Historical Sketches
of
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
Prepared By
RICHARD REID, ESQ.
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And
Read at the Fourth of July Celebration, 1876.

Also
History of Mt. Sterling, Its Business and
Business Men of To-day.

Biographical Sketches of Some of Our Present Men.
INTRODUCTION

In compiling the following sketch of Montgomery County, and of Mt. Sterling, I am greatly indebted to Honorable B. J. Peters, Enoch Smith and James Moffett. I also freely used a sketch of Mt. Sterling published four years ago by Walter Gruelle; I also obtained many valuable facts from Butler's and Collins' History of Kentucky. —Thomas Calk allowed me to inspect some ancient papers filled with important facts. A sketch in the Courier Journal a year ago supplied me with some pleasing suggestions. The destruction by fire of the early records of the town and county, has deprived me of much valuable material. I feel this sketch is very imperfect and almost unworthy of publication. It may, however, provoke investigation and develop new facts. I trust, at least, it will serve to preserve in the memories of the coming generations what has been gathered up concerning the history of our early days.—R. R.
The earliest record concerning the history of Montgomery county is derived from a brief journal of one of its first settlers—William Calk. This ancient document is now in the possession of the grandson, Thomas Calk, and is well preserved. From this we learn that on Tuesday, March 14, 1775, Enoch Smith, Abraham Hanks, Phillip Drake, Robert Whitlodge and William Calk, met at the house of Captain James Price, on the Rapidan, in Virginia, and on Wednesday, March 15, 1775, set out early in the morning for the then almost untrodden regions of "Caintuck."

LONG JOURNEY

The journey was long, difficult and perilous—through snow and storm, with guns, dogs, packhorses and fearless hearts, the hardy adventurers took their way following the trail of Colonel Richard Henderson. On the night of March 23rd, they camped on the Laurel Fork of Holston, "under a great mountain, roasted a fine fat turkey for supper and ate it without bread." On the 3rd of April they overtook Henderson and his company "bound for Caintuck," camped for the night, "broiling and eating beef without bread." In the course of the journey, ill-fated Abraham Hanks had much bad luck. In the outset Drake's horse broke the leg of his favorite dog; his saddle turned and dropped his pack in the stream; his mare swam the creek, broke three powder gourds and wet the powder, but all troubles were forgotten at the prospect of "some good loaf bread and good whisky."

On the 6th of April, a letter reached the company from Captain Boone's at "Caintuck," of the Indians doing mischief, and some turned back. On the 8th of April, they passed through Cumberland Gap; on Sunday the 9th, they reached Cumberland River; on the 11th they crossed it, and in the evening camped on Richland Creek, when, as one chronicler gravely records, "Mr. Drake makes bread without washing his hands;" thence on across Rockcastle River, under skies dropping constant rain they went, through the dense forests and denser cane brakes, until
on Tuesday, 18th, four men from Boone's camp met the weary toilers. On the night of the 19th they camped on Otter Creek, now in Madison county, and on Thursday, the 20th of April, 1775, about 12 o'clock, they got to Boone's fort, and their arrival was welcomed with a volley of guns.

LAYING OFF LOTS.
The 21st and 22d were spent in laying off lots in the town of Boonesborough, and on Sunday, 23rd, which was a "very warm day," the hardy pioneers met and drew for choice of lots; and human nature being the same then as now, some were dissatisfied with their prizes, when they began to view them on the 24th. On the 26th, our party began a clearing at the mouth of one of the creeks that fell into the Kentucky River.

HOUSE KEEPING.
On the 27th they began to build a house; on Saturday, 29th, they got their house covered with bark and moved their "things" into it, and began housekeeping—Enoch Smith, Robert Whitlegde and William Calk; Abraham Hanks and Phillip Drake having "turned back" on Thursday, 13th April, 1775, "for fear of the Indians." The last entry in this interesting Journal is in these words: "Tuesday, 2nd, May, 1775, I went out in the morning and killed a turkey and came in and got some on for my breakfast and then went and sat in to clearing for corn." And here they remained this memorable year of 1775, planting corn, battling with the Indians, suffering the perils of frontier life, knowing nothing of the greater struggle that was just then reddening the fields of Concord, Lexington and Bunker Hill, in June, 1775.

FIRST SETTLERS.
Enoch Smith, William Calk and Robert Whitlegde explored what is now Montgomery county. In that fall (1775) Enoch Smith and Isaac Davis built a cabin on the branch where the old brick house now stands below Judge Winn's, and in the spring of 1776 John Lane assisted Enoch Smith to complete the cabin and to clear 5 or 6 acres near it, which they planted in corn; and this was the first corn planted in Montgomery county and the first house built. Smith surveyed and pre-empted 1400 acres of land, the present site of Mt. Sterling being a portion of it. Calk found the celebrated spring known as "Calk's spring" on this trip and surveyed the land, and in June, 1775, built a cabin on it by John Harper's help, upon which land his descendants now live. The cabin is described by John Harper as being 14 feet long, 12 feet wide, well covered with sassafras puncheons and logs cut out for a floor. John Judy, John Crawford, James French, Moses Thomas and William Sade came out to them from Virginia in 1775 and composed the little colony of whites that first settled Montgomery county.

FAMILIES.
These parties did not bring out their families until the years 1791-92, on account of the dangers arising from Indian invasions. The branch above Calk's cabin was then called Calk's Creek, and the branch—the East Fork—that put in below the cabin, was called Anderson's Fork. Hinkston was then called Small Mountain Creek, and was so notoriously known for many years to the early settlers. It received the name of Hinkston from Captain John Hinkston, a celebrated Indian fighter.

MORE VISITORS.
The next visitors and locators of whom any certain trace is preserved were Benjamin White, Nicholas Anderson, John Harper, William Meteer, James Poage, Edward Williams, Peter Harper, Samuel Spurgin, and ten or eleven others in company, some of whom came to a point on the waters of Slate three or four miles from Estill's battle ground, where they marked a large black ash with the letters, "White, 1779." They made an improvement for White, and one on the opposite side for Harper. Meteer, Poage and Spurgin settled near Mt. Sterling with their families in 1792. Montgomery county, because of its exposed situation, was not settled as soon as the counties west of it. Attracted by the reported beauty and richness of the lands, during the years 1791-92, many settlers, with their families, came out from Virginia and North Carolina.
STOCKADES.

A stockade was built at the mouth of Spencer creek, six miles from Mt. Sterling, and named Morgan's Station. Other forts were erected as a protection against the Indians, one—Port Dunker—near and almost directly south of the residence of the late Josiah Davis, about five miles west of Mt. Sterling. A man named Bradshaw built a stockade about one mile north of the town.

ABORIGINES.

Occasionally parties of Indians infested the county and disturbed the peace of the hardy pioneers. The last incursion of the Indians to the interior of the state was made on Easter Monday, 1st day of April, 1793, on which occasion they captured Morgan's Station and carried away nineteen prisoners, all of whom were women and children. The men not apprehending any danger, were engaged in the neighborhood preparing to raise the crops.

KILLED

One old man and woman were killed near the station, and pursuit having been made, the savages killed some of the prisoners, and the remainder were taken to the north-west and sold. Mrs. Becroft was among the number killed, and to this day the branch on which the massacre took place is known by the melancholy name of "Murder Creek."

AFTER THEM

James Moffett, now in his 89th year, and the oldest living citizen in Bath or Montgomery, relates that his father, William Moffett, then living near Springfield church in what is now Bath county, joined in the pursuit; that he recalls vividly the picture of his stalwart sire mounting his horse in hot haste, with rifle in hand, tomahawk and knife in his belt, and pouch filled with bullets and flints. Among the prisoners carried off was the wife of Joseph Young and her infant child.

A BOLD ACT

In the rapid retreat the child became fretful, and on the cliffs of Beaver a fierce Wyandotte snatched the child from the mother's arms and hurled it over the precipice. Young followed the trail of the Indians, penetrated their country, and looked around their towns until, after incredible hardships, he succeeded in rescuing his wife, and returned to his old home in Montgomery, where children grew up around him, with some of whom the venerable Smith went to school in his boyhood.

DEPOSITION.

Joseph Young says in a deposition given in August, 1813; "That some time in September, 1792, he was at the place where Robert Meteer now lives, and his father, William Meteer, was then building his first cabin on said place, and in November following he moved his family to Morgan's Station, and continued there till the first day of April, 1793, when the Indians defeated us and took said Station, and this deponent made his escape and came, on the night of the said first day of April, to the said Meteer's and found him with his family living there; • • • •

THAT THE INDIANS

were in continued warfare from my first coming to Strode's Station in 1783 or 1784 till Wayne's treaty in 1795, and some people have ventured out and settled stations, and none of them that has so settled out did escape being attacked or having some killed or wounded at or about them except Enoch Smith's, and people in this part generally thought themselves in danger until Wayne's treaty was concluded."

A MISS BECRAFT

Was also among the captured. She was beaten with clubs and scalped and left for dead by the Indians on Beaver, but was saved by the whites who pursued, and survived; and in 1807 was seen by James Moffett near Vincennes, Indiana, where she had married and was the mother of seven children.

OTHERS COME.

John Crawford, John Judy and James Lane came out about 1790, and worked one year for Enoch Smith, assisting him in clearing land, for which they received—Judy 100 acres of land,
on which the town of Mt. Sterling now partly stands; Crawford 100 acres adjoining and northwest of Judy's, his house standing, within the memory of men now living, where the residence of J. M. Bigstaff is now built. Lane chose a rifle and a sum of money.

FOR WHOM NAMED

Montgomery county, the 22nd in number formed in the State, was named in honor of General Richard Montgomery, a major-general in the American Revolutionary army, a brave, gallant and chivalric Irishman, who fell at the early age of thirty-nine, in December, 1775, at the storming of Quebec. He was a man of commanding stature, rare personal beauty, excellent education and splendid endowments.

HOW DIVIDED.

All the country west of Virginia was called Fincastle, then Kentucky county. Kentucky was, in May, 1780, divided into three counties—Lincoln, Jefferson and Fayette. Out of Fayette Bourbon was formed, and from Fayette and Bourbon sprang Clark, and Clark was the mother of Montgomery, who was born into the full dignity of county-hood in 1786.

MONTGOMERY'S DAUGHTERS.

Its dominion then extended to the Virginia line. In all eighteen counties have been made out of Montgomery and portions of her territory since her organization. Floyd in 1799; Clay in 1806; Bath in 1811; Harlan in 1819; Lawrence and Pike in 1821; Morgan in 1822; Breathitt in 1839; Letcher in 1842; Owsley and Johnson in 1843; Powell in 1865; Magoffin and Wolfe in 1860; Menifee in 1869; and Lee and Martin in 1870.

BOUNDARY.

Montgomery has been called the Piedmont of Kentucky, and well it deserved the name, when its borders went beyond the mountains, and its lands were laid upon the rivers. In its present reduced territorial limits, it is bounded on the south by Powell; southeast and east by Bath and Menifee; north by Nicholas and Bath; and west by Clark and Bourbon.

WATERS.

It lies on the waters of Hinkston Creek and Red River, and their tributaries, Spencer, Flat Creek, Lulbeegrud, Slate, Stopstone and Sycamore. It is finely watered and well timbered.

THE SOIL.

Is first rate, rich limestone, and much of it is unsurpassed for fertility. In the great drought year of 1854, the corn crop of Montgomery was much better than in any neighboring county, which was attributed to the greater depth of soil. No county in Kentucky surpasses it in the production of the celebrated staple, "Blue Grass."

EXPORTS.

Its principle exports are fat cattle, mules, horses and hogs.

THE POPULATION.

Is mainly sprung from Old Dominion stock, and has always been distinguished for its energy, intelligence and independence of character.

By the census of 1870, the white population of the county was 7,257; the colored 2,699. In 1800 when its limits stretched to Virginia and Tennessee, it was 7,082; and blacks amounted to 778.

ROADS.

There are about sixty miles of turnpike road in the county. The Elizabethtown, Lexington and Big Sandy runs through its western limits to Mt. Sterling, and the Mt. Sterling Coal Road careers down the valley of Spencer Creek towards the rich coal fields of Menifee and Morgan.

WEALTH.

The number of acres of land in Montgomery, in 1875, was 108,232, assessed at $2,340,000; actual value about five million; of town lots 240, assessed at $224,540; actual value about $300,000; of horses and mares, 1,735, assessed at $84,570; of mules 1,049, assessed at $39,900; of cattle in 1875, 7,588, assessed at $98,445.
HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF

STORES.

The number of stores in 1875, was 49, valued at $86,890. The value under the equalization law in 1875, was $346,411, an increase over 1874 of more than $127,000. The value of pleasure carriages in 1875, was $10,810, an increase of more than $2,000 over 1874.

REVENUE.

The total value of taxable, assessed property in 1874 was $3,187,645; in 1875, $3,337,867, an increase over 1874 of $150,222. The total revenue for 1875 paid to the state by the county, at 45c on the $100, was $15,020.40.

MALES.

The number of white males over 21, in 1876, was 1,380; the number of white voters, 1,380; and the enrolled militia, 1,111.

CHILDREN.

The number of children in 1874 between the ages of 6 and 20 was 7,670, and in 1875, 1,692. The school fund for 1874, was $3,127.31, and for 1875, $3,803.08.

STOCK.

The number of hogs over six months in 1874 was 6,918; in 1875, 5,063. The number of blind persons in 1874 was 2; in 1876, 3. In 1875, 1,227 sheep were killed by the dogs, worth $382; in 1874, 55, worth $258; in 1875, 67, value $362.

GRAIN.

The number of bushels of corn raised in the county in 1874 was 324,460; in 1875, 489,330; tons of hay in 1874, 1,635; in 1875, 626; bushels of wheat in 1874, 26,779.

VALUE OF LAND.

The average value of the land per acre in Montgomery county in 1875 was $31.93, the average value per acre in the whole state being $9.22.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

FREEDMEN.

The amount of property owned by negroes is small and no reliable data can be had. We may add that the number of legal negro votes in the county in 1875 was 651, with pleasure carriages assessed at $10, and total property for taxation at $39,941.

MOUNT STERLING.

The town of Mount Sterling was surveyed by Enoch Smith, Sr., in 1783. The most of the town is in the land owned by him, the eastern part on land owned by Hugh Forbes, and the southern on land owned by Samuel Spurgeon. The town was generally called "Little Mountain Town," and bore this historic title for several years.

WHO NAMED IT.

Among the early denizens was a shrewd Scotishman, lively and eccentric—Hugh Forbes. At a meeting of the citizens of the promising village for the purpose of giving it a fixed name, Forbes argued that "Little Mountain Town" was a barbarous and outlandish cognomen, and said there was a pretty little town in Scotland, where he spent his boyhood, called Stirling, and suggested as a compromise that the young city be christened "Mount Stirling." The happy combination of the New World and the Old—the industry of the aborigines and the worth of Scotland married by one title, met with universal assent, and Mount Stirling it was called; but with that contempt of, or carelessness for orthography, which sometimes distinguished our ancestors, the name was spelled wrong and has continued to be.

James Moffett says he knew Hugh Forbes and his wife well. They were both Presbyterians of the Cameronian stock, and members of the Rev. Joseph P. Howe's church. Forbes owned a large tract of land east of Enoch Smith's survey, cornering it on the top of Little Mountain, at three or four sugar trees, thence running north to a noted cherry tree, corner with Smith, now the southwest corner of W. H. Ringo's farm. He was a man of uncommon mind and impecunious character. He donated the land where the first Presbyterian church
was built, and also the old Presbyterian cemetery, northeast of
the town, adjoining Dr. Hannah's premises, where he and his
plious wife now lie buried in the small mound near the northern
end of the lot, and their graves are to be seen to this day.
In 1805 the population of Mt. Sterling was about 100;
it is now estimated at from 2,500 to 3,000.

THE FIRST LAWYER.
In Mt. Sterling was James Crawford, who was from Dauphin
county, Pennsylvania. He was a bachelor, and not related to
the family of Captain John Crawford. He was possessed of
a fine understanding and was of great service to the people
in the early times in drawing legal documents and in the busi­
ness of the Quarter Sessions Court. It may here be stated that
the lawyers did nothing towards causing the early and distrac­
ting land litigation that agitated Montgomery county for so many
years. The cause was the laws for the appropriation of land
passed by the Virginia Legislature. Sometimes as many as five
or six patents covered the same piece of land, and the occupant,
besides the title under which he entered, had to purchase two
or three more or lose his home and labor. It was the early
lawyers who threaded this Cretan labyrinth and secured the
peace and repose of society.

THE PIONEER LAWYERS.
The next resident lawyers were Asa Lewis, William Litt­
ell, (author of Litell's Kentucky Reports), James Trimble and
David Trimble. Later came Amos Davis, Henry Daniel, Richard
Menefee, Richard Apperson and Xenas Farrow. In the early
days of the county no bar was stronger than that of Mont­
gomery. Thither to the courts came Henry Clay, Robert Trim­
bie, Jesse Riedsor, Benjamin Mills, Joseph H. Hawkins, Colonel
Nicholas, James Clark, Ishman G. Talbott, Robert Wickliffe,
Samuel Hanson, Chilton Allen and James Simpson.

THE FIRST JUDGES.
Were John Allen, lawyer, with James French and Thomas
Mosely, farmers, as associate judges.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

THE FIRST DOCTOR.
In Mt. Sterling was Dr. Delano, and the second was John
Young, who came from Fayette county; the next was Dr. Mills,
who afterwards removed to Winchester, where he died. Then
came McMurtry, Duke and Slavens. The latter was famous for
his ugly face. Dick Menefee once said when he was ill that
the sight of Slaven's face was equal to the most powerful emetic.

THE STORE.
In 1800 there was but one store in Mt. Sterling, and that
was kept by a couple of enterprising Yankees named Goudy.
George Howard was the first prominent merchant in the town.

THE TAVERN.
The first tavern was built on the corner now occupied by
Wells & Thompson's dry goods store. It was a hewed log
building, with a huge, old fashioned porch running its entire
length. Joseph Simpson was the builder and landlord. An­
drew Biggs soon set up a rival hotel on the corner where Cal­
dwell's store now is. In a house adjoining and west of Simpson's
tavern, Samuel and Peter Everett began their successful career
as merchants. Paul Durrett kept a store in the house where
John Samuels now carries on business. On what is now known
as Turley's corner, George Howard did business in a red frame
house, whose brilliant and picturesque coloring was the wonder
of our grandfathers and grandmothers, where calico was sold
for 50 cents a yard and good whisky for 25 cents a gallon.
He was a successful merchant, and died universally esteemed
within the memory of the young men present.

THE FIRST COURT HOUSE.
Stood where the post office now is. It was a brick, one
and a half stories high, and a very unpretending concern. The jury
room was upstairs, and very small. The next was built
on the site of the present one, and was convenient and com­
modious. This was accidentally burned in 1830, and was replaced
by the substantial edifice destroyed during the late war, in
December 1863. The present structure was built in 1868 or
1869, and speaks for itself.
THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Organized in Mt. Sterling in 1797, by an eminent Presbyterian divine, Rev. Joseph P. Howe. He had previously founded Springfield church in 1794. He was pastor of these two churches thirty-two years, and carried the same silver watch—a London runner—all the time. Joseph Simpson was employed to build the first school house in Mt. Sterling on the land recently owned by Colonel H. C. Howard, Rev. W. Howe was the first teacher. He was a man of blameless life, great piety and unusual learning. He not only taught the three R’s—"reading, riting, and rithmeti_c"—but also advertised to teach Greek, Latin and Hebrew. This school was regularly taught for three years.

It is not known whether any of the young scions of the forest grubbed at Creek roots or struggled with the Mosaic account of creation in the Hebrew Bible under the sway of the gentle pedagogue.

THE FIRST SCHOOL.

In 1794, while yet buffaloes, bears and panthers abounded, and the cane brakes were uncut and the wood uncleaned, Robert Trimble, afterwards an associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, taught school twelve months, five days each week, near Springfield church, then in Montgomery county. Though only nineteen years old, he was a faithful teacher and a good disciplinarian. The only books used were Dilworth's speller and Arithmetic and the Holy Bible. He took up school early in the morning and turned out late, giving but short recess and play time. The scholars learned rapidly and dreaded the frown and birch of the master more than wild animals whose screams they sometimes heard as they were going or returning to the lonely schoolhouse. Robert Trimble's charges were 1 pound 7 shillings a year per pupil, three-fourths payable in furs, pot metal, bar iron, hogs, huckle flax and young cattle, and one-fourth in gold and silver. The school closed with some parade, the parents and neighbors dropping in, and Rev. Joseph P. Howe preaching—not what is now learnedly called a "Baccalaureate Address,"—but a plain, sensible, heart felt sermon, full of good advice and the spirit of Christ. James Moffett was a boy at this school, in his seventh year, and learned the shorter Catechism by heart, which he yet knows, along with the other Catechism.

WALKER BOURNE'S SCHOOL.

In this same neighborhood Walker Bourne, a celebrated teacher, labored many years, and had among his pupils, Richard H. Menefee, John Jameson. W. W. Hill, and many others who subsequently attained distinction in the walks and callings of life.

THE FIRST CHURCH A BAPTIST.

The first church erected in the town was by the Baptists in 1786-97. It was located near where the mansion-house of J. M. Digstaat now stands. It was built of round logs. Some years afterwards it was torn down and a brick one built near the residence of Thomas Turner, and this was pulled down, about 1830 or 1831, and the materials used in the construction of Fort Mason, or as it is commonly called "Old Fort." Among the first preachers to come to the new town, was a Baptist clergyman, Daniel Holme. Then Moses Bledsoe and David Barrow, a man of great ability and fervor, who came out in June, 1798. David Barrow was pastor and Enoch Smith, Sr., clerk. Daniel Holme was also a school teacher, of considerable fame, and in consideration of his two-fold services as preacher and teacher, Enoch Smith doled him fifty acres of land, at present owned by Dr. John K. Hannah.

"RACCOON" JOHN SMITH.

In November, 1818, "Raccoon" John Smith, too well known here to require special mention, was called to preach to the Baptist churches of Spencer creek, Old Bethel, and Grassy Lick. This denomination in the early days of the County was the prevailing one, and it numbered among its ranks men of intellect, zeal and culture. In 1830 or 1831, large numbers followed John Smith's views in the Reformation movement, and subsequently came another division, dividing the Baptists into the Calvinistic and Missionary Baptists. The latter now have in the county about 200 members. The Reformed or Christian
Historical Sketches of

Church, members at Mt. Sterling, 186; Spencer, 159; Somerset, 234; Sycamore, 220; In all about 900.

The Irish.

Thirty years ago there were only three Irishmen in Montgomery county, Peter Fitzpatrick, Thomas Burns, and Peter Masterson. The first Mass was celebrated by Father Joyce from Maysville. Now the Irish population numbers 350, and they have a church and a resident pastor.

The Methodist Church.

Was first organized in the county on Grassy Lick, about 1793. James Wren gave the ground and a hewed log house, 24 by 34, was built in 1800. This has been succeeded by an elegant brick church. The first members of the church at Grassy Lick were the Wrens, Riggs, Sewells, Tauls and Farrowes. Among the members there was Henry Fisk, two of whose sons became members of the Kentucky Conference. One of them was a man of remarkable power, but lived but a few years. From this place Methodism was planted in Mt. Sterling, and thence carried to the O'rear settlement near Camargo and other parts of the county. For a long time Father Spratt was the only member residing in or near Mt. Sterling, but in 1825 a great revival occurred, and quite a number of persons became connected with the church, among whom was Dr. E. Jones. The first stationed preacher in Mt. Sterling was Milton Johnson, 1827.

Pioneer Methodist Preacher.

The pioneer Methodist preacher was John Ray, who was quickly followed by John Craig. Both were men of power, of sturdy minds and eminent piety. The first Methodist church in Mt. Sterling was built in 1816, on or near the site of the present edifice.

The First Congressman.

The first member of Congress from the district, of which Montgomery was a part, was John Fowler, who was a member for ten years; the next was Benjamin Harrison; the next David Trimble, who was a resident of Mt. Sterling, and elected for five consecutive terms, but having voted for J. Q. Adams against Andrew Jackson in 1824, in 1825 he was defeated by Henry Daniel. Richard French, Richard H. Mansee, Amos Davis and Garrett Davis, of Montgomery county, were members of congress.

First White Child.

The first white child born in Mt. Sterling was David Craig, on October 15th, 1789, now living in Montgomery county, Missouri. The first rope walk was built by Thomas I. Garrett; the first wool carding factory was built by John Busby, and the women rejoiced and laid down their hand cards. The first gunsmith was William Smith, who had a shop at the west end of town; the first tailor was McCleneny, who opened a shop in 1807 or 1808. The first blacksmith shop was on the Seminary lot and Jeremiah Davis owned it.

Andrew Jackson was the first and only President who ever visited Mt. Sterling.

First Murder.

The first man ever killed in Mt. Sterling was named Hensley. He was killed at Bigg's tavern in a fight with some men from Beaver Ponds, among whom was Mitch Hardwick.

The first murder committed in the county was in 1816, upon a peddler named Sylvester Vombs, by two men, Moore and Davis, for purposes of robbery. The scene of the murder was about one and one-fourth miles north of Mt. Sterling, on the land now owned by Johnston A. Young, and near to the present site of the Mt. Sterling and Maysville turnpike road. The body was buried on the west of the pike, opposite Judge Wind's. The murderers escaped, but were afterwards caught and hanged on the very spot where the deed was committed.

The First Brick House.

Built in Mt. Sterling was the parlor of the old Kentucky Hotel; the first saw mill was put up by William Calk, the grand-
father of I. F. and Thomas Calk, under the hill on which the residence of I. F. Calk now stands; the first grist mill was built by a man named Hodges, at the rear of the Ashby Property, now owned by L. D. Wilson, in 1796. William Smith, the grandfather of W. Halley Smith, built the house now owned by Widow Botts. The first jail was built of logs on the corner of the courthouse lot.

THE FIRST GROG SHOP

In Mt. Sterling was kept by Bartlett Deadman, where the Masonic Temple now stands, and he sold a good article of handmade sour mash, unadulterated bourbon.

CLERKS.

The first circuit and county clerk of Montgomery county was Macajah Harrison. He was born in Virginia in 1776, and when the county of Montgomery was organized, being then only 21 years of age, was appointed clerk of both courts, and held that office until 1822 or '23, when he resigned the circuit clerkship, to which his son, M. V. Harrison, succeeded, after a short time, he held this office for some years afterwards, when he resigned and was succeeded by Captain James Howard. Harrison died in 1842, and is buried on the place where he lived for 44 years. He was a man of solid worth and influence, and of strong natural abilities. The other circuit clerks were James Howard, James G. Hazelrigg, B. J. Peters and James M. Crawford, who died in 1860. He was succeeded by J. R. P. Tucker, and in 1874, by R. A. Mitchell, the present incumbent. The following are the names of the county court clerks since the county was formed: M. Harrison, James Howard, A. J. Wyatt, A. J. Stevens, E. E. Garrett, John N. Gibson, J. R. Garrett and D. F. Wyatt, the present incumbent.

THE COUNTY JUDGES

Elected under the new constitution were George W. Gist, James H. French, Calvin Brock, M. M. Cassidy and W. H. Winn, the present incumbent, who is in his second term.

THE FIRST NEWSPAPER

Published in Mt. Sterling bore successively the names of the "Columbian Spy," "The Western Whig and Columbian Spy," and the "Western Spy" under which latter name it was published nearly a half century ago by John Daniel, nephew of Captain Harry Daniel. William Streeter, John Dowling, Ambrose Dudley Mann, Chiles & Mitchell and Thomas Presmer were also publishers in early days. Weston F. Burch published for a while "The Western Beacon." In 1848 R. R. Lindsay revived the "Whig" which, in 1851, passed to John Scott, who was succeeded by Bar, Scott & Co., who was succeeded by James W. Mullay, who was succeeded by Mullay & Dury, who was succeeded by J. S. Dury, by Dury & Hanly, and then by W. T. Hanly, who in 1865 began the publication of the "Kentucky Sentinel," which he continued with great success and acceptance until he was succeeded by J. R. Garrett, the present proprietor.

THE FIRST SALT

Used in Montgomery county was made at the Upper Blue Lick. It took 900 gallons of water to make a bushel of salt. The salt was measured by the bushel for many years, and was hauled in bags to Mt. Sterling, and sold for $2.50 per bushel. The first road in the county was from the Blue Licks to Little Mountain, and was largely traveled for many years.

CIRCUIT JUDGES.

Montgomery has been the birthplace and Mt. Sterling the residence of several men who have filled with conspicuous ability and faithfulness the office of circuit judge. Among them may be named Silas W. Robbins, Kenas Farrow, J. W. Moore, N. P. Reid and Richard Apperson, Jr.

The following persons were members of the legislature from Montgomery county. The mere mention of this roll of honor will call up examples of worth and influence, of the solid men who laid the foundations of our prosperity;

Senators.

James McElhenny, 1800-04; Jilson Payne, 1804-08; Richard Menefee, 1808-12; William Farrow, 1812-15; James Mason.
1815-20; Samuel L. Williams, 1820-24, 28, 32, 40, 44; Aquilla Young, 1832-46; Walter Chiles, 1848-51; James McKee, 1851-61.

Representatives.
Bennett Clarke, 1797; John Poage, 1798; Jilson Payne, 1799, 1800-02, 03; Richard Menefee, 1801-02, 06; William Farrow, 1801-10. 11; Thomas Fletcher, 1803-05, 09; Jesse Woodruff, 1805; Jacob Coons and Dr. Young, 1807; James S. Magowan and William Hodges, 1808; Jeremiah Davis, 1810; David Trimble, 1811; Henry Daniel, 1812-19, 26; John Crawford, 1812; Samuel L. Williams and Jesse Daniel, 1813; Samuel L. Williams, 1814-18; Jesse Daniel, 1814-15; John Jameson, 1815-16, 17; Samuel T. Davenport, 1816; Eli Shortridge, 1817-24; James S. Magowan, 1818; Amos Davis, 1819-25, 27, 28; Alex S. Farrow, Thomas Mosely, 1820; John Williams, Kanaz Farrow, 1822; John Mason, Jr., 1824; John B. Duke, 1825; Aquilla Young, 1826; William Wilkerson, 1827; Charles Glover, 1828-29; James Hayes, 1829-30; Benjamin F. Thomas, 1829-30, 31, 32; Thomas C. Barnes, 1831; Josiah Davis, 1832-33; Charles S. Gatewood, 1833-37; Joseph Harrow and Hugh Dugan, 1834; David Heran and James McKee, 1835; Richard H. Menefee, 1836; Richard Apperson, 1838-42; James Bratton, 1840; Nelson Prawitt, 1841-44; Joseph Bonduzant, 1842; Belvard J. Peters, 1845; Madison Stewart, 1846-48; A. W. Hamilton, 1847; William F. White, 1849; Strouther D. Mitchell, 1850-51, 53; James H. Turner, 1855-57; John W. White, 1855-56; Thomas Turner, 1855-60; D. F. Cockrell, 1855-67; W. S. Richart, 1869-71; John S. Williams, 1870-76; Thomas Johnson, 1875-77.

WAR OF 1812.
Captain James Mason commanded the company from this county that participated in the war of 1812. John Crawford was Lieutenant and McClellan, the tailor, Ensign. Subsequently McClellan was promoted to the rank of Colonel, Crawford was made Captain and McClellan Lieutenant. This company comprised some remarkable men, who for years were conspicuous before the people of Montgomery. Among the last to pass away was General Samuel L. Williams, who died in September, 1872, on the spot where he was born, in the 91st year of his age, having been, in the mutabilis of human affairs, a subject of two governments and a resident of four counties, yet living always on the farm.

MEXICAN WAR.
The county of Montgomery also furnished a gallant company in the Mexican War, commanded by Wilkinson Turpin. It was under General Zachary Taylor and in the regiment of Colonel W. R. McKee, and participated in the battle of Buena Vista, where it behaved with firmness and courage. Turpin is dead. A large number of this company yet survive, and some of them reached posts of eminence during the late war, on either side.

PATRIOTIC.
Whenever the honor of the country called, the sons of Montgomery, true to the patriotic blood of their sires, have always responded promptly and marched to defend the principles for which their fathers fought.

OLYMPIAN SPRINGS.
The first improvement made at the Olympian Springs, then in Montgomery county was made by William Ramsey, eighty years ago. James Moffett says, "I know him well. He was a large and unusually strong man. He made a good deal of salt from the salt spring there, but the water being too weak, he found it unprofitable and quit. He lived there a number of years, and in the meantime the valuable medicinal properties of the various springs became known and many resorted there for the cure of many diseases, and the waters soon became very popular. A boarding-house was built and cottages for visitors. This induced many families to settle there and in the immediate vicinity, and there was soon built up quite a little village."

A Drouth.
"I was in this village in 1806, 70 years ago, the most remarkable dry summer ever known in Eastern Kentucky; no rain from the 1st of May to the 1st of August, three months of continuous drouth. I was at those springs the first day of
by the luxuriant pasture of the woods, covered with the rich pea-vine and luscious cane. The game was profuse beyond measure, and Kentucky could never have been maintained against the Indians but for the ample store of provisions its forests supplied.

HOSPITALITY.

The people were hospitable and freely divided their rough fare with a neighbor or stranger, and would have been offended at the offer of pay. In their settlements and forts they lived, worked, fought and feasted or suffered together in cordial harmony. They were warm and constant in their friendships, but bitter and revengeful in their resentments. The following sketches are drawn from various sources, mainly from "Doddridge's Notes." The inhabitants generally married young. There was no distinction of rank, and very little fortune. The first impression of love generally resulted in marriage, and a family establishment cost but little labor and nothing else.

WEDDINGS.

A Kentucky wedding was a very picturesque affair, and excited the attention of the whole community in which it occurred.

In the morning of the wedding day the groom and his attendants assembled at the house of his father for the purpose of proceeding to the mansion of the bride, which it was desirable to reach by noon, the usual time of celebrating nuptials, which ceremony must, at all events, take place before dinner.

Dress.

The gentlemen were dressed in shoe packs, moccasins, leather breeches, leggings, linsey hunting shirts, all home-made; the ladies in linsey petticoats and linsey or linen bed gowns, coarse shoes and stockings, handkerchiefs and buck-skin gloves. If there were any buckles, rings, buttons or ruffles, they were relics of old times.

The Feast.

The ceremony of marriage preceded the dinner, which was a substantial backwoods feast of beef, pork, fowl, and sometimes venison and bear meat roasted and boiled with plenty of potatoes, cabbage and other vegetables.

The Dance.

After dinner the dancing commenced, which generally lasted until the next morning. The figures of the dance were three and four hundred reels or square sets, jigs and hoe-downs. About nine o'clock a deputation of young ladies stole off the bride and put her to bed. A deputation of young men in a like manner stole off the groom and snugly tucked him beside his bride.

A Good Seat.

The dance still continued, and if seats happened to be scarce, every young man not engaged in the dance was obliged to offer his lap as a seat for one of the girls, which was sure to be accepted. In the midst of this hilarity, the bride and groom were not forgotten.

"Black Betty."

Pretty late in the night somebody would remind the company that the new couple must stand in need of some refreshment, and "black betty," which was the name of the bottle, was sent upstairs, but not often alone.

Well Fed.

Sometimes as much bread, beef, pork and cabbage was sent along with her as would afford a good meal for half a dozen hungry men. The young couple were compelled to eat or drink more or less of whatever was offered them.

After the Wedding.

The marriage over, the cabin of the young pair was raised, the house-warming took place, and the young couple were fairly launched upon the voyage of life.

Two Sketches.

In the close of this desultory sketch, I will introduce only two other incidents—one the most pleasing and the other the most tragic and melancholy in the history of Kentucky; the
first the capture and the rescue of the daughters of Callaway and Boone; the second Estill’s defeat.

One Hundred Years Ago.

Enoch Smith, Sr., was surveying and raising corn in this county in July, 1776. In the fall of 1775, as we have seen, he built a cabin and in the spring of 1776 made a clearing where the old brick house now stands on Judge Winn’s farm. He would come occasionally to his cabin to look after his improvements and explore his land. On one of these occasions, as he was following the broad buffalo trace up Somerset, with portions of a fat buffalo he had just killed upon his back, he was startled by the report of a rifle in front of him. The buffalo was quickly dropped and he sought concealment in an adjacent cane-brake. Peering from the thicket he discovered a party of Indians with three white female captives. Hurrying back to Boonesborough to carry the news, he met the party in pursuit.

Three of Them.

Just one hundred years ago, the 14th day of July, three young girls—Betsey and Fanny Callaway and Jemima Boone—left alone in fancied security one Sunday evening, at the Fort of Boonesborough, sat dreaming and talking, no doubt, then as maidens dream and talk now.

Love’s Dream.

It is the same old story that still repeats itself. These girls, born and bred in the hardships and adventures of pioneer life, early developed the graces and charms of womanhood. Each had her hero and lover, and as they sat this July day, one hundred years ago, on the banks of the Kentucky, the dark waters rolling by and the primeval forests waving overhead were filled with the murmurings and whisperings of love.

The Trio’s Ages.

Jemima Boone was but fourteen, but she was the queen regent of the heart of Flanders Callaway. Fanny Callaway, about the same age, was the one woman in the world, above all others, for whom John Holder would tilt the lance against any rival; and Betsey Callaway, brave, beauteous Betsey, who was some two years older than the other girls, was the highest love of Samuel Henderson. History does not tell us where these brave lads had gone with the older Boone, but it is most probable they were trailing the redskins, or were out upon a hunting excursion. With a daring that to the timid women of the present day must appear as fool-hardiness, those girls loosened a skiff from its moorings, and rode into the middle of the river.—While idly splashing the water with their oars, an unheeded current drifted them to the opposite shore.

Kidnapped.

The wily red men were in ambush; and seizing his opportunity, one brawny fellow sprung out and catching the rope dragged the canoe to shore. But not without a struggle were the captives secured. Bold Betsey Callaway, seizing an oar, cleave the head of the foremost savage to the skull. She fought for the younger girls as a mother for her children, but “vain valor.” All were soon secured, and the Indians started off with their prizes. Their screams had been heard within the fort, but no pursuit could be organized until the return of the absent fathers and lovers.

A Comparison.

Young men, put yourselves in the place of these lovers. A lady-love was not so easily replaced then as now perhaps. Love meant home, matrimony a helping companion to brighten the log cabin in the wilderness. So we cannot smile at these honest loves, and the consternation, rage, amazement that filled the hearts of the men on their return to the fort. “The girls they had left behind them” were in the hands of cruel, treacherous savages.

The Pursuit.

But in less time than it takes to tell it, Daniel Boone, Colonel John Floyd, John Holder, Flanders Callaway, Samuel Henderson with others, some on foot and some on horse, were off in pursuit. “When the Indians started with the girls, they made the younger ones take off their shoes and put on moccasins, but
Betsey refused to take off her shoes, and, as she walked along, she ground her heel into the soil to leave a trail. Noticing this, the Indians made the whole party walk apart and deviate from the course so as to wade through the water and destroy the trail.

Not Afraid.

"Then the undaunted Betsey broke off twigs and dropped them along the road, never doubting for a moment that her father and her lover would soon be in hot pursuit of them, and when the savages threatened her with uplifted tomahawks if she persisted in this, she secretly tore off portions of her dress and dropped them along the road.

Anxious Hunt.

"Boone's party soon found the trail and followed rapidly, fearing that the girls might grow weary and be put to death. All Sunday night and all Monday the pursuit was kept up. On Tuesday morning a slender column of smoke was seen in the distance, and the experienced eye of the hunter at once detected the camp of the Indians. A serious difficulty now presented itself. How were the captives to be rescued without giving the captors time to kill them?"

The Rescue.

Betsey Callaway was seated at the root of a tree with a red bandana handkerchief around her, and the heads of the younger girls in her lap. The Indians were gathered around the fire preparatory to cooking some fat buffalo for breakfast. There was but little time for reflection, as the two parties discovered each other about the same time.

The Encounter.

Four of the rescuing party fired simultaneously, and the whole party immediately rushed upon the Indians, preventing them carrying away anything but one shot gun, without ammunition. Says Colonel Floyd in a letter written the next Sunday to Colonel William Preston: "Colonel Boone and myself had a pretty fair shot as they began to move off. I am well convinced I shot one through the body. The one he shot dropped his gun, mine had none. The place was covered with thick cane, and being so much elated on recovering the three poor heartbroken girls, we were prevented from making any further search.

Ravenged.

"We sent the Indians off nearly naked, some without moc-casins, and none of them with so much as a knife or tomahawk. After the girls came to themselves sufficiently to speak, they told us there were five Indians, four Shawanese and one Cherokee.—They could speak good English and said they should go to the Shawnee towns."

Narrow Escape.

Another circumstance attending the recapture has been preserved.

Betsey Callaway, naturally dark complexioned, was made more so by exposure and fatigue, and being mistaken for an Indian squaw barely escaped death at the hands of a friend.

All Marry

The history of this romance would be incomplete, if we failed to state that the boys were each in the due course of time married to the girl of his heart, and for whom he had risked his life. The following notice of marriage in high life is found some three weeks after these events, in the annals of Boonesborough, and is said to be the first marriage ever solemnized in Kentucky.

NUPTIALS

Married, August 7, 1776, by Squint Boone, Samuel Henderson, younger brother of Colonel Richard Henderson, to Elizabeth (generally called Betsey) Callaway, eldest daughter of Richard Callaway.

Another daughter of Colonel Callaway, Kezia, married James French, the father of Honorable Richard French, and we read that Jemima and Flanders Callaway moved to Missouri.
at whose house, on September 26, 1820, died Daniel Boone, aged 89.

ESTILL’S DEFEAT

The county of Montgomery will ever be memorable in the history of Kentucky because it is the scene of “Estill’s Defeat.” This battle was fought on March 22, 1782, on the banks of Hinkston creek, on the farm now owned by Peter G. Flood.

BOLD SAVAGES

A party of twenty-five Wyandottes, the bravest and fiercest of all the Indian tribes, infested Estill’s Station on the south side of Kentucky river, in March, 1782, and having killed and scalped Miss Innes, a daughter of Captain Innes, taken prisoner Monk, the slave of Captain Estill and destroyed the cattle, retreated. Captain James Estill with a party of twenty-five started in pursuit, and came up with the Indians just after they had crossed the creek.

In Camp.

Tradition has it that they had killed a bear or buffalo and built a fire and were preparing a hasty supper. Instantly after discovering the Indians, Captain Estill’s men fired. At first they seemed alarmed and disposed to fly, but their old chief, now wounded and lying on his back, dragged his bleeding body behind a bush and gave orders to stand and fight—on which they promptly prepared for battle, each man taking a tree and facing his enemy as nearly in a line as practicable.

Line of Battle.

The whites formed a corresponding line on the eastern side of the stream, covering themselves also by trees. The battle was singularly obstinate. The numbers were exactly twenty-five on a side. Each man sought his man, and fired only when he saw his mark.

Heroic.

The firing was deliberate, with caution they looked, but look they would for the foe, although life itself was often the penalty.—And thus both sides firmly stood or bravely fell, for more than an hour. One-fourth of the combatants had fallen on either side and several others were wounded.

Flank Move.

Estill finding he could gain no advantage over the Indians at their own peculiar mode of warfare, undertook to out flank them, by sending a detachment of six men under Lieutenant Miller, up a valley running from the creek towards the rear of the enemy’s line.

Deserters.

Whether through treachery or imbecility, Miller failed in his maneuver, and the old chief finding the fire of the whites had slackened, ordered a charge across the stream, and the Indians rushed with rifle and tomahawk upon the diminished band and routed the whites after Captain Estill and six of his men were killed. Four others were badly wounded but escaped. There is a tradition that only two of the Indians got back to their tribe. Monk, the slave, reported that seventeen Indians were killed and two wounded.—The battle lasted about two hours, and is memorable for the equality of its opposing numbers, for the great fortitude with which it was maintained, and for the uncommon proportion of the slain. The whites were the best shooters but the Indians the best hiders. There is a tradition that at the beginning of the fight a stalwart Wyandotte had climbed into the forks of a large sycamore near the creek whence at his leisure he picked off at least three men before his murderous rifle was silenced by a concentrated fire that brought him to the ground.

The Survivors.

Eighteen men survived the battle. The names of ten have been preserved: Colonel William Irvine, Joseph Proctor, (who died in December, 1844, aged 89), Reuben Proctor, James Berry, William Cradlebaugh, David Lynch, Henry Boyer, John Jameson, (who afterwards represented Montgomery county in the Legislature), Ensign David Cook and Lieutenant William Miller. Of the seven who were killed or died of their wounds, the names of six are preserved: Captain James Estill, Adam Caper-
Jonathan McMillan, Lieutenant John South, Jr., John Collfoot and McNulty. Captain Estill fired his gun first and the Indians fled. David Cook, in his ardor, got some distance in advance, and seeing an Indian halt, raised his gun and fired just at that instant another Indian passed in and one shot proved fatal to both.

Adam Caperton.
One of Estill's warmest personal friends, was shot through the head, which did not immediately kill, but crazed him. Unconscious of what he was doing, he staggered into the open space that separated the combatants, when a powerful Wyandotte, whose gun had just been emptied, sprang from behind a tree to tomahawk and scalp him.

Desperate Struggle.
Estill near by, with his gun also empty and wounded three times, could not abandon his unarmed friend, but rushed towards the savage with a drawn butcher knife. The latter saw his danger, and turning instantly, grappled with Estill in hand-to-hand, life and death contest. Each was so powerful and quick, the other could not use his weapon, first up, then down upon the ground; twisting and turning like two immense serpents struggling for the mastery. At last Estill's broken arm, shattered by an Indian ball four months before, and not yet strong, gave way, and the Indian with a wild yell of triumph, buried his knife in his body and killed him instantly.

Death Knell.
That yell was the death knell of two brave spirits, an instant more and the Indian fell dead across Estill's body, pierced by a ball from the unerring rifle of Joseph Proctor. He had been watching the contest with steady aim, but hesitated to shoot lest he should kill his captain while trying to kill his foe. This same Joseph Proctor, assisted by the negro Monk, bore his wounded friend, William Irvine, on his back, from the battle-ground to Estill's Station, a distance of forty miles.

Captain Estill
Was one of Kentucky's best and bravest defenders, and has left behind him a name which will live in the annals of Kentucky so long as there shall be men to appreciate patriotism and self-devotion of a martyr to the cause of humanity and civilization.

Eulogy.
We can well apply to Estill and his comrades the words of Simonides on the heroes of Thermopylae, "Of those who died at Thermopylae, glorious is the fate and fair the doom: instead of lamentation they have endless fame; their dirge is a chant of praise. Such winding sheet as theirs, no rust, no, nor all conquering time shall bring to naught. But this sepulchre of brave men hath taken for its inhabitant the glory of Hellas. Leonidas is witness, Sparta's King, who has left a mighty crown of valor and undying fame."

Legal View.
We may add that in the suit of Arthur Conley's Heirs vs. William Chiles, in which opinion of the Kentucky Court of Appeals was pronounced by Chief Justice Robertson, January Term, 1831; the whole history of this famous fight was told by eye-witnesses, the survivors of the battle, and those who went next day to bury the dead—and a map drawn. The deposition of William Calk, was taken on the ground, September 6th, 1803, and the very spot where Estill fell, was fixed by the county surveyor—"S 71 degrees, W. 29 poles to the mouth of the branch."

Beautiful.
It would be unpardonable to omit the beautiful panegyric of the gifted Chief Justice upon "Estill's Defeat," embraced in that opinion: "The battle was fought on 22 March, 1782, in the now county of Montgomery, and in the vicinity of Mt. Sterling. It is a memorable incident and perhaps the most memorable in the interesting history of the settlement of Kentucky. The usefulness and popularity of Captain Estill; the deep and universal sensibility excited by the premature death of a citizen so gallant and beloved; the emphatic character of his as-
sociates in battle; the masterly skill and chivalric daring displayed throughout the action, "every man to his man and each to his tree;" the grief and despondence produced by the catastrophe; all contributed to give to 'Estill's Defeat' a most signal notoriety and importance, especially among the early settlers. All the story, with all its circumstances of locality and of 'the fight,' was told again and again until even the children knew it by heart. No legendary tale was ever listened to with as intense anxiety or was inscribed in as vivid and indelible an impress on the hearts of the few of both sexes, who then constituted the hope and strength of Kentucky."

CREEKS.

Harper Creek was named for John Harper, who settled on the farm now belonging to John W. White's widow and heirs.

SPENCER CREEK.

Was named for Spencer Reed, who came to Montgomery county with William Call when he brought his family. Reed built a cabin where J. B. Orear, Esq., now lives.

SOMERSET CREEK

Is now wrongly called. It was named by the father of John J. Crittenden when on a surveying expedition to the county. As he stood on the banks and admired the beauty of the valley through which it ran, he said to his company, "I name this creek Summer Seat." And so, on the authority of Captain John Mason, it was called for some time, when it got corrupted into Somerset.

SLATE CREEK

Was named from the slate rocks found on its banks.

GRASSY LICK CREEK

Derived its name as follows: On its banks near or on the Howell farm there was a lick where the buffalo resorted in great numbers, and where the cane and undergrowth were killed out by trampling. Where the space was cleared the blue grass had sprung up luxuriantly, and when the early hunters saw this spot in the unbroken wilderness, they denominated it "Grassy Lick." Lubegrud is said to be of Indian derivation and to mean "Red Water."

MOUND BUILDERS.

That mysterious race known as the "mound builders"—a race whose history has utterly perished from the memory of the world, save as they left fragments of their splendid civilization in their sepulchres, temples and buried cities, once possessed the soil we now tread.

LONG AGO.

Nearly 3,000 years before Daniel Boone stood upon the banks of Red River and looked upon the fertile domains of this western paradise, this strange people had disappeared. Throughout Kentucky, in Montgomery county, they left ineffaceable vestiges of their existence.

ANCIENT GREATNESS.

The graves of races, coeval with King David, are in our fields, now alive with the energies of the Anglo-Saxon... and ruins prehistoric, Cyclopean, Phoenician, Egyptian, Malayan, Israelitish, Etruscan or Assyrian attest the power and magnificence of the grand empires that fell before the horrors of internecine war or the Invasions of the Indians.

A GREAT PEOPLE

We're swept out of existence, their cities disappeared, the grass grew above them, and in time the cane-brakes and the forests. We have said this ancient and unknown people left its footprints in Montgomery. On the farm of the late Jacob Johnson, about four miles from Mt. Sterling, is a mound situated near to what appears to have been an entrenched of square form. On the eastern side appears to have been a gateway some twenty feet in width, and leading to a spring some thirty yards off. When the county was first settled trees were growing in the entrenchment, and on the banks, as large as any in the forests that surrounded it.
IN THE CITY.

Within the corporate limits of Mt. Sterling, in the angle formed by the intersection of Little Mountain or Locust Street with the Mt. Sterling and Jeffersonville turnpike, stood a mound of considerable height, on the level bottom of Small Mountain or Hinkston creek, on which, it is related, trees of several hundred years growth were standing when the town was laid out.

A PITY.

This tumulous was called "Little Mountain," and was memorable in the early annals of the county. An enterprising citizen of Mt. Sterling, wanting the dirt to make bricks, and loving utility more than the monuments of a lost race, within the memory of many present, cut down this landmark of the mound-builders, and moulded into brick, the dust of dead Aztecs or of the lost tribes of the house of Israel, and built a house upon the very site of the razed mound.

CURIOUS THINGS.

Interpersed with the human bones which were dug up, were found also, many curious things, among which were two breast plates, one of copper and one of Queenware, each about the size of a man's hand, large beads of ivory and copper, and copper bracelets were also found. Enoch Smith and James Smith assure me that they handled the bones taken from this mound, and also grains of corn petrified into solid rock.

MORE TO BE SEEN.

About two miles from Mt. Sterling, on the farm of William Ragan, stand two mounds, one of conical shape, flattened on top, and of considerable size, upon whose summit and side trees are standing that must have been old before a white settler entered Kentucky. The other is smaller, with trees also on it. The country is rich in other remains of extinct people, that may yield valuable material to an antiquarian.

BURIAL GROUND.

 Tradition reports the existence of an extensive burial ground on the farm owned by the late Colonel Josiah Davis, about five miles west of Mt. Sterling, on the Winchester pike, over which the plow was driven, turning up human bones, arrow heads skillfully wrought of flint, and pipes curiously carved and covered with hieroglyphics.

OLD FORT.

Within sight almost, of the spot where we now stand, there are the remains of a fort, on the farm of John T. Magowan. It has been known and regarded, as a marvelous curiosity. It is in the woods known as the "Old Fort" woods, and is plainly to be seen today, as the land has never been plowed. It contains, within the enclosure, about two acres of land, on which are three small mounds. It is elliptical in form, and trees are growing upon the fortifications several hundred years old.

STILL OTHERS.

There is also a mound on the farm of Jabez Dooley, near town, and I am told, upon good authority, that there are more than sixty of these mounds within the borders of Montgomery county.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

The county of Montgomery has been the birthplace and home of many eminent citizens; of men who have left their names in the legislation, judicial and political history of the country. Many of them have passed away, leaving but little more than a recollection of their talents and virtues. We can name only a few, being all concerning whom we could gather up any accurate memoranda.

A man named Ringo, who was born in Montgomery county, moved to Arkansas, where he became Judge of the Supreme Court of the state.

ALBERT HARRISON.

Albert Harrison, born in Mt. Sterling, a son of Micajah Harrison, was a member of Congress from Missouri, and a candidate for governor when he died.

JOHN JAMESON.

John Jameson was born in Montgomery, removed to Callaway county, Missouri, acquired celebrity as a criminal lawyer.
was six years a member of Congress, and for many years took a leading and conspicuous part in Missouri politics. He was a speaker of great power.

W. T. Wallace, now Chief Justice of California, was born in Mt. Sterling, and lived here until manhood.

JUDGE RICHARD FRENCH.

Was born in Madison county, in 1792. His father, James French, was a native of Virginia, and in early youth emigrated to Kentucky, where he was engaged in making surveys of lands under the employment of parties in Virginia, and also in fighting the Indians.

His Marriage.

In 1785 he married Keziah, the daughter of Colonel Richard Callaway, in Boone's fort at Boonesborough, among the first marriages that were ever celebrated in the fort. He removed to Montgomery county in 1782, to a farm purchased by him, five miles west of Mt. Sterling, where he resided, respected for his sterling integrity and excellent understanding, until his death, on April 1, 1835. His son Richard having received a good English education and some knowledge of Latin, studied law under Samuel Hanson, of Winchester. Before his return he secured his law license, married Susan French, his cousin and sister of Richard French, and began the practice of law in Mt. Sterling.

Circuit Judge.

He was very successful, and in the spring of 1837 was appointed Circuit Judge by Governor Clark, which office he held until May, 1851. Before his appointment to the judgeship he had been once elected to the Lower House of the Kentucky Legislature, the only time he ever aspired to political honors. After his retirement from the Bench, he resumed the practice of his profession, and continued it until his death, which occurred in Mt. Sterling, in August, 1864. He was a valued citizen, and an amiable man, and a most excellent lawyer. A distinguished Federal Judge at Frankfort once remarked that he considered Judge Farrow the best lawyer in Kentucky.

RICHARD HICKMAN MENEFEE

Was born in Montgomery county, now Bath, in Owingsville, on December 4th, 1809. His father, Richard Menefee, Sr., was a potter by trade, and worked at the Bourbon Furnace. He was a man of vigorous mind. His mother is described by James Moffett, who knew her from his boyhood, as being one of the most beautiful and attractive women he ever saw; with fair skin, light soft hair, blue eyes, beautiful teeth, trimly made, very lithe and active, of medium height, extremely modest, almost diffident, of sweet disposition and a great strength of intellect. She was a devout Presbyterian, and a member of Joseph P. Howe's church, who baptized her children.

Name.

For several months after his birth, the child bore the name of his father's leader, Henry Clay, but it was changed subsequently to Richard Hickman, from respect to a warm personal and family friend. When he was four years of age, his father
died. At fifteen, he taught school, at sixteen he came to Mt. Sterling and taught in the family of Edward Stockton, the fast friend of his father.

His Education.

In his 18th year, he entered Transylvania University, and in every department bore away the palm. He returned to Mt. Sterling, again taught school and prosecuted the study of the law with Judge James Trimble. In 1830, he obtained his license to practice; in 1831, attended the law lectures at Transylvania; in 1832, he was appointed Commonwealth's Attorney, and was subsequently elected to the Kentucky Legislature from Montgomery, when he was barely eligible, serving the session 1836-37. He sprang to the front at once, and was the author of what is known as the "Equalization Law."

To Congress.

At 27, as the Whig candidate, he was elected to Congress over Judge Richard French, in a District where the latter had been two years before elected by an overwhelming majority. He served but one term, 1837-39, entering Congress the same time with S. S. Prentiss and Henry A. Wise. His efforts on the floor of Congress, bore the impress of high genius and commanding talent.

Removal.

At the close of his term he removed to Lexington, as a larger field for the practice of his profession. There, business flowed in upon him, and he was on the road to that fortune that would have enabled him to re-enter public life, and realize the ambitious dreams he so ardently cherished.

His Death.

His brilliant career was checked by his death, which occurred in Lexington, February 20th, 1841, having just entered upon his thirty-second year. His death cast a gloom over the whole State, and especially was the grief keen, and the mourning sincere in Montgomery, where everybody loved him, and felt he was the child of Montgomery, where his rare gifts and powers had first come to notice of men, and where he had achieved his first triumphs.

As A Statesman.

It has been the fortune of few men of the same age, to spring so suddenly into fame. Born in obscurity, and forced to struggle in early life against an array of depressing influences, sufficient to crush any common spirit, he had rapidly but surely attained an eminence, which fixed the eye of the Union upon him as one of the rising statesmen of America. — His views of public affairs were profound, liberal and comprehensive. He was great as a lawyer, and greater as a statesman. The eulogy of Thomas F. Marshall upon Mr. Menefee's life and services, the tribute of brilliant and erratic genius, to genius still more brilliant, but self-poised and commanding, is one of the most graceful and eloquent in the whole field of panegyric literature.

HONORABLE AMOS DAVIS

Was born in Mt. Sterling. His father, Jeremiah Davis, was a man of fine understanding and popular manners. He had served his county in the Legislature, and for a number of years as a justice of the peace, and was high Sheriff of the county when he died. His son Amos was his deputy, and although only about 15 years of age at the death of his father, such was the confidence of the people of the county in him, and his popularity, that by the almost unanimous voice of his countrymen he was recommended to the Governor for the appointment to fill the vacancy in the office of Sheriff, caused by the death of his father, to which office he was appointed, and most faithfully did he discharge the duties thereof.

Political.

Very soon after he attained the constitutional age he was elected to the legislature, and was elected several times afterwards. In 1833 he was elected to Congress, and died in June, 1835, in Owingsville, then a candidate for Congress against Judge French. What the result of the election would have been if Mr. Davis had lived no one can tell, but French was
Colonel James H. Lane.

Was born in Loudon county, Virginia, on 24th February, 1767. He removed to Kentucky in 1789, and lived a short time at Strode’s Station, in Clark county. In 1790 or 91 he, together with his uncle, Captain Enoch Smith, and Captain John Crawford, made the first settlement in Montgomery county, near where Mt. Sterling now stands. In 1791 or 92 he built the first cabin in what is now Bath county, on Lane’s branch, near the farm on which he lived at the time of his death. He was lieutenant of a company of militia that pursued the Indians who burned Morgan’s Station, and was engaged in several other expeditious against the Indians. For many years he was a Justice of the Peace of Montgomery county, and also sheriff and Colonel of the Kentucky Militia. Colonel Lane was an honest man, a good, liberal, public-spirited citizen, a kind father, and most humane and indulgent master, and in all relations of life discharged his duties faithfully and fearlessly. He was the father of Honorable Henry S. Lane, of Indiana; of Higgins Lane, of the same state; of Mrs. Sally Stone, mother of Honorable Henry L. Stone, and of Evaline Reid, wife of the late Newton Reid. A numerous posterity cherish his name with affectionate remembrance.

Captain Harry Daniel.

Was born in Virginia, March, 1786. His father removed to Kentucky when he was quite small and settled in the southeastern part of Clark county, near the Montgomery line. Harry was sent to school a few years in Fayette county, where he acquired a tolerable English education, and some knowledge of the Latin language. He then read law with the Honorable Henry Clay, for whom he cherished the warmest friendship, although they differed in their political views. In 1809, Captain Daniel having obtained license, located in Mt. Sterling and commenced the practice of law, which he pursued with diligent success until the war was declared against Great Britain by the United States, in 1812.

The War of 1812.

Early in 1813 he, as captain, and the late Captain John Mason as first lieutenant, raised a company of volunteers and joined the Army of the North-west, and remained in the service till the close of the war. He then returned and resumed the practice of his profession. He was soon after appointed attorney for the commonwealth for his circuit, which position he held until about the year 1822, when he resigned and became a candidate for the State Senate. The late General Samuel L. Williams was his successful competitor. He did not embark in politics again till 1826, when he and the late Colonel Aquilla Young became candidates for the popular branch of the Legislature, (Montgomery then being entitled to two representatives) the rival candidates being Dr. John Duke and Honorable Amos Davis. They divided on the interesting and exciting question of New and Old Court.

Daniel and Young being for the New Court, and Duke and Davis for the Old Court. The parties so equally divided that it was not known which had the majority; each had selected its most popular men. Daniel and Davis were both gifted and popular orators, and candidates were never more vigilant, active and anxious, and never were friends more devoted and enthusiastic; every man was ready to go wherever he could render service. At the end of three days of constant and doubtful struggle, it was ascertained that Daniel and Young had succeeded by a few votes.

Legislature to Congress.

Daniel served out the session for which he was elected, being regarded as the leader of his party, and the next year, 1827, an election for Congress in the state was to be held. The two great political parties had not assumed the name of Democrat and Whig, but were designated as Jackson and Clay, taking the names of their great leaders. Captain Daniel had
been throughout the conflict a warm supporter of General Jackson, and the friends of Jackson looked to him as their champion. In the prime of life, in the vigor of health, ambitious and flushed with his victory of the last election, he was eager to enter the lists, although he knew his competitor, Honorable David Trimble, was a "foeman worthy of his steel." He was then the member for the district, and had been for ten years, and was believed by his friends to be invincible. He was a man still in his prime of life, though several years the senior of Captain Daniel, in vigorous health, of very fine personal appearance, dignified, talented and courteous, but as courageous as Caesar, as Captain Daniel had previously learned to his cost. Major Trimble was a Pennsylvanian by birth, and though of Quaker parentage, he had not imbibed their entire pacific principles, but had emigrated to Kentucky early in life, and located in Mt. Sterling as a lawyer; he and Captain Daniel had been rivals at the bar for several years, and on the occasion of some grave misunderstanding a challenge passed, was accepted, and

A Duel

Followed, in which Daniel was wounded, and carried the bullet up to his death. After he recovered the parties were reconciled and the affair ended. Under these circumstances, and with these relations, the candidates commenced the canvass for Congress the spring of 1828. Major Trimble having the advantage of being known to almost every voter of the district and the prestige of having vanquished every competitor. But in the election for President in the House of Representatives, between General Jackson and Mr. Calhoun in 1832 he took sides with Mr. Calhoun, and was a candidate for Congress a while in 1833. His old competitor, Honorable Amos Davis, whom he had beaten for the Legislature in 1826, and for Congress, in 1831, was again a candidate; he was what was then called a Clay man, and it was hoped his popularity and powers on the stump would reclaim the district and bring it back to Mr. Clay. After canvassing a while, Captain Daniel found he would be beaten by Mr. Davis, as many of his old friends would not support him on account of his having taken sides with Mr. Calhoun against General Jackson and declined the race, and soon afterwards removed to the county of Greenup, where he had been engaged in manufacturing iron, and after having represented that county several years in the popular branch of the Legislature, he died at an advanced age.

Again in Congress.

Captain Daniel was elected twice afterwards to Congress, but in the memorable disagreement and alienation between General Jackson and Mr. Calhoun. In 1836 he took sides with Mr. Calhoun, and was a candidate for Congress a while in 1833. His old competitor, Honorable Amos Davis, whom he had beaten for the Legislature in 1826, and for Congress, in 1831, was again a candidate; he was what was then called a Clay man, and it was hoped his popularity and powers on the stump would reclaim the district and bring it back to Mr. Clay. After canvassing a while, Captain Daniel found he would be beaten by Mr. Davis, as many of his old friends would not support him on account of his having taken sides with Mr. Calhoun against General Jackson and declined the race, and soon afterwards removed to the county of Fayette and engaged in agricultural pursuits, giving some attention to the law. Having been alienated from General Jackson in 1836, he advocated the election of General Harrison against Van Buren, and was the elector for the Fayette district, having been previously elected to the Legislature from Fayette county. About 1840 he returned to Montgomery county, reunited himself to the Democratic party, and continued warmly attached to that party till

His Death

In Mt. Sterling, Kentucky, in October, 1873, always taking a lively interest in politics. He was never a candidate for office after he returned to Montgomery. Several years before his
A useful and conspicuous place in the history of Montgomery County.

COLONEL JOSIAH DAVIS

Was born in Fayette county, Kentucky, near Bryant's Station, in March, 1797. His father, James Davis, was a native of Ireland and a soldier of the Revolution. His mother's maiden name was Flora McPherson. About 1820 Colonel Davis removed to Montgomery county, where he resided until his death, in March, 1847. For many years he filled a conspicuous position in the affairs of the county, serving several terms in the Legislature, and as Colonel of the State Militia. He was a man of peace; the champion of the poor; an arbiter in all neighborhood disputes; a trusted adviser, and a steadfast friend. His personal appearance was marked and his manner pleasing and cordial. His conversational powers were of the first order; and though his early educational advantages were few, he had, by diligent study of the best books, amassed varied stores of knowledge. His memory was enormous. He never forgot anything he read. He had collected a fine library, and Burns and Shakespeare were his cherished authors. He was an ardent Whig and his house was a favorite resort for his political friends, where he dispensed a generous hospitality. While he was an unequalled talker, his diffidence was so great he could never make a speech; but no man excelled him in "mixing" with the people, and he was a power in all county elections. His Irish blood showed itself in his ready wit, his unfailing good humor and quickness of repartee. He was a model citizen, of irreproachable character; and his sound common sense, excellent judgment and ripe culture gave him a wide and commanding influence. He was an earnest Christian, having been received into the Church of Christ under the ministry of John Smith. He died in the prime of his manhood and usefulness, and his death was universally deplored in the county.

HENRY S. LANE.

The son of Colonel James H. Lane, was born in Montgomery county, Kentucky, on 24th February, 1811. His mother's maiden name was Mary Higginson. He received a good English
COHIST

HISTORICAL SKETCHES OF

education in the common schools and afterwards studied the Latin language and literature under the Honorable Silas W. Robbins. He was a young man of fine gifts, and at an early age gave promise of the distinction that awaited him. He pursued the study of law under the instruction of General W. M. and Major James Sudduth, in Owingsville, Kentucky, and having received his license to practice from Judges French and Robbins, he removed in 1833 to Crawfordsville, Montgomery county, Indiana, and commenced the practice of his profession. His success was immediate and great, and he soon rose to the front rank. He was in active practice until 1854, and after that date turned his attention to politics and banking. He was a prominent figure in Indiana politics for many years. In 1837 he was elected to the Legislature and served one term; in 1840 he was chosen Representative from the 7th District to the 26th Congress, and was re-elected to the 27th Congress, and when his term of office expired, retired voluntarily. In 1846 he raised a volunteer company for the Mexican War, was first chosen captain, then major, and finally lieutenant-colonel of the first Regiment of Indiana Volunteers. He served with distinction under General Taylor in Northern Mexico for one year, the term of enlistment. In 1853 he was elected to the United States Senate, but did not obtain his seat. In 1860 he was elected governor of Indiana, which office he held but a short time, when in 1861 he was again elected to the United States Senate and served the full term of six years. Oliver P. Morton was lieutenant governor, and succeeded him. Mr. Lane has since served two years on the Indiana Peace Commission, under the appointment of President Grant. He is now living in retirement at Crawfordsville, Indiana, loved and respected by all who know him, a useful and eminent citizen, a man who has conferred honor upon both his native and adopted states, and been distinguished through a long and honorable life for his intrepid courage, his unswerving adherence to his convictions and his catholic patriotism. He has been twice married. His first wife was Pamela Jameson, a sister of the late Milton Jameson, of this county; his last a Miss Elston, of Crawfordsville, who is still living. He has no children or descendants. He lives in comfortable affluence, in a vigorous and serene old age.

CLARINDA ELLINGTON

Was the daughter of David Ellington, who was one of the early settlers with Boone, and was living at Morgan's Station when the Indians captured it in April, 1793. Among the children captured on that occasion was Miss Clarinda, who was then about twelve years old. She was afterwards taken to Tennessee by the Cherokees and married Tuscaro, an Indian Chief, by whom she had three children, John, Selia and William. In about 1810 she was permitted to return to this county to educate her children, and lived with her uncle, Jacob Ellington, on John Beatty's farm, on Spencer, for a number of years, and afterwards married by whom she had several children. The three first children inherited a large landed estate in Tennessee, but were swindled out of the whole of it.

HONORABLE BELVARD J. PETERS

Was born in Fauquier county, Virginia, November 3d, 1805. His father William Peters, emigrated to Kentucky in December, 1809, and settled on a farm in Woodford county, devised to him by his grandfather, Captain John Ashby. After having been three years under the tuition of Dr. Lewis Marshall, at Buck Pond Academy, in Woodford county, young Peters was sent to Transylvania University, and graduated in the literary department in 1825. He read law under Chief Justice John Boyle, in Mercer county, and having obtained license to practice in February, 1827, located in Owingsville, Bath county, Kentucky. In the fall of 1829 he was appointed county attorney by the Bath County Court, and held the office until his resignation in the fall of 1833. In 1842 he was appointed to the like office by the Montgomery County Court, and held it until the spring of 1846, when he became a candidate for the Legislature, having removed from Bath in 1834. In September, 1833, he married the then only daughter of Honorable Kenas Farrow. In 1845 he was elected to the Lower House of the Kentucky Legislature, and upon his return in the spring of 1846, by the choice of both political parties, who endorsed his
course as a representative, he was again selected as a candidate, but was compelled to decline for private and personal considerations, and immediately resumed the practice of the law in Mt. Sterling, which he pursued with energy, success and profit. In 1848, James G. Hazelrigg, the Clerk of the Montgomery County Court, died, and at the solicitations of Judge Farrow, the then Circuit Judge, he was induced to accept at his hands the vacancy. He held this office until 1851, but was not a candidate for the office under the new constitution. In 1856 he was defeated for Circuit Judge by Honorable J. W. Moore.

In 1860 he was elected Judge of the Court of Appeals from the first District, overcoming a political majority of over 2,000 votes, his competitor being Honorable James Simpson. In 1866 he was re-elected, beating his opponent, Honorable George W. Williams, of Paris, nearly 10,000 votes. His term of office expired September, 1877. Though in his 74th year Judge Peters is in vigorous health and in the full possession of his mental powers. He comes of distinguished and long-lived stock, and those who have the good fortune to know him well, wish him lengths of days in the land and the full enjoyment in his declining years, of the honors he has won and worn so worthily. Since his term of office expired as a member of the Court of Appeals Judge Peters has lived at his pleasant and luxurious home in this city, giving part of his time and attention to the law; but principally devoting himself to the breeding and raising of Short-horn cattle. He having one of the finest herds in Eastern Kentucky. His health is still good, and he bids fair yet to live many years.

PREWITT FAMILY.

Among the many useful and respected citizens of Montgomery county, Willis Prewitt, James Prewitt and Nelson Prewitt deserve mention. They were all born in Fayette county, Kentucky, near Bryant's Station, and, when young men, removed to Montgomery, where, by their uprightness, integrity and energy, they soon became leading men in the community. For many years Willis Prewitt was a magistrate and was distinguished by his public spirit, his love of justice and his devotion to the interests of the county.

Nelson Prewitt was a universal favorite. He represented the county one term in the Lower House of the Kentucky Legislature. He was a man of fine presence, genial manner, unerring courtesy and possessed of excellent endowments and uncommon culture.

James Prewitt is now the only survivor. He is a man of fine understanding, of sturdy honesty and of unbounded hospitality.

Each of the Prewitts amassed large fortunes and their descendants are numbered among our best citizens.

WILLIAMS FAMILY.

General Samuel L. Williams was born in Montgomery county, Kentucky, October 27, 1781, and died on the farm where he was born, on September 3, 1872. He was all his life a conspicuous citizen. He represented the county repeatedly in both branches of the Legislature; and was a soldier in the War of 1812 and a general in the state militia. He was remarkable for his fine figure and handsome presence, and for his uncommon strength of body and mind. General John S. Williams, the United States Senator elect, is his son, and Montgomery enjoys the honor of being his birthplace and his residence. Another son is General Richard L. Williams also a citizen of Montgomery. who assisted to start the state government of California, he being a member of the Legislature of that state. He also was with Walker in his enterprise in Central America, and yet chronicles, with lively interest, "hairbreadth escapes and moving accidents by field and flood."

JUDGE JAMES W. MOORE.

Prior to the Civil War he was a prominent figure in Montgomery county and Eastern Kentucky. He was born and reared in our midst. In early life he struggled against adverse fortune, and by his diligence and industry filled himself for the bar. He was an earnest and accomplished lawyer and followed his profession with zeal and success, and among a bar distinguished for its learning and acumen, he soon ranked among the first. He was once chosen judge of this judicial district,
and filled the place with fidelity and ability. In 1858 he was chosen leader of the Democratic party, and made the race for Congress against Laban T. Moore, and, after a gallant canvass, was defeated by a small vote. He then pursued the law in Mt. Sterling until the outbreak of the war, when he went South and united his fortunes with those of the Confederacy, serving as a member of Congress from Kentucky. At the close of the war he took up his abode in Washington City and engaged in the practice of his profession, and whilst so employed paralysis overtook him and benumbed his faculties and left him wholly unfit for work. In the spring of 1877 he came with his devoted wife to the generous home of his nephew, J. W. Harrah where he received every comfort that unselfish love and devotion could give him until death came and kindly released him from his sufferings.

He was a generous, open-hearted man of fine natural endowments, and of marked ability as a speaker. The time was when he was a power at the bar, on the bench, and on the hustings. His disposition was gentle and kind and his social qualities of the rarest order. He was twice married. His first wife was a sister of D. F. Walker. She lived but a short time. His second wife was Virginia Lane. He had no children. He died September 14, 1877, at the residence of James W. Harrah, in Mt. Sterling.

THOMAS HOFFMAN

Moved to Mt. Sterling in 1806, from Culpepper county, Virginia. He was a carpenter by trade and built many of the houses now standing in Mt. Sterling. He was also engaged in the mercantile business for many years and was a trustee of the town, in whose welfare and prosperity he took a lively interest. In 1841 he moved to Vevay, Indiana, where he died in 1859 at the advanced age of 91 years. He was a man of sound sense, good business qualifications and strict integrity. He left two children now living: William Hoffman, Esq., and Mrs. Margaret Hanly.

CALK FAMILY.

Thomas Calk, Sr., was the son of William Calk, the pioneer. He died in Montgomery county in 1863, on the farm his father had settled and which is still in the possession of his descendants. His wife, whose maiden name was Keas, is still living at an advanced age. He left two sons, I. F. and Thomas Calk, and several daughters, all of whom are now living. Thomas Calk, Sr., was a man of kind heart, positive character and firm opinions. He inherited the strong body and mind of his father, and was a man of prominence and influence in the community; his home was a seat of generous hospitality, and all were welcome to his bounteous board. Cradled in the wilderness, he retained all his life his love for hunting and field sports, and when civilization had stripped the forests and expelled the game, he was never so happy as when spending his time in the mountains with a few genial friends. He accumulated a fine estate and passed away full of years.

RICHARD APPERSON, JR.

Judge Apperson was born in Madison county, Kentucky, on September 20, 1829. In his infancy, his father, the late Honorable Richard Apperson, removed with his family to Mt. Sterling, where the Judge, except for a short interval, passed his whole life. He received a liberal training in the best schools of his day, presided over by such eminent teachers as Plunkett and Rainey, and completed his education at Centre College, Danville, Ky., an institution that has been the nursing mother of so many distinguished men.

A Soldier.

When hardly sixteen years of age his ardent nature caught the fiery glow of patriotism that kindled the hearts of so many Kentuckians, and he enlisted in Captain Turpin's company of volunteers, serving throughout the Mexican War in Colonel W. R. McKee's regiment, and earning a deserved reputation for courage and devotion to duty. Upon his return from the war he commenced and completed the study of law under the tuition of his father, a lawyer of large ability and eminent reputation. His fellow student was Laban T. Moore, a former member of Congress from Kentucky. He began
His Professional Life

In Covington, Kentucky, where he was beginning to win his way to the front rank, when he was summoned by his father, who had embarked in other enterprises, to a partnership in the law, embracing Montgomery and many other counties in North-eastern Kentucky. Here he pursued his profession with energy and success, soon coming to the front, where he had such competitors as Chiles, Peters, Daniel, Hazelrigg, Tenny, Turner and Farrow. In 1842 he was chosen Circuit Judge of the 13th Judicial District, which office he held for six years and discharged all of his duties with fidelity and marked ability. On account of ill-health he did not solicit for re-election, and at the close of his official life went back to the bar—his first love—where he continued in active practice to within a few months of his death.

Marriage.

He married the daughter of Dabney Taylor, Esq., of Jefferson county. His wife and five children, three sons and two daughters, are still living in this city. For years he was president of the Exchange Bank of Kentucky. From early youth he was a communicant of the Presbyterian Church, and in later years was one of its Elders, which office he held at the time of his death.

As A Man

Richard Apperson, Jr., was a man among men; a prince among the people; brave for the right; open-handed; of warm, generous nature; forgiving, charitable and tender-hearted as a woman; full of rich humanity and religious nobleness. In his frail body there dwelt a grand spirit, yet gentle as a child’s; a spirit that hated wrong and loved the right: a spirit that caught and reflected, from the shifting shadows and lights of this life, the prismatic hues of the True, the Beautiful and the Good. He was warm and constant in his friendships; firm and decided in opinions, scrupulous in his fine conscientiousness, and grand in the equipoise of his moral faculties. Though at times silent and reserved, he was the most genial and companionable of men, frank and unreserved in the interchange of thought, and delighting in the society of those he loved. No warmer heart ever beat in a human bosom; no nobler man ever went in and out before the sons of men.

As A Lawyer.

He was a born lawyer. Nature bounteously endowed him with a keen intellect, ready wit, quick perceptions and almost unrivailing powers of analysis. He grasped legal propositions with marvelous intuition; he loved the conflicts of the bar as the war-horse loves the sound of battle. No man detected with quicker vision a weak point in his adversary’s case; no man swept down on it with more fatal effect. Yet he was always courteous and knightly in his bearing and chivalric in his onset, and forgot in the glow of professional friendship and good will the heated contest of the forum. He had an admirable temper for a lawyer. No one ever saw him lose his self-possession in moments of the greatest anxiety, nor could it be discovered from his deportment or countenance during a trial whether it was prosperous or adverse. Indeed he generally steered his craft more boldly in a rough sea.

A Scholar.

He was also a close student of the law, not omitting his labors even in his last sickness. In his youth he laid broad and deep the foundations of his profession and built upon them with unwearied diligence. He was sagacious and searching in the pursuit and discovery of truth and faithful to it beyond the touch of corruption or the diffidence of fear. He learned law as a science and enriched his fertile mind with its principles. And over the law literature shed her benign graces. He had an ardent and sincere passion for letters. All his life he was a collector and diligent reader of the best works. The confidence with which he could rely upon his books for occupation and amusement sustained him through years of broken health, and he had beneath his own roof a never-failing store of exquisite enjoyment, and he died in his library, surrounded by the books he had loved so well, the “mute companions” of his sickness.
Home Influences.

About him there was exhaustless cheerfulness. No matter how sore the battle of life or the hand of disease pressed upon him, he was gentle, patient and uncomplaining, with a smile playing on his thin lips and the warmth of love in his clear blue eyes. In his closing days, when he felt the “silver cord” of life loosening and knew “the golden bowl” would soon be broken, he would have no sad scenes about his sick bed, and exhorted his family, to wipe away their tears.

A Christian.

In the bosom of his family, in health and sickness, he was greatest and gentlest. To see him by his own fireside; to hold him when the conflicts and anxieties of the world were laid aside, and when he sat with his precious household affections, like vines trailing over his nature; to get close up to his pure soul and gaze into its clear depths and catch the reflected light of its unselfishness; to gaze upon the treasures in the storehouse of his cultured intellect; to be led into the immost recesses of his thoughts and learn the generous motives that moved his conduct and shaped his life; to learn from his lips his childlike trust in the God-man, Jesus; to have one’s thoughts in the sweet waters of that charity that flowed, in the freedom and friendly intercourse, from the deep well-springs of his soul—this was to know him—and to grasp, in one comprehensive whole, the catalogue of his many virtues.

On Tuesday morning, January 22, 1878, about 4 o’clock, Richard Apperson, Jr., died at His residence, in this city. Without a struggle his spirit passed into that Presence in which his thoughts and affections had long made themselves a beloved abode. He meekly accepted the burden of a protracted illness, patiently endured his great sufferings, and watched with fortitude and calmness the slow approach of a certain death.

DILLIARD HAZELHURG

Was born in January, 1800 and died in Mt. Sterling, Kentucky, June 21, 1871. In early life he became a member of and assisted in the organization of the Church of Christ in Cilntonville, Bourbon county, Kentucky, in 1828. In 1834, he removed to Montgomery where he resided until his death. For more than forty years he discharged the arduous duties of Elder and by his wise and temperate counsel greatly advanced the cause of Christ. He died suddenly of heart disease and almost without a pang or pain and in the full possession of his faculties. He was well known throughout the county and was loved wherever he was known. He was possessed of fine musical talents and sang with the “spirit and the understanding.” In all the relations of life, he was true and faithful, earnest and conscientious. He was a tender and affectionate father, a kind and forebearing neighbor; an upright and useful citizen. He was a man of clear head, pure heart and discriminating judgment. He was endowed with a strong intellect which he cultivated by much reading and reflection. His convictions were strong and his independence of character marked. In all the walks of life, by the native vigor of his mind and the purity of his conversation, his influence and example were felt and diffused throughout society. In the quiet and unobtrusive dignity of his moral character, he towered among men like Saul amongst the sons of Israel. Religion was to him the bread of life—the manna by which his inner man grew day by day until he attained the stature of a Christian manhood reached by few men. In all his conduct he walked by the light of the Bible and fed richly upon its promises. His spirit illuminated his spirit with a steady and undimmed radiance and shed over his life a serene and quiet contentment which no reverse could overturn or trouble disturb. Upon the divine rock of refuge, he took his stand, cheerful in every time of calamity and joyous with anthems of perpetual thanksgiving. And thus amiable and conservative, devout and hopeful, he took his way through life, sustained by a piety that never flagged and a cheerfulness that was never clouded. As the ripe sheaf is taken at harvest time, he, full of years and hope, was gathered to his fathers. His name and virtues still live among his children and descendants.

JUDGE N. P. REID

Was born in Montgomery county near Mt. Sterling in April, 1820. He received a good common school education and com-
He completed his course at Bacon College. He studied law under the tuition of Honorable Kenaz Farrow, and also attended the law school of Transylvania at Lexington. He began the practice of his profession in Mt. Sterling, and had hardly started when the war with Mexico was declared. He enlisted in Turpin's company and served as 3rd lieutenant until discharged by reason of sickness. After his return, he resumed the law in West Liberty, Kentucky, and was a member of the Kentucky Legislature from Morgan county. In 1858 he removed to Owingsville, Kentucky, where he now resides. In 1861, he was appointed Circuit Judge by Governor Magoffin to fill the unexpired term of Judge Burns in this district, and served as such with great acceptance to the bar and people. Judge Reid is still in the prime of life and engaged in the active duties of his profession. He is a man of fine personal appearance, of gracious and pleasing manners, of kindly charity for all and of warm generous sympathy. He possesses strong natural sense, is a good judge of men, an excellent lawyer and as an advocate before juries, has few equals. His convictions are intense, and he throws all the energies of his ardent nature into his speeches and carries conviction by his fervid earnestness. He is a genial companion, full of delightful humor. For many years, he has been an Elder in the Church of Christ at Owingsville. He married a daughter of William Ragan, Esq., and has but one child. In his happy home, in the church, in all the walks of his life, he is loved and respected by all who know him for his many virtues.

CAPTAIN JOHN MASON.

(We condense from an interesting memoir prepared by B. J. Peters, who was his life-long friend and attorney, and upon the most intimate terms with him, the following sketch of Captain John Mason. We regret we have not space to publish it as written).

He was born in Spotsylvania county, Virginia, February 29, 1776. His father was a Revolutionary soldier, and at the close of the war immigrated to Kentucky with his family and settled in Fayette county. John, in early life, removed to Montgomery, where he followed building and contracting. By his energy and industry he soon accumulated money enough to purchase a farm three miles north-west of Mt. Sterling, where he kept "bachelor's ball" for many years, and dispensed a generous hospitality. He was a far sighted farmer and bought the best breed of horses, cattle, and sheep, at one time paying the then unprecedented price of $500 for an imported Merino ram. He was the first man to introduce the breeding and rearing of Jack and Jenet stock in Montgomery. He was active in raising a volunteer company in 1813, of which he became lieutenant and Henry Daniel captain. At one time he was the owner of more houses and lots in Mt. Sterling than any one man, and many of them at his death passed as a heritage to his children.

In 1824, through the failure of Colonel Thomas Dye Owings in whom he was largely bound as surety, he became involved in financial troubles, from which his sound practical sense and uncommon will rescued him without serious loss.

The distinguished traits of Captain Mason's character were his indomitable courage, his love of truth, his freedom from guile and his devotion to his friends. If his friends had faults, he was the last to see them, and never deserted them in their need; and while he was implacable to his enemies, he was never unjust to them. In politics he was a Democrat of the strictest sect—a states-rights man of the Jeffersonian school. He was elected and served Montgomery county in the lower branch of the Legislature. Many years before his death he joined the Christian church and died a consistent member in its communion, in October, 1866. He married, late in life, Elizabeth, daughter of Captain John Henry, of Morgan county, Kentucky. Five children, three daughters and two sons, John H. and James W. Mason, survived him and all except one daughter who married James Cooke and lives in Caldwell county, Kentucky, are now residents of Montgomery county, and inherit the virtues of their father, and are all highly esteemed members of society.

JAMES L. YOUNG.

Son of Major Talafirro Young, was born in Bath county, Kentucky, in 1837. He was the very soul of honor. In all the walks of life he strove to do his full duty. He was an affec-
tionate and dutiful son; a warm-hearted and generous brother; a friend, true as steel. A braver man never lived. A more upright and chivalric spirit never animated a human body. He served with distinction in the Confederate army, and was noted for his coolness, daring and sagacity. Though he never held a commission, he was often entrusted with delicate and responsible duties, which he discharged in such a manner as to win the confidence of his superior officers and the admiration of his comrades. He was widely known and very popular in the army, and many a veteran soldier who knew and loved him, will mourn his untimely end. He passed unscathed through more than a hundred battles and skirmishes. At the close of the war he embarked in civil pursuits, and for several years was marshal of Mt. Sterling. As such he was industrious and public spirited, giving his attention to the improvement and adornment of the city, and taking the liveliest interest in its welfare and advancement. In the department he filled, the municipal affairs were faithfully managed. He was a quiet peaceable gentleman, just in his views, not easily provoked, yet firm in his convictions and bold and fearless as a lion to execute what he knew was right. He was ardent in his friendships, upright in his dealings and closed his life without spot or blemish on his name or character. He died on Wednesday, November 20, 1878, from a pistol shot received the Monday preceding, while he was, as city marshal of Mt. Sterling, trying to keep the peace and uphold the law.

In the prime of his manhood, with the rich promise of extended usefulness before him, with so many hopes and loves bound up with his life, and with his work unfinished he was cut off; leaving us who loved him orphaned of his presence and his genuine manhood. His example and memory remain to us a rich and precious legacy. Let them flourish in our hearts, and when the summons comes to us, however brief it may be, may it find us, as it found him, at the post of duty.

WALKER BOURNE

Was born on the Rapidan River, in Culpepper county, Virginia, May 5, 1790. When 7 years old he came to Kentucky with his father, James Bourne, who was a soldier of the revolution, and settled on Spencer creek, in Montgomery county. In 1818 he moved to the farm in the same county, where he died, near Springfield church. For many years he was a magistrate of Montgomery county, and also high sheriff. He was a soldier in the War of 1812, and was at the battle of the Thames. But his enduring fame rests upon his eminence as a teacher. This profession he followed for many years and with great success. He had the rare faculty of inspiring the young men committed to his care with a zeal for knowledge. He appealed to them by the examples of the great men of all ages, with whose lives and histories he was familiar. He made the boys his companions; got close up to their hearts and filled them with an enthusiasm for distinction that propellèd them along the path of success. The result was that more young men were turned out from his school who have since risen to eminence in the various learned professions than from any other school in Kentucky.

Among his pupils were Richard Menefee, Dr. W. W. Hill, Henry S. Lane, John Jameson and Albert G. Harrison.

After Menefee had made one of the most brilliant efforts of his life, he remarked to Dr. Hill that he was more indebted for the eminence to which he had risen to the influence exerted upon him at the county school by their old teacher, than to any other one cause. Mr. Menefee always spoke of Mr. Bourne with the profoundest respect, as did all his pupils, and expressed the earnest wish that Kentucky had more such teachers.

'Squire Bourne died February 6, 1873, in the 83rd year of his age. He was thrice married. First to Kitty Berkley; next to Clarissa Payne; and last to Willie B. Jameson, sister of the late Milton Jameson. She is still living. He had sixteen children, six of whom survived him. He was a life-long Democrat, and for more than forty years he was a consistent member of the Christian Church. He was a man who filled well his place in the world. His words of wisdom and moderation, his deeds of kindness and charity, his pure friendships and unmarred name; these are the monuments he erected to his memory and the precious heritage he left behind him.
ROBERT THOMPSON SMITH,

Was born in the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia, February 26, 1789. His father, William Smith, moved with his family to Montgomery county, Kentucky, in the early part of 1793 and settled in the spot now owned by Mrs. Virginia Botts. Young Thompson inherited from his father a fine mechanical genius and the sturdy independence and perseverance of his Scotch ancestry. He began life as a wool-carder, and kept up this business until his death, which occurred August 31, 1840, on the farm where Dr. L. M. Unford now resides. By industry and economy, he had amassed a comfortable estate. He was one of the foremost men in the community, conspicuous for his strong common sense and his acute powers of observation. He was the first citizen of the county who turned his attention in detail to the culture and improvement of fruits. He introduced the newest and best varieties, and for many years his farm was noted for producing the best pears, peaches, cherries and apples that could be found in the county. In every branch of business in which he engaged, he manifested untiring energy. He was a man of the highest physical and moral courage, and remarkable for his mechanical ingenuity, public spirit and benevolence. He started the first steam engine and steam mill in Mt. Sterling. To worthy young men struggling against the misfortunes of poverty, he was especially kind. For all the deserving young men who learned the carding business with him, he built a set of wool carding machinery, and went West with them and started them in business. He was a member of the Christian Church in Mt. Sterling, to which he was always liberal in his contributions, both in building churches and in sustaining the ministers. He was a good musician, sang bass well and played excellently on the flute. He was of medium size, about five feet ten inches high, weighed about 170 pounds, with fair complexion, dark hair and gray eyes. He was a prominent man in all affairs that affected the welfare of the county, and was honorable in all the walks of life and was useful in his day and generation. He raised a family of eight children, four of whom are now living: Major William Halley Smith, Mrs. Elizabeth Ellis and R. T. Smith, of Mt. Sterling, and John Lyle Smith, of Huntsville, Texas.

HARRIET SMITH

Was the wife of Robert Thompson Smith, and no sketch of Montgomery county would be complete without some notice of her. Her mother's maiden name was Susanna Ferguson, sister to William and Josiah Ferguson. Her father was Israel Wright, one of whose sons, Jeff Wright, enjoyed considerable celebrity as a portrait painter. Harriet Smith was married to Robert Thompson Smith November 27, 1814, and survived him many years. She was rather tall and spare, of graceful and dignified carriage, gracious and winning in her manners. Towards the close of her life, her hair was as white as the snowy caps she wore. Her forehead was high and broad; her mouth firm and well cut; her nose straight; her chin well poised and full of character. Her countenance was kind and sweet, and was benevolence itself. There seemed to hover a halo of goodness around her. The lines about her mouth showed she had struggled with the afflictions and bitternesses of life and come out victorious, so tranquil and benignant was her smile. Her voice was full, musical and sympathetic and went straight to the heart. She was patient, charitable and forgiving, speaking always the words of wisdom—truth and peace. To her family, she was the most devoted of mothers, living in and for her children, toiling with unselfed hands for their comfort and bearing them up daily to Heaven in her prayers. To her friends she was true and tender; to her neighborhood she was as Dorcas of old, full of good works. In the Church of Christ she was a burning and shining light; to the sick she was a ministering angel, with an assiduity that never grew weary and a sympathy as broad as her meek and humble spirit. Her very presence was medicine to the sufferer; her step in the sick chamber was as soft as the falling snow, and she carried light and hope wherever she moved. In all her ways she walked with God. The world was richer, purer, holier, while she lived, and poorer when she died.

COLONEL WALTER CHILES

Was born in 1810 in Montgomery county, Kentucky. He was the second son of William Chiles, a respectable farmer. He received his literary education principally in his native town,
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II. Sterling; and, at an early age, entered upon the study of the law in the office of Richard Apperson, Sr., who was then a distinguished jurist and land lawyer in this part of Kentucky. He attended a course of law lectures at the Transylvania University, and commenced the practice of his profession and obtained a large practice at an able bar composed of such eminent lawyers as Richard French, Kenaz Farrow, B. J. Peters, Henry Daniel and Richard Apperson, Sr. As an advocate and lawyer he had no superior, and but few peers in the state. He was a brilliant man; nature had made him an orator. At one time he was appointed commonwealth's attorney of this district, which position he filled with great ability and distinction; and woe to the man he was called to prosecute; he was not overbearing, but independent and generous to a fault; whatever he did was performed with all his might. He was always found on the side of the weak and helpless. Many times he volunteered his services and talents for some poor defenseless person, and it was then he exerted his talents to their full extent in behalf of humanity and justice. As a soldier he was the master of military science, and it was his great delight to practice it in all the evolutions of the field drill; and as a volunteer officer he had great success as a disciplinarian and commander. He was a social and genial companion, especially among the young. He was fond of amusements, especially of a dramatic character, and if he had taken the stage for a profession would have reached eminence. For many years he was accustomed to gather the young men and ladies of the city, into a society for the performance of plays for their improvement, and the amusement of the people during the winter nights. He had a full set of suits for his different characters, and different kinds of scenery which he kept and preserved till he died. He was a man who devoted himself closely to his profession and had but little to do with politics; he was Douglas' elector in 1860; he was a member of the State Senate for two terms, which position he held at the time of his death, which took place on January 4, 1862, in the city of Frankfort. He left at his death a widow and two children, one a son—L. T. Chiles, a merchant now of this city, and Mary A. Metcalf, the wife of Honorable Thomas Metcalf, a prominent lawyer of St. Louis, Missouri, with whom his widow now resides. While Colonel Chiles was in public service, he was an able and faithful advocate of the people's interests. As a lawyer, soldier and statesman, his natural abilities made him a superior man among men, and always a leader in whatever sphere he was called to fill. We can say of him as Anthony said of Brutus: "His life was gentle, and the elements so mixed in him, that nature might stand up and say to all the world: 'This was a man!'"