

2

Bits and Pieces of *Hardin County History* Published by the *Hardin County Historical Society*

Vol. 1 No. 1

Robert Beimdick, Editor

April 1980

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE HARDIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY: GREETINGS!

With the publication of this issue, Volume One, Number One of BITS & PIECES, we propose to print quarterly, to coincide with the meetings of the Hardin County Historical Society, a bulletin which we hope will perpetuate the history of Hardin County and preserve the memory of those men and women who made it.

In its pages we aim to present interesting and little known events, folk lore, legends and abridged lives of famous and little known Hardin countians which should prove of value to genealogists and historians. It is a fact, widely acknowledged, that history, for the most part, is made by such as you and I even though public figures gain the historical credit.

Hardin County is rich in history as evidenced by several valuable historical records, the latest of which is D. E. McClure's Two Centuries in Elizabethtown and Hardin County, Kentucky. This monumental book is all encompassing and includes much material not known heretofore. No duplication is intended for the bulletin.

We need and seek the encouragement of all our members and with the assistance of each one we hope to publish a bulletin of interest and value to all.

Mrs. Thomas D. Winstead, President

EDITORIAL POLICY

Bits & Pieces, a quarterly publication of the Hardin County Historical Society, free to all members, contains historical and genealogical material as well as current news of the Society.

Family records submitted for printing should be typed and double spaced on only one side of the page and contain authentic references (preferably to primary source records) for all statements. It is requested that references to unpublished records be accompanied by xerox or notarized copies. These copies will be placed in the Brown Pusey House Library files.

Manuscripts submitted for publication should be typed and double spaced on one side of the page only. They should deal with some aspect of Hardin county history or genealogy.

The editor reserves the right to condense, edit or reject any material submitted. Due to the lack of space, all articles need to be as concise as possible.

Address all correspondence to Bits & Pieces, c/o Brown Pusey House, 128 N. Main St., Elizabethtown, Ky. 42701. If a reply is needed please send SASE.

Annual membership in the Hardin County Historical Society is presently \$2.00. Effective 1 Jan. 1981, individual membership will be \$3.00 and membership for married couples will be \$5.00.

SOCIETY NEWS

The Elizabethtown Courthouse Square and Commercial District has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The historic district consists of the area surrounding the courthouse and the commercial block to its west.

Due to major fires in the business district from 1869 to late 1890, the majority of the 38 buildings within the district were destroyed and replaced by Italianate and other Commercial Revival styles.

The documentation of this area was one of the Elizabethtown Bicentennial projects co-sponsored by the HCCHS under the supervision of the Kentucky Historical Society. Assisting in the documentation locally were Reba Mae Terry, Pat Pirtle, Mary Jo Jones and Virginia Scudder.

Over 3000 biographical sketches of Hardin county families were collected by local schools and churches in 1979 as part of the Elizabethtown Bicentennial celebration. Mrs. Inez Warf and her committee deserve much credit for annotating the material. Mayor James R. Pritchard assumed responsibility for getting the material bound in eight volumes and donated to the Brown Pusey House Library.

The Lincoln Heritage House will open 11 May 1980 weather permitting. Hours will be: 10 A.M. to 6 P.M. Tuesday through Saturday and 1 P.M. to 6 P.M. Sunday. Closed Monday. Admission: Adults-\$.50, Children 6-12 years-\$.25.

The last remaining one-room school in Hardin county-Summit No. 1-built in 1892, has been moved to Freeman Lake Park and is being restored as a tourist attraction as funds are available. The building was given by Wilbur Brown and his sister, Mrs. Frances Ashlock, on whose farm it was located.

Promoting the restoration are the Association of Retired Teachers of Hardin and Larue counties, Mrs. Eva Duncan, president, and the Summit Community; co-sponsors are HCHS and the Woman's Club of Elizabethtown.

Funds are needed to complete the restoration. Donations are tax exempt if given through the historical society.

PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

- Two Centuries in Elizabethtown and Hardin County, Ky.
by D. E. McClure \$32.75
- History of Elizabethtown, Ky.
by Samuel Haycraft, Jr. \$12.95
- Chronicles of Hardin County
by Mrs. T. D. Winstead \$ 5.00

Prices include sales tax and postage. Orders should be sent to:
Hardin County Historical Society
Box C c/o J. Thornberry
Elizabethtown, Ky. 42701

HARDIN COUNTY WILL BOOK A--1793-1809

The following is the first installment of the indexes of the earliest Hardin County Will Books. The names may appear on several documents as the books contain wills, inventories, sales accounts, bonds and emancipations.

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Ashcraft, Jediah | Caldhum, Hugh | Enlow, Joseph |
| Ashley, Bladen | Carr, John | Enlow, Mordica |
| Baird, James | Clous, George, Jr. | Ferguson, Usher |
| Barnet, Jo. | Clous, George, Sr. | Forlines, John |
| Berry, Enoch | Coats, Catherine | Frakes, Hannah |
| Bowling, William | Cooper, Job | Frakes, Henry |
| Braddeck, General, slave | Crafton, Joseph | Friend, Banner |
| Bradin, Aaron | Crawford, Robert | Glen, William |
| Bradley, James | Crow, John | Goodin, Abraham |
| Brady, Jonathan | Dafney, slave | Goodwin, Samuel |
| Brady, Morris | Dodge, Jonah | Grenewall, Joseph |
| Brashear, Nicholas | Dorsey, Thomas | Gunn (?), John |
| Brown, Patrick | Dougherty, Richard | Helm, Benjamin |
| Bryant, Ignatius | Dye, Isaac | Highbough, George |
| Burns, Elinor | Eisen, John, Jr. | Hinch, Joseph |
| Bush, Isaac | Elder, Joseph | Hodgen, Robert |

Howell, Jacob	Keykendall, Jacob	Larue, John
Hughes, George	Kimberlin, Jacob	Larue, Peter
Jaggers, D.	Larue, Isaac	Lee, Charles
Kennedy, Robert	Larue, Jabez	Lucas, William
Kermeckle, Peter	Larue, James	(to be continued)

BOOK REVIEW

The Orphan Brigade by William C. Davis, Editor of the Civil War Times
Illustrated, \$12.95, Doubleday.

The First Kentucky Brigade of CSA, formed in Kentucky by Kentuckians and led by a Kentuckian, John C. Breckinridge, was dubbed by him the Orphan Brigade because it was exiled from its homeland for almost all of the Civil War.

Breckinridge, who was convinced of the futility of the Confederate effort for independence, nevertheless threw in his fortunes with the South. He became the beloved father of the Orphans who were, for the most part, made up of ragged, unruly, braggart, fiercely independent, chivalrous, jolly, noble, fun loving, irrepressible men whom he described as "gentlemen all" even though the Orphans had its full share of cowards and rascals.

These men and their battles, sometimes with themselves, sometimes with the Yankees, are vividly described by Mr. Davis. Told in a narrative style and full of personal anecdotes, sometimes amusing, often poignant, the book is a gripping story of how ordinary men met extraordinary situations. Descriptions of battle scenes, particularly that of Chickamauga where Ben Hardin Helm was killed, are unforgettable, almost convincing one that the author was there. As Mr. Davis has minutely researched the rather scarce records of this remarkable brigade, the book is well documented.

The author gives credit to the Hardin County Historical Society for a copy of the diary kept by Squire Helm Bush of Elizabethtown, a Brigade member. Credit is also given to Mrs. Thomas D. Winstead for the use of a collection of letters written by her husband's grandfather, Captain Thomas H. Winstead of the Orphans, to his wife, Mollie, during the Civil War.

Guy Winstead

COURT ORDER BOOK, HARDIN COUNTY, KENTUCKY, 1793

Hardin County, 15th in Kentucky, was established in November, 1792, to become effective February 20, 1793. Named for Col. John Hardin, intrepid Indian fighter slain by Indians in 1792, it comprised a vast territory. Six counties and parts of two others were formed from it in the next fifty years.

The first Court Order Book will be published serially without correcting the original spelling or punctuation.

The first meeting, July 23, 1793, follows:

At the house of Isaac Hynes in Hardin county on Tuesday, the twenty-third of July, one hundred and ninety three Patrick Brown and John Vertrees being named in a new Commission of the Peace under the hand and seal of Isaac Shelby, Governor. Which Commission is lodged with the Clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions for said County which said Justices were for the county, qualified at a Court of Quarter Sessions held for said County, viz; Robert Hodgen, Gentleman being added to the Commission of Peace was also sworn at a Court of Quarter Sessions.

And there was a Court held for Hardin County on Tuesday, the twenty third of July.

PRESENT

Patrick Brown
John Vertrees
Robert Hodgen

Gentlemen Justices

Bladen Ashby, Gentleman produced a Commission appointing him Justice of the Peace under the hand and seal of Isaac Shelby, Governor which was read in Court, whereupon he took the oath of a Justice of the Peace and the several oaths proscribed by law and took his seat accordingly.....

The Court proceeded to appoint their clerk whereupon John Paul was elected by a majority of the Court but not having a Certificate of his Examination(?) was appointed protempore and had the oath of office administered to him.....

Isaac Hynes, Gentleman produced a Commission under the hand and seal of Isaac Shelby, Governor appointing him Sheriff which was opened and read in

Court whereupon he had the several oaths proscribed by law administered to him and took the oath of office....

The Court proceeded to lay off the County into districts for the more convenient appointing of Constables....

Ordered that bounds (lands?) of Captain Lindsey (?) Company compose one district and that Andrew Hackley (?) be appointed Constable therein....

Ordered that the bounds (lands?) of Captain Walters and Captain Thomases Companies compose one district and that Jonathan Boazarth be appointed Constable therein....

Ordered that the inhabitants of the Roling Fork compose one district and that Isaac Goodin be appointed Constable therein....

Ordered that the bounds (lands?) of Captain Bairds Company compose one district and that Robert Morley be appointed Constable therein....

Ordered that the Sheriff of this County advertise that an election will be held at Mr. Hodgens old mill in order to elect the several persons as directed by law to serve as overseers of the poor. And that Joseph Kirkpatrick be appointed to superintend the said election and make return of the persons so elected to the next Court.

A Certificate of the amancipation of Edenborough negro man slave belonging to Patrick Brown was acknowledged by the said Patrick Brown and ordered to be recorded....

Ordered that John Thomas be appointed Guardian of James Hodgens, infant orphan of Robert Hodgens deceased....

Ordered that Christopher Bush John Vertrees Stephen Rawlings Samuel Haycraft or any three of them being first sworn before a Justice of the Peace for that purpose do view and lay off a road the best and nearest way from Mr. Hodgens new mill, crossing the valley creek at the first crossing below Stephen Rawlings Plantation and make report thereof to the next Court....

Absent John Vertrees Gent.

Isaac Hynes Gentleman Sheriff of this County together with Isaac Morrison and John Vertrees, his securities entered into and acknowledged their bond for the faithful performance of the said office until the next Court where the said Hynes is to give approved security and bond conditioned according to law....

Present John Vertrees, Gentleman.

Ordered that Conrad Walters John Thomas Joseph Kirkpatrick and Robert Hodgens or any three of them being first sworn before a Justice of the Peace for that purpose do view and lay off a road the best and nearest way from the road leading from Bairds Town to Mr. Hodgens old mill...to his new one and make report thereof to the next court....

John Paul produced a Commission under the hand and seal of Isaac Shelby appointing him Coroner and thereupon took the oath of office....

Ordered that Court be adjourned until Court in Course to be held at the House of Isaac Hynes.... P. Brown

(to be continued) G.W.

THOMAS HERCULES HAYS--LAWYER, SOLDIER, FARMER, BUSINESSMAN, POLITICIAN

AN UNUSUAL MAN IN AN UNUSUAL TIME Compiled by Daniel E. McClure

Reverend William Hercules Hays, son of Sir William H. Hays of Edinburgh, Scotland, immigrated from that place to America in the early 1700's. He was born ca. 1750, died ca. 1821. In America, he went first to northern Virginia (now southwest Pennsylvania) and from there to Kentucky, living first for about three years in Lincoln County. He moved from there to Washington County, Kentucky about 1792, where he spent the next sixteen or eighteen years. He is said to have arrived in Hardin County about 1808/1810, where he purchased a plantation in the Mill Creek section. He lived there

until his death in 1821. His wife was Mary Slack, daughter of Randolph and Sarah (Penn) Slack. Both the Penn and Slack families migrated to Kentucky.

The above mentioned Reverend Hays is referred to as William Hercules Hays, Sr. (the name Hercules appears to have been a favorite and often used for male children in different lines and generations). William Hercules and Mary Slack Hays had many children and descendants who intermarried with families in the Mill Creek area and many of them are buried at Mill Creek. (to be continued)

THE ARNOLD FAMILY OF HARDIN COUNTY, KENTUCKY by Graham Egerton

During all the years of the Nineteenth Century members of the Arnold family were well known in Hardin County and, after 1843, in Larue County, most of them settling along Middle Creek, the present division line between the two counties. Their descendants have scattered, some still living in Hardin and Larue counties, there are none who still carry the family name of Arnold. It is hoped that this and subsequent articles will bring forth information from descendants of the Arnold and allied families.

The first Arnolds came to Hardin County from Frederick and Washington Counties in Maryland, probably by way of flatboats on the Ohio River, then overland to the settlement on Severns Valley Creek which was later to be called Elizabethtown. John Arnold was the earliest such Arnold settler of record in Hardin County. He came after May 10, 1794, when he and Mary Earhart, daughter of Philip and Mary Funk Earhart, were married in Washington County, Maryland, and before August 6, 1805, when he and his brother-in-law, James Castleman, purchased 150 acres of land on "the waters of Severns Valley Creek in Hardin County" from the estate of Jacob

Funk, the grandfather of the two men's wives. The deed stated that both men were from Hardin County. John Arnold was a farmer, a slave owner, a distiller and a landowner, owning at various times large tracts of land on Middle Creek, Valley Creek, Younger's Creek and Rhude's Creek.

John and Mary Arnold had a large family, perhaps as many as twelve children. The children intermarried with families whose names are familiar in Hardin and Larue County history. The following marriages, performed in Hardin County between 1817 and 1839, are believed to be marriages of the children of John and Mary Earhart Arnold:

Polly Arnold to Thomas Williams, January 9, 1817
 Jacob Arnold to Sarah Carlisle Long, January 23, 1820
 Elizabeth Arnold to Benjamin Brown, April 1, 1820
 George Arnold to Penelope Slack Carlisle, July 29, 1820
 Katherine Arnold to Benjamin Hargan, August 4, 1825
 Lydia Arnold to William Davis, August 17, 1825
 Nancy Arnold to George W. Fallon, October 1, 1825
 Julian Arnold to William Dunn, December 6, 1827
 Milly (Malvina) Arnold to Jesse Lafollette, November 22, 1837
 Susan Arnold to Miles Kaster, November 15, 1839

John and Mary Arnold bought and sold property in Hardin County, with at least 27 transactions taking place between 1805 and 1855. They devised property to Benjamin Brown, Thomas Williams, William Dunn, Jacob Arnold's Heirs, George W. Fallon, Malvina Lafollette, and Miles Kaster, all children or sons-in-law. In the deed to Jacob Arnold's Heirs, the grant is to the widow and children of their deceased son, Jacob Arnold. In the deed to Malvina Lafollette the grant is to "our daughter Malvina Lafollette."

QUERIES

CALVERT, WHITE John Wesley Calvert b. 15 Jan. 1854, d. 14 May 1913, m.?
 Jane Lucretia White b. 29 Aug. 1852, d. 2 May 1906. When did they marry and where? Who are her parents? Nancy Skees Hurley, 539 Bellwood, Apt. B, Elizabethtown, Ky. 42701