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Bits and Pieces

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BOONE'S RANGERS: THEIR MEADE, HARDIN & BRECKINRIDGE COUNTY ORIGINS

BY TIM S. WATTS & SHERRILL R. WILLIAMS

To many historians, both past and present, the most controversial but effective cavalry commander to emerge from the Civil War was Nathan Bedford Forrest, a wealthy plantation owner and slave dealer from Memphis, Tennessee. The controversy still swirling around his involvement in the post-war formation of what became the Ku Klux Klan would prove a major factor in the decision to at some time remove his and his wife's remains from his hometown to a site on the grounds of the National Confederate Museum at Columbia, Tennessee.

Although much has been written about Forrest's life and military career, few are aware his earliest recruiting efforts resulted with the enlistment of a mounted company comprised primarily of young men from the Kentucky counties of Meade, Hardin and Breckinridge. This unit—"Boone's Rangers"—had been organized by James Franklin "Frank" Overton, a 29-year-old resident of Garnettsville, a small Meade County hamlet located 10 miles south of Brandenburg. This mounted company of between 70-90 men would become the first to enlist with Forrest's cavalry, but despite having this distinction, the Rangers were not the first cavalry company organized at Garnettsville, at least according to an announcement published in the May 11, 1861 issue of the *LOUISVILLE DAILY COURIER*. "Good for Garnettsville—There has been organized at Garnettsville a cavalry company of sixty-five members. Reuben R. Jones, Esq. is Captain and Ed Graham, first Lieutenant," this article proclaimed.

Although Meade, Hardin and Breckinridge provided the largest number of Ranger recruits, there would be others from the counties of Bullitt, Jefferson, Shelby, Hancock, Grayson and Green County, Kentucky, along with one from Harrison County, Indiana. Our research revealed at least 14 of the Rangers are buried in Hardin or Meade County (5 in the Garnettsville Cemetery), while 3 others are buried in the Confederate Veterans Cemetery on the grounds of the old Veteran's home at Pee Wee Valley in Oldham County.

Nathan Forrest's initial involvement with Overton and his mounted company dates back to late July 1861, when he traveled from Memphis for the purpose of recruiting and secretly purchasing arms and cavalry gear from illegal dealers and smugglers operating in and around Louisville. To acquire these items, Forrest had relied on his pre-war business connections and agents who had been secretly storing them in a livery-stable located in a Louisville suburb.

Prior to his late July arrival in this area, Forrest, on July 23, 1861, had met with Tennessee's governor, Isham Harris, and from him had obtained permission to raise a battalion of cavalry for Confederate service, all at his own expense. With his request granted, Forrest immediately boarded a train for Louisville.

Although Louisville's population was mostly pro-Union, Forrest hoped the surrounding counties would be fertile grounds for recruitment. But with the exception of Overton's company, he found this to not be the case.

and known Southern sympathizers, Forrest maintained a low profile while staying at the home of a friend five miles outside Louisville. Unrecognized, he would daily go about his business.

Curiously, on August 2, 1861, the *LOUISVILLE DAILY JOURNAL* published an article titled “*Contrabands.*” This article told of a Dry Goods dealer on 4th Street who was smuggling guns south by wagon to Elizabethtown and other points on the Louisville & Nashville Railroad. Since Forrest was in the area at this time, perhaps this dealer was involved with him and his agents. Perhaps too, the journalist who wrote the article had somehow caught wind of Forrest’s presence and activities.

It’s probable Forrest, as early as July 15, 1861, had been advertising for recruits in the *Louisville Daily Courier*, as an ad very similar to one he had placed in Memphis newspapers appeared from July 15-19. This ad called for anyone interested in enlisting with a Southern cavalry unit to “*communicate by letter to D. P. B., care of the Galt House, Louisville, Ky.*” If indeed Forrest was behind this ad, then “D. P. B.” was surely one of his agents.

Using several newspapers articles, biographical sketches and eye-witness accounts, we still found it challenging to establish an accurate timeline of Forrest’s activities in and around Louisville. Many of these accounts provided conflicting information, especially concerning the sequence of events. Nevertheless, the stories are real.

Although it’s clear Forrest had traveled to Garnettsville to find and convince Overton and his company to join his battalion, we found conflicting information as to where and when Forrest first heard of them. After examining various accounts, we became convinced that on or about July 25, 1861, Forrest’s train, while en route to Louisville, stopped at Elizabethtown, Hardin County, and here was informed of Overton and his mounted company at Garnettsville, 15 or so miles to the north.

John Allan Wyeth, a former Forrest cavalryman, in his 1899 biography, *THE LIFE of GENERAL NATHAN BEDFORD FORREST*, touched on this subject, explaining, “*While on this expedition, hearing that a company of mounted troops had been organized for the Confederate service, by Captain Frank Overton, in Meade and Breckenridge [Breckinridge] counties, Kentucky, Forrest repaired thither and induced this officer to joining his forming battalion.*”

Along with our belief Forrest had “*repaired thither*” to Garnettsville from Elizabethtown, we also believe that while in Garnettsville, Overton helped Forrest devise the scheme by which the illegally purchased guns and gear were to be smuggled from the Louisville livery-stable to Garnettsville on August 3, and then on to Nolin, Hardin County, where Forrest would rendezvous with Overton’s men on August 12 or 13. Regarding this plan, Wyeth wrote: “*He (Forrest) advised him (Overton) to divide his company, which was well mounted but had no arms, into small detachments of from two to six men, which should start on different dates and by different routes, travel through portions of the country most remote from the larger settlements, and rendezvous in the neighborhood of Nolin, a station on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, well towards the Tennessee border. Here without molestation Forrest arrived with supplies, and in due time arms and equipment were furnished to Captain Overton’s Company, which was mustered in as the “Boone’s Rangers.”*”

Despite Forrest’s advice, we found no evidence suggesting Overton’s men traveled silently and in small groups on backroads to Nolin. To the contrary, they apparently traveled en masse, arriving amid considerable fanfare and celebration in Elizabethtown on August 12, 1861. According to an August 13, 1861, story in the *LOUISVILLE DAILY COURIER*: “*Capt. Frank Overton’s Cavalry Company, composed of members from Meade and Hardin counties, passed through Elizabethtown yesterday, en route for the Southern Confederacy. We understand that they are all, or nearly all, of the best and wealthiest families of the two counties, and are as fine looking a body of men as ever went into camp. They were met by a large number of the citizens of Elizabethtown, with a Southern flag, and escorted to town amid cheers of the populace and the smiles and heartfelt greeting of the ladies, to Haycraft’s*

Hotel, where they took dinner, prepared for them at the instance of the citizens. The company was equipped at the expense of Col. Forrest, of Mississippi, with saddles, bridles and blankets, and each armed with a pair of large sized navy revolvers, a sword, and an escapet gun.—The company numbers eighty-five men, and they are all well mounted.”

Charles H. Button, a Forrest recruit from Shelby County, Kentucky, in the September 1897 issue of the *CONFEDERATE VETERAN*, told of his involvement in the removal of the guns from Louisville to Garnettsville, explaining, “*At Louisville I was introduced to Forrest by my father. He (Forrest) had bought a large number of navy pistols, saddles, and other cavalry equipment, which had been stored in a livery-stable in Louisville. Six young volunteers, none of whom were over eighteen years of age, met him by appointment at the stable, and late in the night carried the articles in coffee sacks through the door into a back alley. Here wagons were ready to receive them, and when all were loaded we started out on the Elizabethtown turnpike.*”

Charles Button’s father, Leonard Button, was a Christianburg, Shelby County blacksmith and Southern sympathizer. At this time his 17-year-old son Charles was training in a company with other Shelby County teens, and when Forrest learned of this, traveled from Louisville in an effort to recruit them. At this same time, according to an article in the August 1, 1861 edition of the *LOUISVILLE DAILY COURIER*, a picnic involving “Southern Rights” men was to be held near Christianburg the following day, August 2. Viewing this picnic as another recruiting opportunity, Forrest spent the night in the Button’s home, and the following morning was driven to the picnic site by Charles. Here, Button explained, Forrest recruited Shelby County teens John and William Lilly, William Maddox, Young Howard and Gamilleil Harris to assist him in the removal of the guns from the livery-stable the following evening, August 3. Along with a few men Captain Overton had sent from Garnettsville, the group performed the task flawlessly, arriving in Garnettsville with the wagons later that night. Among the men Overton had sent on this mission was Robert Naylor Watts, a 32-year-old Meade County farmer.

Although we found Charles Button’s 1897 account the most reliable one available, it provided no help in establishing the whereabouts and activities of Col. Forrest from August 4 until his arrival at the Nolin rendezvous site over a week later. It’s highly unlikely Forrest would have sat idle in the Garnettsville area for several days, and since we found sufficient evidence that Forrest spent some of his time traveling and recruiting between Louisville, Frankfort and Lexington, we have concluded this travel would have taken place in the days following the removal of the guns to Garnettsville.

We can only guess why Forrest and Overton selected the small railroad village of Nolin for their August 12-13 rendezvous. Perhaps one of the two knew of some Southern sympathizer here and had previously made arrangements for the Rangers’ encampment. It’s also possible Forrest had arranged for delivery of supplies by train on this date, or it may have been as simple as Nolin’s geographical location, twelve or so miles south of Elizabethtown and not far north of Confederate lines. Regardless, Nolin was the site chosen, and on the afternoon or evening of August 12, Overton and his company arrived from Garnettsville (via Elizabethtown) and Forrest, most likely the following day by train from Louisville.

It may have been while encamped at Nolin that Overton’s company adopted the sobriquet “*Boone’s Rangers.*” It’s possible Overton and his second-in-command, Lt. John L. Crutcher had first suggested the name and then put it to a vote of the men. We feel it likely the name was in honor of Enoch Boone (1772-1862), a businessman, farmer and slave owner who lived near “Plain Dealing,” a small Meade County milling village a short distance upstream from Garnettsville on Otter Creek. Enoch, a son of Squire Boone, Jr. (1744-1815), and nephew of Daniel Boone, had been born in a canebrake during an Indian attack on Ft. Boonesborough in 1772, and is thought to be the first white child to have born in Kentucky. Eventually Squire brought his family to what would become Meade

County, settling on property he claimed on "Iron Mountain" a short distance downriver from West Point, Hardin County. Squire would later move across the river to Harrison County, Indiana in 1806, but Enoch and his family would remain near Plain Dealing. If, as we surmise, Enoch was indeed the namesake of "*Boone's Rangers*," then perhaps he, along with Frank Overton, had been responsible for their formation.

Like the Boones, the Overtons also had deep roots in the Hardin and Meade County area. In fact, the village of Plain Dealing was the site of "Overton's Mill," the first flourmill constructed on Otter Creek. This mill had been built by John Overton, Jr., about 1809, but by the 1850's was in the hands of Isaac W. Overton, a Meade County sheriff and father of Frank Overton. Today nothing remains of either Plain Dealing or Garnettsville, as both were abandoned when the federal government purchased the land for Ft. Knox expansion in 1941 and '42.

We were unable to determine exactly how long the Rangers were encamped at Nolin, but after their departure, they, along with some family members who were still tagging along, headed south on the L & N Turnpike, passing through Upton Station and Bacon Creek (Hart County) before arriving on the outskirts of Munfordville. Here the Rangers were formed in line to intimidate and scatter a local home guard unit who had appeared in the road ahead. Pushing on, they arrived at Bowling Green on August 16. According to a local newspaper article, while strolling the streets here, some of the Rangers were spit upon by the town's more adamant pro-Union women.

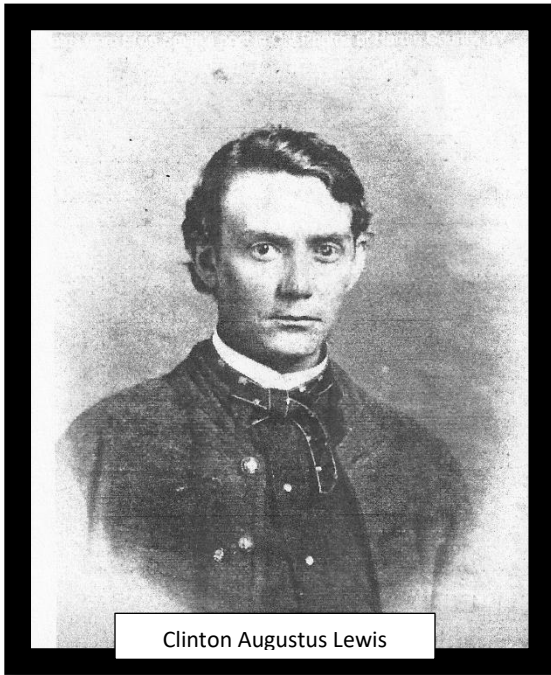
From here the Rangers took the Russellville Road on their way to Clarksville, Tennessee. At Clarksville they boarded a train for Memphis. On August 22, 1861, at the Memphis Fairgrounds, the Rangers were once again mustered-in, this time as Company "A" of Forrest's cavalry. Many hardships now lay ahead for the Rangers, among these their first major battle at Ft. Donelson, Tennessee, in February 1862. Although most of Forrest's cavalrymen were able to avoid capture, Capt. Overton (and his brother Robert Bruce Overton) were not so lucky. With his capture and imprisonment, Overton's days with the Rangers were over. It now fell to Lt. John L. Crutcher to assume command. Frank Overton never returned to Meade County to live, opting instead to move to Texas where he served several terms as a legislator. The last 19 years of his life were spent with his son in Los Angeles, and here at age 90 in 1921, he would die and be buried.

After avoiding capture at Ft. Donelson, Forrest, for reasons unclear, informed the Rangers they could either stay with him or transfer to another regiment of their choosing. Although many remained with Forrest (including Horace Clinton Branham of Vine Grove, Hardin County) Richard Stith Skillman from Breckinridge County chose to transfer, taking with him sixteen other Rangers to join Gen. Benjamin Hardin Helm's infantry regiment at Murfreesboro. Skillman, after the war, would serve many years as Breckenridge County Clerk.

Another Ranger leaving Forrest's command was William B. McGlassin, a native of Green County who had moved to Garnettsville with his parents shortly before the war. Without permission, McGlassin had taken leave of the Rangers before Ft. Donelson, apparently deserting and returning to Meade County in order to marry Eliza Bunger, on December 23, 1861. Instead of returning to his command, McGlassin remained in Meade County where he became involved with local guerrillas and their activities. McGlassin was later captured and imprisoned in Louisville but in August 1864, he, along with three other accused guerrillas were removed from their cells after being randomly selected to be executed by a firing squad. McGlassin's execution was in retaliation for the murder of Harvey Travelated, a Union citizen of Franklin, Simpson County, Kentucky. One of these men was pardoned, and another was spared when he supposedly flashed the Masonic sign in front of the firing squad. But McGlassin and a man named J. Bloom were taken to the site of the Travelated murder in Simpson County. Here, on August 20, 1864, McGlassin and Bloom were executed and buried in a nearby cemetery alongside the Russellville Road just outside the city of Franklin.

TRIVIA QUESTION: WHO WAS THE FIRST PERSON KILLED IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR answer page 8

In August 1862 the enlistment terms of Overton's original recruits expired. Along with those who failed to re-enlist there had been transfers, deaths (including Frank Overton's 18-year-old cousin William Overton who had died of dysentery at Memphis on September 13, 1861) and desertions. To bolster the ranks of their depleted roster again, John Crutcher, who had been elected captain of the Rangers on March 24, 1862, made a trip to the Confederate recruiting site at Big Spring on the Hardin, Meade and Breckinridge County line. Here he was able to enlist the services of Captain R. A. Thompson's company of cavalry on August 14.



Clinton Augustus Lewis

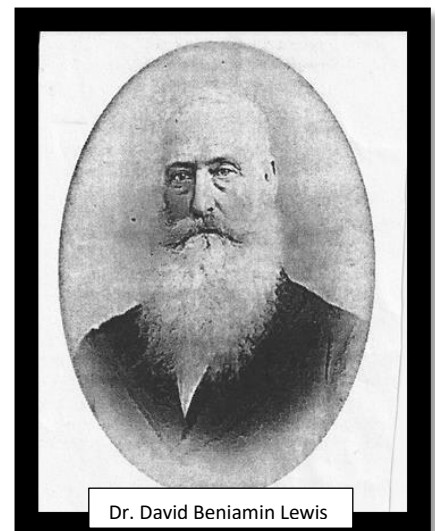
Pictured here is "*Boone's Ranger*" Clinton Augustus Lewis of Hardin County. Clinton, a son of Dr. David Benjamin Franklin Lewis of Howell Springs, Hardin County, enlisted with the Rangers in 1861, serving with them until May 1862, at which time he was discharged and enlisted in Co. "C" of the 2nd Kentucky Cavalry under John Hunt Morgan. After the war, Clinton practiced medicine in Glendale, Hardin County, and died here on May 2, 1896. His grave can be found in the Glendale Christian Church Cemetery. Clinton's brother, Vivian Irving Lewis, also enlisted with the Rangers. Vivian never married and remained on his father's farm near Hudson, Breckinridge County, until his death from diabetes in 1912. Both Clinton and Vivian Lewis had surrendered at Washington, Georgia in May 1865, as part of Gen. John Breckinridge's command accompanying C.S.A. President Jefferson Davis in his flight to avoid capture.

John Terrell Lewis, a cousin of Clinton and Vivian, had also enlisted with "*Boone's Rangers*," but would die of typhoid on the eve of the April 1862 Battle of Shiloh. John's father, Jesse Pitman Lewis, a physician practicing in the Webster community of Breckinridge County, would gain local notoriety after attending to the needs of Bullitt County guerrilla Henry Magruder as he lay critically wounded in a log barn on the farm of John and Elizabeth Cox in Meade County in March 1865. In the barn with Magruder were Marcellus Jerome Clarke (aka "Sue Mundy") and Henry Metcalf. Although tending to Magruder's wounds, Dr. Lewis is thought to have been the man informing federal authorities of the trio's whereabouts, thus leading to their capture, and in the case of Magruder and Mundy, execution by hanging. Two other men with the Lewis name—one of which is Robert Coleman Lewis—have been identified as "*Boone's Rangers*," but no additional information has been found.

Pictured is father of Clinton and Vivian Lewis, and uncle of John Terrell Lewis, all members of "*Boone's Rangers*." Photo courtesy of Steven L. Wright, Hodgenville.

Charles H. Button, the "*Boone's Ranger*" whose post-war writings we consider the most reliable, would, after the war, serve as a railroad agent and would frequently write letters to newspaper editors on various topics.

His pension application records show he was denied a pension due to "desertion," a charge he would deny, claiming he had been granted "sick leave." Curiously, while on this "sick leave" Charles married a woman from




Dr. David Benjamin Lewis

southern Kentucky. Eventually Charles Button became indigent and after contracting cancer, moved in with his sister. At age 75, Charles Button took his own life.

In December 1862 "Boone's Rangers" were assigned to the 2nd Kentucky Cavalry commanded by Lt. Col. Thomas G. Woodward. Lt. John L. Crutcher remained in command of "Boone's Rangers" until his capture in Todd County, Kentucky, in 1865. After the war Crutcher returned to Meade County, living at his home near Vine Grove. His grave can be found in the Vine Grove City Cemetery, Hardin County.

"Boone's Rangers," as a unit, remained together until war's end, serving under different officers and having been involved in many skirmishes and battles along the way. Their story, one unique but mostly forgotten, should be retold and preserved.

Through our research we have been able to find and document many names and stories related to the "Boone's Rangers" of Hardin, Meade and Breckinridge County. In an effort to compile, write and eventually publish their stories in book form, we appeal to anyone with additional information (i.e. names, family information, photos, etc.) to contact us. Of course, as a contributor, not only would your information likely be included in this book, but your name would be cited as its' source. Among the family names we need information about are those of Crutcher, Naylor, Watts and Lewis, but information (or copies of photos) on any of the rangers would be greatly appreciated. If using E-mail contact Tim Watts at tswatts54@comcast.net but if using "snail mail" or phone contact Sherrill Williams, 102, Burns Rd., Vine Grove, Kentucky, 40175.....or dial 270-272-5801. Any information will be greatly appreciated.

 Capt. Frank Overton's Cavalry Company, composed of members from Meade and Hardin counties, passed through Elizabethtown yesterday, en route for the Southern Confederacy. We understand that they are all, or nearly all, of the best and wealthiest families of the two counties, and are as fine looking a body of men as ever went into camp. They were met by a large number of the citizens of Elizabethtown, with a Southern flag, and escorted to town amid the cheers of the populace and the smiles and heartfelt greeting of the ladies, to Haycraft's Hotel, where they took dinner, prepared for them at the instance of the citizens.

This company was equipped at the expense of Col. Forrest, of Mississippi, with saddies, bridles and blankets, and each armed with a pair of large sized navy revolvers, a sword, and an escapet gun.—The company numbers eighty-five men, and they are all well mounted.

THE LOUISVILLE DAILY COURIER

Tuesday, August 13, 1861 - 1

BRANDENBURG, Feb. 27, 1862.

To the Editors of the Louisville Journal:

Since the fight at Fort Donelson, several of the boys that went with Captain Overton, of this county, in search of their rights seem to have found them, and have returned home satisfied. They were members of Col. Forest's regiment. They report having been in the fight, and that on Saturday night before the surrender a council was held and a surrender agreed upon; whereupon two steamboats that had been used during the day for carrying off the killed and wounded, came down. Floyd and Pillow seized the boats, and with their forces left. After this, Colonel Forest called his regiment together, told them they were to be surrendered the next morning, and that, by God, he was not going to see it; that he was going to get out or die trying; that they were then released, and every man must do the best he could for himself. After which a large force succeeded in making their escape by swimming a creek or back-water, and made their way to Nashville, where white flags were flying in every direction, and the entire army leaving. They thought the rebellion about played out, and the best thing they could do was to get home. Some of them came through the Federal lines, told where they had been, took the oath, and got a permit to come home. Others came without permission. They report the woods full of those who, a short time since, were seeking their rights, but are now seeking their homes. They also report Capt. Overton, his brother, and two or three others of their company as being taken prisoners.

Respectfully, yours,

A.

THE COURIER JOURNAL

Monday, March 3, 1862 Page 3

The first Women's Suffrage Organization was organized in Kentucky was in what village?

Lookin' Back at History:

Hardin County Historical Society

Compiled by Paul W. Urbahns

Here it is July, and in just a few years the Hardin County Historical Society will be able to celebrate its 100th Anniversary. No, we are not there yet, but that does not stop us from looking back at the society's beginnings.

Local newspaper accounts, of the time, report it was a hot sultry summer afternoon on July 19, 1931 when thirteen interested individuals met in the non-air-conditioned Brown Pusey House to discuss possibilities.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Daniel Elmo McClure, whose son would in 1979 compile the one volume encyclopedic study of Elizabethtown. Dr. McClure had recently been appointed as chairman for a local committee of the Kentucky Progress Commission which was gathering data in an effort to mark Kentucky's historical places.

In attendance, along with McClure was: George Edgar McMurtry and Professor Schultz, of Vine Grove; R. Gerald McMurtry; Judge and Mrs. George K. Holbert; Miss Lena Johnson; Sam Hubley; Ben Allen; Dan Settle; and H.H. Hart of Elizabethtown; R.T. Gentry and R.E. Gentry of Sonora.

"JUST A FRIENDLY NEWSPAPER"

ELIZABETHTOWN, KENTUCKY, THURSDAY, JULY 23, 1931

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

(Editorial)

A movement of worthy note, now under way, is the organization of a Hardin County Historical Society. With as many places and objects of historical interest as there are in Hardin county, it is indeed strange that an organization of this kind was not formed years ago. However, now that a historical society is in the preliminary stages of formation, worthy citizens will give it their support and many are expected to take advantage of the opportunity to become its charter members.

The society will gather and record for posterity all historical data, believed beyond a doubt to be true, and will co-operate in the proper marking of places of historical interest. It will reveal to the public many interesting but now almost forgotten events, which occurred in Hardin county in the past. These will prove of immense value not only to the students of history but to the county's progress and prosperity, as an advertising medium, drawing thousands of tourists within our borders.

Historical and family records have not been preserved in the south and west to the extent they have in the eastern states, especially in New England, where historical organizations have been active for many years. However, numerous old records at the County Courthouse, this city, can be delved into. From them and family records, often kept in Bibles, much interesting data concerning the early history of the county and its citizenry at that time can be ascertained.

When this information is divulged by the historical society, many will find that their ancestors played a prominent part in the early history of the State and Nation. If they can trace their line of descent from a Revolutionary War soldier or other patriot who aided in the cause of freedom, they will be eligible to join the Sons (or Daughters) of the American Revolution and similar patriotic societies of national distinction. It is the writer's desire to see a local chapter of the State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution established in this city. It could work in co-operation with the historical society and the two prove mutually beneficial.

A preliminary meeting of the proposed Hardin County Historical Society was held Sunday at the Brown-Pusey House, attended by thirteen interested citizens. The next meeting, at which organization will get under way, will be held, Sunday, August 2. All interested in this worthy project are urged to attend and if they then wish to affiliate, will be given the opportunity to become charter members of the Hardin County Historical Society.

This frontpage editorial in the Hardin County Enterprise issue of July 23, 1931 heralded the beginnings of the Hardin County Historical Society and pointed out the benefits to the local populace.

The county's connection with the Lincoln family was not the only topic discussed. It was pointed out at the meeting that James Buchanan and John James Audubon both lived in Elizabethtown; that Jenny Lind once sang here, and that General Custer maintained his headquarters here briefly. Following a general discussion that a county historical society should be formed. The preliminary steps were taken. Dr. McClure and R. Gerald McMurtry were requested to act as chairman and secretary respectively during this organizational period.

Committees were appointed:

Membership – All present were immediately made members of this committee.

By-Laws – Judge Hobert, Emmett Gentry; and R. Gerald McMurtry.

Historical Places in The County – George Edgar McMurtry, R.T. Gentry; H.H. Hart; and Mrs. Josephine Holbert.

The idea gained instant support from the local community and was the subject of a frontpage editorial, in the Hardin County Enterprise, which called it a "worthy project." That editorial is reproduced here in its entirety.

Now for almost 90 years, a small gathering of volunteers and history enthusiasts has continued the work began on that hot Sunday afternoon.

Along the way, we continue to gain invaluable knowledge concerning the people and places that comprise Hardin County's rich history.

Special thanks to Elvin Smith, Old Photos of Hardin County Facebook page, and Ann Sipes in the Ancestral Trails Historical Society Research Library.

PRESIDENT JOSH COOPER:

“May you live in interesting times”. As I was preparing to write this edition of the President’s Letter, this quote came to mind. Internet rumor, and therefore 100% accurate (because you can always believe the internet), is the quote is commonly attributed to Chinese culture inaccurately. An interesting and detailed discussion of the phrase can be found on a website I ran across in my own research¹, quoteinvestigator.com. There, it is recounted a number of instances the phrase has been used by various famous individuals such as Joseph Chamberlain, father to Neville Chamberlain, Albert Camut, and Robert F. Kennedy.

Our interesting times, are obviously now with the Coronavirus, and the uncertainty it brings. After various discussions with other board members, we are unfortunately cancelling the July meeting, and quite possibly the October meeting as well. If we had an October meeting, I anticipate it would best be done outside, and without a meal, or potentially a “Bring Your Own Dinner” format. I would ask that you all as members let myself or other board members know your interest and comfort level with a meeting in October, so that we can make a final decision with input.

Trivia Answer: A black man **Crispus Attucks**, March 5, 1770 Boston Massacre
Page six trivia question **GLENDAL**

Hardin County Historical Society

P O Box 381

Elizabethtown, Kentucky 42702

NO JULY SOCIETY MEETING

