larue  
109. William Larue  
110. Jacob Larue Jr.  
111. James Percefull  
112. James Crutcher  
113. Thos F. Crutcher  
114. C. Churchill  
115. John Churchill  
116. Wm Young  
117. Robt McLure  
118. Benjn Shacklett  
119. Josiah E. Best  
120. Benjn Chapeze  
121. Moses Thomas  
122. H.G. Wintersmith  
123. Danl Hayden  
124. Ben Helm  
125. Shaver & Allen  
126. John Hodgen  
127. Saml Hodgen

Tuesday 14th Sept 1819  
128. J.W. Larue

129. Saml Martin  
 130. James Percefull  
 131. Stephen Rawlings  
 132. James H. Wortham  
 133. Squire Larue  
 134. John Redman  
 135. John McDowell  
 136. John L. Chastain  
 137. John Shackelford Jr  
 138. Thomas Neill

Friday 17th Sept  
 139. Saml Haycraft

Friday 24th Sept  
 140. William Brown Sen  
 141. John Hodgen

Tuesday 28th Sept  
 142. Benjn Chapeze  
 143. Squire Larue

Friday 1st October  
 144. Shaver & Allen

Tuesday 5th Oct  
 145. James T. Pendleton  
 146. Benjn Chapeze

Tuesday 19th October  
 147. Saml Martin  
 148. John Chastain

Tuesday 14th Sept  
 149. John Shackelford Jr  
 150. H.G. Wintersmith

Tuesday 19th October  
 151. James Crutcher  
 152. Thos Crutcher

Tuesday 14th Sept  
 153. C Churchill  
 154. John Churchill

Tuesday 19th October  
 155. Thomas Neill  
 156. David Hayden  
 157. John Hodgen

Tuesday 14th Sept  
 158. James Larue

Tuesday 19th October  
 159. Jacob Larue Jr  
 160. Ben Helm  
 161. Saml Haycraft Jr  
 162. James Young  
 163. James H. Wortham

Tuesday 14th Sept  
 164. George Helm

Tuesday 19th October  
 165. Saml Haycraft Jr.  
 166. Saml Hodgen  
 167. Shaver & Allen  
 168. Benj Shacklett  
 169. Same  
 170. Robert McLure

Tuesday 14th Sept  
 171. Stephen Rawlings

Friday 22nd October  
 172. Thos S. Slaughter  
 173. Jacob W. Larue  
 174. William Larue  
 175. James Larue  
 176. James M. Hackley

Tuesday 26th October  
 177. Andrew Rowan  
 178. James Crutcher & Son

Tuesday 14th Sept  
 179. John McDowell

Tuesday 26th Oct  
 180. Samuel Able

Tuesday 2nd Nov  
 181. Richard Rudd  
 182. Henry Ditto Sen

Friday 5th Nov  
 183. James Park  
 184. Ben Wright

Tuesday 9th Nov  
 185. M M Culley  
 186. Robt McLure  
 187. J. C. Chenoweth  
 188. Jas H. Wortham  
 189. Same

(To be completed next issue.)

If anyone has any idea as to why these entries are made on Tuesdays and Fridays, please drop me a line with your ideas.

Editor

LINCOLN'S HONORED STEPMOTHER  
(Reprinted from LINCOLN LORE No. 213, May 8, 1933)

The annual observance of Mother's Day has a tendency to cultivate an interest in the maternal influence exerted over famous men. Abraham Lincoln was fortunate in having a double portion of motherly attention as both his own mother and his stepmother had a share in his early training.

While it is very natural that Nancy Hanks Lincoln should contribute much to her son's welfare, it is rather unusual to find a stepmother as keenly interested in a stepchild as Sarah Bush was in Abraham Lincoln. A brief history of her life up to the year when Lincoln moved out from under her influence in 1830 is especially timely at this season of the year.

The Bush family was of German descent, and, according to one who knew the pioneer Bush well, he was a "stirring industrious man." On August 6, 1781, he entered two hundred acres of land including a mill site in what later became Hardin County, Kentucky.

SARAH'S GIRLHOOD DAYS

Sarah Bush was born near Elizabethtown, Kentucky, on December 13, 1788. She was the youngest daughter of Christopher Bush, his family comprising six boys and three girls. It is likely that Thomas Lincoln first saw Sarah Bush in 1797 when he went to work in Elizabethtown and remained there a year or more. As Sarah was but nine years old at this time and Thomas had just become of age, it is not likely that he took much notice of her.

When Thomas Lincoln returned to Elizabethtown in 1803, Sarah was fifteen years old, and at the time Thomas became associated with Christopher Bush in 1806 as a patroller in his company, Sarah was approaching the age of eighteen. There is no question but what he was often in her home and it is likely that he may have paid her some attention. There is a tradition to the effect that she spurned Thomas Lincoln's advances and rejected him for another suitor.

Whatever truth there may be about the rejection of Thomas Lincoln by Sarah Bush at the termination of their early courtship, it is very evident that she made a very serious mistake in appraising the worth of the two contestants for her hand.

THE JAILOR'S WIFE

Daniel Johnston, whom Sarah married on March 13, 1806, apparently was unable to write, and the Hardin County Commissioner's books do not show that he ever owned any property but one horse. He was placed on the delinquent list for not paying poll tax. He borrowed money from his wife's brothers and they sued him to try and recover it. An endorsement on the bill "without funds" shows the circumstances in which Sarah Johnston was living. In 1814 Johnston was appointed jailor of the county, but he was obliged to secure six men to go on his bond when usually two were sufficient. None of his brothers-in-law appeared as bondsmen.

It is evident that the large part of the jailor's work fell on his wife, who was obliged to get meals for the prisoners, clean the court house, and do other tasks that would be anything but agreeable. The salary which Johnston received as jailor for the

year between October 1814 and October 1815 was twenty-three pounds and five shillings, approximately \$100, or about thirty cents a day. Johnston was expected to provide fuel and lights out of his annual consideration.

The jail at Elizabethtown was a stone structure of two stories and the jailor's family lived in a room above the jail. The youngest child of Sarah Bush Johnston, John D., was born here. Two daughters, Elizabeth and Matilda, were also born in Elizabethtown. (To be concluded in next issue.)

*July 5, 1998*

HARDIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
128 NORTH MAIN STREET  
ELIZABETHTOWN, KENTUCKY 42701



Miss Grace Taber  
110 Crutcher St.  
City 42701