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SUMMER

TRACES



EARL FROEDGE GEN. STORE

Quarterly Publication of
**THE SOUTH CENTRAL KENTUCKY HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY,
INCORPORATED**

P.O. Box 157

Glasgow, Kentucky 42142-0157

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GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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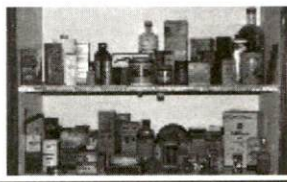
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History of Froedge's General Store

Contributed by Linda Glass, lfroedge@scrtc.com. Taken by permission from her website at: <http://scrtc.com/~lfroedge/>

Earl & Mildred Froedge owned and operated Froedge's General Store in Summer Shade, Kentucky for 42 years until March 1986 when they retired. Originally from Barren County, they lived in Bowling Green, Kentucky and later Hartsville, Tennessee where Earl worked as manager of a Kroger store. It was there that he decided to make a career in the grocery business and open his own store. Before that dream could become a reality, he was called to serve in the U. S. Army in the South Pacific. After his discharge from the army, they headed to Detroit to find employment, and both worked at Ford Motor Company until the dissatisfaction of city life and the dream of owning a store caused them to return to Barren County.

They soon rented, and later purchased a store building at Summer Shade, Kentucky in nearby Metcalfe County from Oscar Harvey. In June 1944, Froedge's General Store opened for business. In addition to groceries, they sold hardware, dry goods, housewares, feed & fertilizer, and some automotive supplies.



Just before the store closed; Linda's parents with Marjorie and J. D.

Marjorie Norman was an employee for 41 years. She waited on customers, ordered and stocked dairy products, frozen foods, tobacco products, and maintained the books for the store. Marjorie passed away in December 1993. Edna Wade worked as cashier for several years and then retired. She continued to help out during busy times even after her retirement. Edna passed away in November 1998.

J. D. Barlow was an employee for 52 years (34 years at the store and then an additional 18 years on the Froedge's farm in Eighty Eight, Kentucky after the store closed). At the store he was responsible for stocking and delivering farm supplies which included feed, fertilizer, seed, and coal. He made many out of town trips hauling coal from Morgantown and Manchester, feed from Louisville, and fertilizer from Jeffersonville, Indiana. He also counted and inspected eggs in the early years when customers "traded" them for groceries and dry goods.

They had one daughter, Linda, who was responsible for ordering and stocking the health, beauty aid, and school supply section of the store. She was employed at South Central Rural Telephone in Glasgow for 30 years and retired in 2004. She is married to Cecil Glass, a realtor with Coldwell Banker. Linda has one

Froedje Store continued:

son, Alex Earl, who is employed at Android in Bowling Green. Cecil has a daughter, Kristin, who graduated from the University of Kentucky in May 2004 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting. He also has a son, Shawn, who is self employed and installs home entertainment systems.

Froedjes Store was one of the few remaining country stores to carry customer accounts the entire year until payment was made when tobacco was sold. It served as a gathering place for local people to "sit down and drink a Coca Cola" while discussing local news, weather, farming trends, and the world as seen from southern Kentucky.

Both Earl and Mildred were very active in the Summer Shade community. Mildred helped to organize the Summer Shade Homemakers in 1947 which is still in existence today. She is a member of the Summer Shade Baptist Church. She also helped to organize "Summer Shade Friends" (local people contributing to a fund used to help families in the community when disaster strikes, or there is death or sickness in the family).

Earl was President of the Bank of Summer Shade from 1952 until 1983 when it merged with Edmonton State Bank, and he served on the Board of Directors for the Edmonton State Bank until his death in April 2004.

After retiring, Earl and Mildred moved to Glasgow, Kentucky and spent many years enjoying themselves by spending time with their family, doing the things they like to do, and best of all... no alarm clock!

After a long struggle with cancer, Earl passed away on April 19th, 2004. Please follow the link below to read how he battled this terrible disease with two very simple ingredients – flax oil and cottage cheese. Mildred passed away on February 7, 2005 after suffering many years with Sjogren 's syndrome and Alzheimer's Disease.

Earl and Mildred Froedje



Summer Shade, Kentucky

Linda Glass also contributed the following from papers found in a box kept by her mother, Mildred Froedge.

Deaths in Summer Shade

During the early 1900's Summer Shade did not have a regular funeral home. Harvey, Jenkins and White had a building where they had caskets which people bought when someone died. Harvey, Jenkins and White would take the casket to the body and fix it. The funeral was usually at the grave site or at the home. People brought flowers from home. The only thing that the undertaker did was to bring the casket and take it to the cemetery. Back then there was no preparation of the body. Neighbors would make a shroud for the person. Clayton White owned the hearse in Summer Shade.

Transportation in Summer Shade

The first car in Summer Shade was owned by Dr. Medford Bowman. In the early 1900's there was a stagecoach that went from Glasgow to Burkesville. Everyday the stagecoach would go through Summer Shade carrying the mail. It was drawn by six horses. The stage coach had a hard time getting over the roads. Bill Shelley was one of the drivers. Another driver was Hal Scott, a black man. When the stage got stuck in the mud all he had to do was get off and pick up the stage or wagon. Scott was almost the strongest man around Summer Shade. No one else in Summer Shade could pick it up.

Post Office

Between Reid Welch's filling station and Mr. Branham's house there was a small post office operated by Dr. Depew Ewing. Isenberg was also post master there. It was later moved to where the Shaw's Auction is not located.

School

The first school in the Summer Shade area called Mount Carmel near Ernie Ferrell's house; in 1924 the old normal school was made into a high school. The Summer Shade School was known as Summer Shade Academy. In 1948 the high school was moved to Edmonton. Usually school was in session for seven months, high school eight months.

Robberies in and around Summer Shade

The Bank of Summer Shade has been robbed a few times. In 1938 or 39 somebody robbed and some money was taken. The robber was caught before he could get away. Another version of this story is that a Perkins man robbed the bank. He got a small white sack of money and ran out of the bank, some men were standing outside, fired at him, and the robber dropped the money and ran.

Killings and Suicides in and around Summer Shade

A little boy, Clarence Shirley was killed by a black man, Rowe Miller, who was working for his father. He put him behind a log in a hog bed. Miller was sent to prison.

John Neville killed a woman, Lucy Perkins. When the neighbors found him they took him from the jail and hanged him on a dogwood near Clayton Barrett farm near Randolph.

Summer Shade continued:

Curt Everett, an old bachelor who sold books and wrote articles for the paper, drowned himself in a rain barrel near his home.

Roger Gill worked with Hermon McMurtrey in a furniture store. Gill's eyesight was bad and he was in bad health. One day someone found him in Terry Norman's barn where he had hanged himself.

Mrs. Pete Depp who lived where Sammie Spears house is, poured gasoline on herself and set herself on fire.

News from the Herald written in 1973

Hermon McMurtrey began his role almost a half century ago as undertaker in Summer Shade. Many years he built coffins to sell using such lumber as cherry, black walnut, and chestnut. Prices ranged from 15 to 25 dollars, depending on the handles and lining used. Friends and neighbors of the deceased made clothing to dress the corpse. There have been many changes in the undertaking business since 1924 when McMurtrey first entered it.

Churches

The Methodist organized about 1870. The Baptist church organized in 1882 and disbanded on account of insufficient members until 1906, then reorganized and built a church on a lot given by Mr. And Mrs. J. D. Swope. Christian organized 1876.

Bank

The Bank of Summer Shade was established in 1907.

Branstetter Park

Branstetter Park, three miles east of Summer Shade, founded 1925 and 1927 by John Lew Branstetter of Oklahoma and Florida, a native of the community.

THREE SPRINGS, KENTUCKY

The following information was hand written by the late Trigg Ashworth Ennis 1869-1953 of Three Springs and is/was in the possession of Mrs. James Madison Ennis (formerly Ruth Edwards Yates). Her late husband, James Madison Ennis of Edmonton was the son of Trigg & grandson of James Madison Ennis. John (Jack) Ennis was his great-grandfather. It is thought that most of this was written after the first world war. His records were more or less assembled in five groups or accounts - these are presented in chronological order. This was found in the files of the late Eva Coe Peden.

"Three Springs Kentucky, A Cornerstone Village. Written by Trigg Ashworth Ennis, reproduced by Wendell Ennis. A little village which is the corner stone of Barren, Hart, and Metcalfe Counties. It stood three miles from the Green Co. line a few years ago & was the cornerstone of three congressional districts, the third, the fourth, and the eleventh. When Metcalfe Co. was taken out of the eleventh and placed in the third which leaves Three Springs the corner of only two congressional districts, the third & the fourth. We boast of having three of the best springs in Kentucky, maybe the world, one of them in Barren Co., one in Metcalfe, and one in Hart Co. Our church is in Barren Co., the Post Office is in Hart, and the school house is in Metcalfe Co. All three stand close together.

Three Springs continued:

"I will now mention three of the early settlers, all born in Virginia, all with large holdings of land, cattle and slaves, and all settling near large springs close together on the Greensburg-Glasgow Road in the very north end of Barren Co. They were John (Jack) Ennis, John Gillaspay and Drewry Roberts. There were more, Ruben Kelly, the Altshelers, Trigg Snoddy and many more. Many of the descendants of these early settlers are scattered over almost every state in the union.

John (Jack) Ennis was a large land & slave owner & settled adjoining farms to John Gillaspay one mile south of Three Springs near a large spring on the Greensburg-Glasgow Road in Barren Co. When Metcalfe Co was made a county in 1860 it included parts of Ennis land. He built the first grist mill ever in the neighborhood. It was a horse mill used to grind corn & wheat. The mill stood near the spring. About three hundred yards east of the mill he built a large tramping barn to tramp out wheat and other grains. The barn had a puncheon floor put together with pegs. Near the mill a blacksmiths shop & wood shop where all kinds of furniture, fancy carts & wagons were made. Many pieces of furniture made there are still in the neighborhood today. Some of the furniture is owned by the writer. At the large spring there was a large distillery where they made whisky & brandy, both peach and apple. His brand name of his spirits was Jack's Best. Between the mill & the GG Road was a large apple orchard about one fourth mile southwest of the apple orchard on a hill was the peach orchard. About three hundred yards west of the mill on the GG Road stood the residence. About three hundred yards south of the residence stood some cabins. In the apple orchard between the residence & the mill stood some more cabins.

"There has been changes in the GG Road. Senior Ennis built his residence, cabins, mill and shops more than a century ago on land that was patented to him by Isaac Shelby. John Ennis married Martha Pattie Ferguson, the dgt. of Lewis Ferguson in 1812. When she died she left him with 3 sons & two daughters living. John Jr. had died in 1818 age 5 and buried in the church cemetery. James Madison Ennis was named for Madison who was president at the time. Wm. F. & Louis E. died in 1840 with the typhoid fever & was buried at the church. Mary (Polly) Ennis married James Ashworth. Eliza married William Ashworth a brother of Mary's husband. In the gold excitement James M. Ennis went to California in the company of Fount Donan who I will mention later. The first letter James M. wrote home to his father he told his sisters to tell their husbands to bring them to California. James M. sent the money he made to his father at Three Springs to buy Negroes. When he came home the war came up and what he made was lost. Mary & Eliza & their husbands & children left just as quick as they could hitch up their teams and started to California. It took them five months to make the trip. They landed in a little valley known today as San Jose. Mary and her husband James Ashworth made good in California & they raised a large family. They came back on a visit to see her brother James Madison Ennis in 1875 & their other kinfolk at Three Springs & visited many in Green Co. who were related to both of them. They often wrote the writer & friends at Three Springs. They died several years ago & were buried in that beautiful cemetery in San Jose California. Eliza & her husband made good in California and raised a large family. William Ashworth died here in about 1870. Eliza after the death of William sold out & left California settled in Holt Co. Mo. near Mound City where there was a settlement that had went there from Three Springs. They done well in Mo. Eliza often wrote the writer & friends at Three Springs & she died several years ago. After the death of his first wife the following year John Ennis married her sister Dorothy (Dolly) Ferguson. They were both born in Virginia. John Ennis died at the close of the civil war in 1865 and was buried in the church yard along side his first wife. Upon Dorothy's death in 1877 she also was buried in the church cemetery.

James Madison Ennis father of the writer was married twice. His first wife Sophie D. Broady who bore him four children, Mary, John William, James Lewis and Marthia Belle. Sophie died in 1859 & was buried on the Ennis farm. Mary & James Lewis died young & were buried there also. James Madison Ennis married his second wife Fannie Daniels Snoddy in 1868 & they raised three children, Trigg Ashworth Ennis, Eliza Ann, and Marthia Belle Ennis. Marthia Belle married James William Jameson & they raised a large family & died & was buried at Three Springs Church. Lucy Matt never married and Eliza Ann married

Three Springs continued:

Robert Cartmill & raised a large family & died at Springfield, Tenn. in 1914 Bath Co. The writer & Lucy Matt are still living. John William Ennis died in 1893 & was buried on the Ennis farm. James Madison Ennis died in 1976 [sic] & is buried on the Ennis farm. Marthia Belle & her husband owned part of the old Ennis farm. The Ennis heirs own a large portion of the old John (Jack) Ennis farm.

The writer's sister, Mrs. Marthia Belle Jameson was visiting her son Prof. Henry Madison Jameson in 18__ in San Jose California & met a cousin of hers who lived next door to her son on this same street. She told my sister of being born at Three Springs & came to California with her parents when gold was discovered. She was up in the eighties in age. Her husband was a first cousin to my sister's husband. She told my sister that her father & mother settled in the valley of San Jose & showed her where they once grew wheat in the city when she was small. She showed my sister the graves of her mother & father in the beautiful cemetery at San Jose California. Street cars were passing in front of the house they had settled & lived & died in."

Drewry Roberts lived on the GG Road [Greensburg-Glasgow] south adjoining farms with John (Jack) Ennis half way from Three Springs to Park in an area known to the early settlers as Spring Lick where the water passes under the road through the natural bridge. In 1792 five Indians were killed at this point. Many Indian spikes have been picked up in this area. Near this years back there was an old grave yard. I never seen anyone who knew who was buried there. It must have been an Indian burial mound. Mr. Roberts was [a] large land owner & when Metcalfe was cut off of Barren in 1860 it took part of Mr. Roberts land in the new county. Mr. Roberts raised a large family. Mr. Roberts served on a jury that sentenced a man to hang in Glasgow in 1865. The man's name is deleted by Wendell Ennis. Mr. Roberts handled good stock, horses, cattle, hogs & sheep. Some of his children were Meland, Kate, May, Fay, Caroline, James, Hamilton & William H. Roberts. Mr. Roberts married Lucy Richardson. Lucy had seventeen sisters & two brothers & was raised on the Green River near Woodsonville. Mr. Roberts died in 1878. He was buried a short distance south of the natural bridge on Roberts land. He had raised a large house. This large house that Mr. Roberts, John Ennis & John Gillaspys lived in has long since dissappeared [sic].

I remember Mr. Roberts. I remember many of his Negroes & remember many of the cabins that stood near his home. I will [well] remember the old colored man Uncle Frank & his boys. They were fine musicians. I will [well] remember Sam Roberts who drove the team for Mr. Altsheler at Three Springs some fifty years ago. Old Aunt Quince wore size 14 shoes. Mr. Altsheler would order shoes for her. She went barefooted in the summer. James Roberts & his brother George L. both sons of Braxton A. Roberts. They each own a farm which is part of the land once owned by their grandfather south of the Natural Bridge on the Greensburg-Glasgow Road.

John Gillaspys lived on the GG Road and had a large survey of land around Three Springs near a large spring. When Hart Co. was made a county in 1819 & Metcalfe in 1860 they included part of Gillaspys land. Daniel Curd the first Co. Surveyor for Barren Co. often made his home at John Gillaspys when surveying in the north end of the county. One of Gillaspys daughters Elizabeth (Betsy) married David C. Donan in 1825. At the death of John Gillaspys & his wife Mrs. Elizabeth Donan held a large number of slaves and a large number of acres of land. The slaves, formerly Gillaspys, went under the name of Donan. Mrs. Elizabeth Donan raised four sons. John G. Donan was a surveyor & Captain in the Mexican war & he was an able speaker and he represented his district in the Senate. He died in Mumfordsville [sic] in 18__. William Donan was a soldier in the Civil War & was wounded about the close of the war and died in Mo. in 186_. William left one son, Prof. Henry Donan, an attorney who lives in California & often visits his old home at Three Springs. Fount Donan in company with James M. Ennis & others I could mention went to California in the gold excitement. Fount Donan told the writer's father we will have to slip off from brother John as he has just come in from the Mexican war and as my father is dead I want him to stay with my mother. If he

Three Springs, continued:

finds out about us going he will follow us. The money Fount Donan made in California he sent back to his mother at Three Springs to buy slaves. He came back before the Civil War & taken the slaves & went to Mo. Mo. land was cheap & slaves was good priced. He traded his slaves for land. He would often visit his old home at Three Springs. He wrote the writer a short time before his death to write him the news from Three Springs. He died a sick man. Several of his children visit at Three Springs. He raised a large family & died & was buried in Mound City, Mo.

I have often when I was small heard the old Negroes say that your grandfather bought me at a sale in Virginia. I well remember an old colored woman they called Black Hanah. She died some forty five years ago. The records showed her to be 110 years of age when she died so they said. I well remember an old Negro named Joe (Uncle Joe Ennis). He was a fine fiddler. I have sit on the cabin steps many hours to listen to Joe make music. My grandfather died before I was born. My father died in 1876. The old colored man Joe I am referring to was one of the favorites. My father went with Joe to Bollingreen [Bowling Green] & hired a substitute to fight in Joe's place in the Civil War which he paid the substitute one thousand dollars. Just before the war ended many of the others went to the war. Joe promised my father he would stay with him as long as he lived. To the promise he was true to his old master & young master as the needle to point to the north pole. James Madison Ennis gave Joe some land and built him a house. Joe died in 1884. When my father died in 1876 Old Joe said he was free once more. I will God never made a truer Negro than Joe. I would love to call many by name that belonged to my grandfather & father & lived on my grandfathers farm. Many years after the war between the states was over they told me about that good meal & flour made at the old horse mill. I have the burr of that old mill & many pieces of furniture made by those slaves. They would tell me about the liquor made at the old still. One of the Ennis Negroes lives on my farm today & went to the war in the commensary [sic] & went to France & made a good soldier. There are four of the old Negroes still living. Many of the Gillaspy, Donan and Ennis Negroes went to the war & fought for their freedom. Some came back & some never.

I will now mention a few family burying grounds in less than three miles of Three Springs. John Gillaspy, Holman Perkins, William Curle Benj. Gentry, Dick Houck, Riley Chaney, George Franklin, Thomas McFelia, George F. Wilcoxson, James M Ennis, Drewry Roberts, Tom Finney, Tho Richardson. Aunt Bettie Ennis was said to be 110 years of age when she died. Aunt Bettie told the writer that she was bought in Virginia by Jack Ennis. The writer remembers Negro cabins on the Gillaspy or Donan farm. There were many cabins on the Ennis farm & also the Negro cabins on the Roberts farm.

I have the old mill burrs now used as step blocks. The old mill was torn down in 1879, the old tramp barn was torn down in 1880. The old Negro cabins were torn down in 1876 & 1879. The old Ennis house was torn down in _____. Decoration service was conducted at the church on May 30th _____. The graves in the yard were decorated. I expect there are a hundred graves no one living knows who is buried there & many of them were buried a century ago at the Three Springs Church yard. I will name some of the graves that are marked & known graves of the early settlers of Kentucky who settled at this place & near this place to be convenient to good water & are buried in the old church burying ground.

David C. Donan, the father of Capt. John G. Donan who was a Capt. in the Mexican War, the father of Dr. N. C. Donan of Three Springs and the grandfather of Dr. D. C. Donan of Horse Cave.

John (Jack) Ennis the grandfather of Trigg A. Ennis

John Kelly the grandfather of John Withers Horse Cave & Tommie V Withers of Three Springs.

Three Springs continued:

David Strader the father of Dr. Strader who died at Hiseville several years ago & the grandfather of the Hon. Lis? Strader who represented Barren Co. in the Legislature & died at Hiseville several years ago.

James Jameson the father of James W. Jameson of Three Springs

G. H. Fancher

Andrew Rolston

John Fancher the father of Henry Fancher of Monroe

George Mouser

Daniel H. Figget who had four boys, two of them served in the Union army & two served in the Rebel Army

Isaac Wilcoxson the father of G. L. Wilcoxson of Three Springs & the grandfather of I. N. Payton of Horse Cave

Rev. Alvrey Alderson who has three boys & all were Methodist preachers & Rev. Webster who is now living in Texas & is a leading preacher in this area.

Rev. John Houck the father of Albrey Houck of Hardyville.

James B. Alderson

Runen [Ruben?] Hiser the father of Mrs. G. G Harmon of Three Springs

John Hiser

Aaron Hiser

John Shelly

John Woodard

Walter Nunn

James & Pascal Poynter uncles of Mrs. C B Hicks of Three Springs

On the west side of the Three Springs Cemetery there are many old Negro slaves buried that were owned by the early settler & men I have mentioned. The Mexican Mick I think is buried there. I will not mention three merchants that once sold goods at Three Springs. Joseph L. Altsheler who came from Germany & sold goods for years. In 1853 his wife Elizabeth Franches [sic] died & was buried at Three Springs Church yard, I have mentioned where there is a large marble slab to her memory. Mr. Altsheler went back to Germany & died. Many years ago one of his children sent some dust off his grave to be place on their mothers grave which was done several years ago.

In 1855 or 1856 little Joseph Altsheler, a cousin to the one mentioned, came to Three Springs & went to selling goods. He married Ruby [typed Rudy] C. Snoddy at Glasgow who was a sister to Trigg Snoddy and a sister of Mrs. Fannie D. Ennis of Three Springs. Later years the name of the firm was Joseph Altsheler & Trigg Snoddy doing business in the name of Altsheler & Snoddy⁷. This firm did one of the largest business of any firm in the country or adjoining county. In 1877 Trigg Snoddy sold out to Mr. Altsheler & moved to Rowletts where he died years ago. Mr. Altsheler still runs the business in the name of J. Altsheler & Sons. He had seven sons & one daughter. Mr. Altsheler died in 1881. The firm still run in that name until 1886 when they sold out & left Three Springs. I will name his children, Don, Zed & Brent live in Louisville & are businessmen of that city. Joseph is a leading newspaper man & author of a number of books & magazines which he often sends his friends at Three Springs. He lives in New York City. John & Henry live at Horse Cave. John is a cashier at Farmers Depot Bank. Henry is a stock trader. Miss Eliza lives with her brother Ed in Louisville. Lewis died several years ago & is buried by the side of his father & mother in the Horse Cave Cemetery. Tom Chaney owns the land where Trigg Snoddy once owned in Three Springs. Trigg Ennis owns the land once owned by Joseph Altsheler. I could mention many more grand and noble men & women who once lived at Three Springs & near there who are buried in their family burying grounds near the little village. I could mention our merchants from 1886 down to this date but will close.”

Richard and Caty Waggoner's Letters

Richard Waggoner died in Barren Co; his will probated at the January Court 1818. He was descended from Herbert and Elizabeth Waggener of Essex Co VA; married Caty Gaines 12 Oct 1773 and was already in KY by 1796. His beloved wife Cathy is named in his will along with son James, son-in-laws Beverly Bradley, son Thomas.

This letter was from Lucy White of Madison Co VA to Richard Waggener in Barren Co, written Sept 28, 1809. Spelling as shown.

Dear Brother and Sister: Through great mercy I have taken my pen in hand once more to mark a few lines to you but will be in such a cribbling manner I hardly expect you to understand it. It has been a great while since I heard from you. I have been a wrighting this to you for long time. I can tell you I never have neglected any opportunity of wrightin to you since you went to that part of a distance and but little prospect of ever seeing each other. Providence has provided a way for us to converse at a distance but when I go to wright to you my mind is filled with so trials and doubts and lamentations that I scarcely think it worth while to wright. Deare Brother I wish the prayers of you and all the good people that I might have faith to perservere to the end and that in a short time I shall bid adue to all time things and take my flight into a world of Spirits where I hope my weary soul will be at rest where all trials, trouble and temptations will done away and my unworthy soul will exult praise and magnifie free grace for ever. Unworthy me.

Our family is well at present as usual. Our mother is complaining as usual, but no worse than common. Our brothers and sisters is I believe well and our friends as far as I know. Nothing very strange has taken place. Religion appears to be at a very low ebb this time. Sion's Songsters appears to have unstrung their harps and hung them on the willows. As if they could not raise a song to their redeemer. It has been a very dry summer in some parts of Virginia. We have been tolerable seasonable till the latter part of the summer. It has been dry so as to shorten the crops of corn in a measure.

Ad no more but remain your affectionate Sister. /s/ Lucy White

Johney White with the rest of the family joyns me with respects to you and your family. Mother sends her love to you all.

On 28 September 1816/1817 Richard and Cathy wrote to her brother, Richard Gaines:

Dear Brother: I embrace this opportunity of writing you a few lines which I will inform you of the situation of our family. We are in common health at present but afflicted with the infirmities of old age. I myself am a cripple and have been for almost three years. We have a young Negro woman which has a complaint in one of her feet. It has been swelled for three or four years at times and at this time appears to be in danger without some speedy relief. Our children are all married but the two youngest Henry and Betsy. Dear Brother I have often thought of you, you being my eldest brother. I was once in hopes I should see you in this land of living but I now despair of that comfort. I never expect to see a brother or sister again. Sister Nancy and brother Henry live a long distance from us, we ought to pray for one another though our bodies is not so far asunder yet perhaps it will not be long before we shall meet where parting is no more. Death has mowed down a great number of our fellow mortals in this part of the world. Our son Thomas has had a very hard spell last winter. I should be glad to hear from you every opportunity. If you should have the chance to hear from our father, write us how he is. We have heard of the death of old Mother Waggener. She died last April. Uncle Hawkins family and the rest of our connections are well as far as we know. Remember me to all my brothers and sisters, and Polly and sister Lucy I should be glad to hear from them. Brother Edmund's widow and

Waggoner Letters continued:

children be pleased to write me word how they are. I must conclude my letter with wishing you well through time and eternity.

/s/ Richard and Caty Waggener.

This letter is from Richard Waggener Jr, then of Weakley Co TN to his brother-in-law, Col Thompson Crenshaw in Barren Co; dated 27 Apr 1833: Again - spelling as shown.

My Dear Relative: It has been a considerable time since I have written you or to any of my friends in Barren City [sic] or heard from you by letter. Brother Reuben could tell a more about my relations on his return from KY. than I had at any time since I saw you last. It has always been gratifying to me to hear from my relatives, particularly those of my intimate acquaintance, or at least my own dear brothers and sister, but I can truly say to you that since this last disease has made its appearance on our continent so fatal to poor mortals where ever it goes - that I often think of you but never expect to see you again. I can't say that the disease just alluded to is common to our country. I hope it is not, from what I learn respecting the complaint it is confined to the large water-courses. I live within 30 or 35 miles of the Mississippi River where the steamboats are passing almost daily, and of late I learn that scarcely one passes without having lost some - and sometimes as high as twenty from New Orleans to that place. I was down on the Mississippi 12 or 14 days ago at what is called Mill's Point. There was a man lying dead and unburied who was landed off the steamboat 2 or 3 days before. And while I was there who should I lite with but old Uncle Herbert Waggener. The old gentleman had broke very much since I saw him last and is more like father than I thought he ever would be. The meeting was very unexpected. He told me a good deal about my old friends and more distant relations. We wee both in a hurry and had not much satisfaction in each other's company. We parted no doubt both under the same impression that it was our last in time.

I had some business to the south of where I live and about 50 miles from home fortunately fell in with Old Uncle Henry Gaines and family. The old gentleman? looked much younger than I could ever have supposed. I said family, their two youngest children are with them and are all living with Ira who has a small family. They live in I believe the south east corner of Gibson County, the old gentleman told me that he found Uncle Larkin the youngest of the family who lives if I mistake if not in the Tipton County about two days ride from him. Tipton lies on or near the Mississippi. I was glad to see Uncle and Aunt but was sorry to find them in such indigent circumstances. The old gentleman has entirely run thru his property. Ira from what I could learn was much respected in the neighborhood. He told me he thought it the duty of himself and youngest brother whose name is Richard to take the old people and take care of them the balance of their days. The old gentleman was brought to as I leaned by being security for the man who married his eldest daughter Frances or Franky. But I can assure you that nothung has so much mortified my feelings in a long time as did the news I heard after leaving Uncle Gains - to hear of his misconduct in his trials about his property. He showed the world that he lacked that which is of all things in times of trials and temptation most needful (true religion), he even like Peter of old cursed and swore and betook himself to intoxication. The people where I heard this were his neighbors at the time when these things happened, were people of apparent respectability.

I could not well sleep the nite I hard it, to think that the poor old man should in the decline of life deny the faith - that after having so long maintained a respectable standing in society for the sake of a little property should disgrace himself - that after he had so long preached to others - that he himself should prove him self a castaway, my time and feelings will permit me to say no more on the subject, for I am just getting out of an attack of bilious fever. I was taken last Monday and this is Sunday morning. I commenced my letter yesterday but felt too feeble to finish it. I have as yet said nothing (of) my own family but can say that through the tender mercy of God that we are all in the land of the living but by no means enjoying good health. Keziah has been laboring under a great complaint nearly ever since Reuben was in KY. The Doctors

Waggoner continued:

say an affection of the liver. My Doctors bills for the last year with other things bore pretty heavy upon me. I have also bought me a home, on which the blessing of kind Providence I shall be enable to support my family, there is a payment to make toward my land this ensueing Christmas. I shall of course need all the assistance I can possibly get. Remind Cousin Joel if please of the little he is indebted to me I shall very much need it and every cent that I can possibly get hold of. I think that I have waited long enough - if he can get money, that he ought to do something. Wool roles? if I could get them in time would bring money here, but the getting them here would be difficulty. It would cost but little to get a little one horse waggon and that he or brother Henry must come and see me. Write to (me) soon if you please. I must conclude as a friend is waiting who has promised to put this letter in the office at Bowlinggreen. Reuben says he was going to write. Your affectionate brother, Richard Waggener. (postmarked Bowling Green KY May 14).

History of the Peter Depp Home

By Kay Harbison. Undated.

About 1792 William Depp moved from Powhattan County, Virginia to Barren County, Kentucky. He settled on Skaggs Creek near the mouth of Nobob Creek. On September 19, 1812 William bought 1000 acres at \$2.00 an acre from Henry, Prudence, William and Samuel Renick. He and his wife had twelve children – four sons and eight daughters. As the family grew larger, William had to build a new house. He made the roof of walnut shingles and fastened them on with wooden pegs.

Peter Depp, one of William's four sons, married Mary H. Courts on March 31, 1817. He then went to Warren County in search of land to purchase for a home. He was offered a 1000 acres where Smith's Grove now stands, but decided not to buy it due to the lack of water. On November 1, 1832 he bought a tract of land on Fallen Timber Creek from Hezekiah P. Murrell. On May 13, 1836 he purchased a second tract of land containing 167 acres from Francis L. Courts. The two tracts of land near the junction of Lick Branch and Fallen Timber Creek contained about 700 acres and became known as the Peter Depp homestead.

On January 4, 1817, William "nominated" his son Peter to be his "lawful attorney ... to receive all debts, due and monies that are owing to me in the state of Virginia and to sell all my rights, titles, interest, and estate which I have in the tract of land whereon (my father) Peter Depp formerly resided in County of Powhattan and state of Virginia."

Later that same year on May 28, 1817, Peter Depp acquired an apprentice named Whitefield Kirtley, son of John Kirtley. Depp was to teach him the "business of brickmaking and laying", as well as "reading, writing, and common arithmetic including the rule of three and find him in sufficient meat, drink, washing and lodging with common wearing apparel suitable for an apprentice during his term of servitude."

The following year on August 16, 1818 William Logan of the Barren County Court gave James Aston, nine and a half years old, and Charles Aston, seven years old, to Depp to serve as apprentices until they were twenty-one years old. They too were to learn bricklaying, as well as reading, writing, and arithmetic. At the end of their apprenticeship each was to receive a new suit of clothes and "3 pounds 10 shillings in cash."

Peter built a one room log structure when he arrived at his new home on Fallen Timber Creek. The log building forms one room of the present two story I-house. Peter and Mary had six sons, Walter, William, John, Thomas, Joel and Chris, and three daughters, Sarah, Virginia and Mary. As his family grew, Peter probably added rooms to the original log structure.

Peter Depp Home continued:

In addition to farming and bricklaying, Peter was a shoe cobbler. He had a shop located on the hill above the house where he made shoes for his family and possibly for neighbors. The shop, located over a brick cellar, was composed of two rooms. There were three doors and three windows located along the sides.

At Peter's death in 1865, his three sons, Chris, Thomas and Joel bought the farm. It was then divided among the three sons with their descendants still owning two of the original three tracts. Thomas received the property that Mr. James Depp now owns. Chris got the homestead. The Joel Depp farm is presently owned by Mr. Lemore Nunally and Mr. Harley Gravens.

Chris married Nancy E. Daugherty and they had seven children, Clem, James, Thomas, Candor, Mary, Hattie and Eva. While living at the homestead, Chris remodeled and added more rooms to the house.

When Chris died in 1917, his son, Clem, bought the farm. He married Maude Ford in 1909 and they had five children, Thomas, Elizabeth, Leslie, Mary Frances and Lucille. Thomas, Leslie and Elizabeth presently own and live at the original homestead.

The structure is a two story I-house with two rooms and a hall in front. A two-story "L" extension contains two rooms downstairs and two upstairs rooms with a hall running its length. In all, the house has a total of eight rooms and two halls. Originally there were three end chimneys. However, the chimney located in the original log room has been torn away. There are two stairways leading to the second floor. The front has a double portico or veranda with a decorative banister around it.

On a green hill overlooking the homestead and creek bottoms is the family cemetery. Peter, Chris, Clem and their wives are buried there, as well as several of their children.

Like many other old homes, the Depp home located on Road No. 1330 near the Eighty Eight community, has accommodated many visitors both kinfolk and strangers. Now it remains as a comfortable home and a stately reminder of our past heritage.

*A Stroll Through the
Early Homes of Glasgow and Barren County Kentucky*

Contributor and date unknown but old. Courtesy of the South Central Kentucky Cultural Center.

There are few remaining, of the many homes of early residents of this county, each with its history of family life, where life began for the brave young pioneers and his less heroic wife; where they reared their sons and daughters and passed on to that "home eternal in the Heavens."

This county organized in 1798 and had few inhabitants when the town of Glasgow was established. In the old court house records, July 1799, we find: "Ordered that the place of erecting the public buildings for this county be on the land of John Gorin, the Justice of the Court of Quarter Session having concurred with the County Court in their opinion, and 150 acres of land be appropriated to the said town and that it be established agreeable to an Act of Assembly entitled An Act Concerning the Establishment of Towns."

In October, same year, John Matthews and John Moss were appointed to superintend the clearing of the "public grounds" and in November the town was established and named Glasgow. The first trustees were appointed, John Cole, Haiden Trigg, John Matthews, John Moss, John McFerran, Abel Hennon and William Welch. The site for the town was the same as now, streets named as now, with most of the cross streets the same.

Stoll continued:

The first house in town was built by John Gorin, a log house in the “hollow” near the “Big Spring” to which the town owes its site, where his son, Franklin was born who is said to have been the first white child born in the county. This was in 1798, a year or more before the town was established. The first house on the public square was of logs and was also built by John Gorin; he later built the house on W. Main Street, afterwards sold to George W. Trabue, known as the “Trabue House.” It was also the home of his son, Dr. B. F. Trabue. This house of brick was lately razed to accommodate the tobacco houses on West Main Street.

Probably why so few of the first dwellings remain is that in almost every instance these early homes were built of logs; some were afterwards preserved by weatherboarding them.

The first brick house in the town, a dwelling just off the square, on E. Main Street, was the dwelling of John Leech in the 1870s and 1880s. It is now replaced by another building, but was standing some fifteen or twenty years ago.

The second, now the home of Mrs. J. M. Richardson, on Race Street, was built by Gen. Alexander E. Spotswood, grandson of the Virginia Governor. Tradition says it was built by General George Washington for his favorite niece Elizabeth, wife of Alexander and daughter of Betty Washington and Feland Lewis. The Spotswood, with their family, came here in the early part of the 19th century. In old Court records we find he was admitted to practice law in 1806. He sold this home and moved to a farm eight miles from Glasgow, where he lived. His wife died, he married again, died and is buried with his two wives and Mose, a faithful Negro slave, in a small plot. In 1925 the Edmund Rogers Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution procured from the U. S. Government a marker with his name and date which was erected to his memory.

The Spotswood town house was bought and became the home of the Crutcher family, and nearby is the sacred spot, the Crutcher burying ground. Glasgow had no public cemetery until a much later date and many old homes had their private graveyard. Often we can locate the residence only by the little space given to the departed. This Spotswood or Crutcher house was the home in 1876 of John Lewis, Sr. where he spent the declining years of his life. Henry Crutcher the pioneer erected other buildings. One on the square is now the home of the First National Bank which was used as a store room below where merchandise was sold and for a residence in the upper or second story.

The fourth brick house built in the town is the double house on Front Street between Race Street and Broadway, now the home of Mr. Frank Curd, built by William Logan and William T. Bush. The house was at different periods of time the home of William Kilgore, Wilborn Bybee and Dr. Robert Grinstead, all well-known residents.

The Munfords and Crenshaws, allied families, lived on the Columbia Road, now Columbia Avenue. The Munford home was where the brick house is known more recently as the home of Major W. H. Botts, who came here after the Civil War from Tennessee. The Munford burying ground, through which a road now runs, is at the upper end of Front Street, only a short distance from the house. The Crenshaw home across the street and a little farther out is now the home of Mr. Fielding Fant; built in 1869 and was bought by, and was the home of, Mr. James Boles, who came to this county from Cumberland County. In the same neighborhood was the Harbison home. The beautiful winds of this old house remain intact in the bungalow into which this house was remodeled.

On the same side of town was the home of Meredith S. Reynolds. The flower garden, immediately in front, laid off in the prim, straight walks of the time (1830-1891) was the pride of its owner. Beyond and at the crest of the hill at the termination of Front Street, later the home of Robert Myers, was the home of John W. Davis who was “Uncle Davis” to the neighborhood children.

Stroll continued:

Hon. James G. Hardy, at one time Lieutenant-Governor of Kentucky, lived at the corner of Front and Broadway, in a house afterwards the home of Burr K. McQuown. It burned some years ago and another house was built on the site of the old one. Across from this is a large square house of brick and timber known to the older generation as the "Fowler" house, afterwards, the home of David S. Wade. On East Main, the house occupied by Paul Greer, was the T. C. Dickinson home. This was built by, and was the home of, Samuel Jordan who was jailer for the young colony for several years and whose posterity numbers many of our best people.

In 1806 Christopher Tompkins, a legislator from Muhlenberg County, married in Frankfort Theodosia Logan, a daughter of Benjamin Logan who is prominent in Kentucky history. He was a brother of John Logan who was the father of William Logan of Barren County. When the Tompkins came here is dim history, their first home near that of Mrs. Tompkin's brother, David Logan, father of Stephen T. Logan who was a law partner of Abraham Lincoln, was on Boyd's Creek. But in 1816, they built and moved into the house on Race Street, now known as the Preston home. Here they live, their children were born and where they died. Two daughters only of their six children survive as the markers in the little enclosure at back of the house attest. Their story is written in marble – "20 years," "7 years", "29 years", and the wife and mother died at the age of "53 years". One stone to father and gifted son, bears on one side this inscription:

"To the memory of Christopher Tompkins, Jr., who died April 5, 1837, in the 26th year of his age. For his worth and virtues, he was beloved by his relations and friends, Honored by his county and respected and esteemed by all who knew him. Cheered by hope and led on by a virtuous ambition, he had already entered on the active duties of life with the brightest prospects of success and honorable distinction. But the Spring's rich promise hath been given in vain. His disconsolate father caused this stone to be placed over his grave. I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me."

On the opposite side of this stone, which is some five feet tall, by two feet deep and wide, in shape of a rectangular parallelepiped, we find this: "To the memory of Christopher Tompkins, Sr. Born Mar 24, 1780, Died August 9, 1858.

In this house, Judge Tompkins taught a school of law. Some time later between 1850 and 1860, this same house was converted by one Mr. P. B. Hawkins into a boarding school for young ladies. Afterwards it was bought by and was the home of Judge John S. Bohannon; after this it was the home of Lucien Carden.

The house on Wayne Street, owned by Chas. Warder, is one of our oldest homes; at one time known as the Ed Evans Tavern, at the front door of which stopped the old time stage coach, with much noise and many a flourish. There it was where Marshal Warder lived and died. The home of J. H. Mitchell on Maple Driveway is said to have been built by John Terry. Mr. Terry married in 1833 Mary Jane Moss, a daughter of one of Glasgow's earliest "Tavern Keepers", Josiah Moss. This place was then the home of Samuel Murrell and then of James P. Garnett, who married Mr. Murrell's daughter.

The home of Ernest Warder, a short distance out the same street, built by William Ellis, was afterwards the home of George Ellis who was said to have been the work of the town's old-time and much sought after carpenter, Samuel Harbison who built for the future. The home of Dr. A. T. Botts was built by Wilbourn Bybee, on Green Street or Maple Driveway, for years the home of James B. Martin. The home of Will Warder on Cleveland Ave., was the Zion R. Huggins home, where he built his log house about 1830 and as with his growing family prosperity came; added the weatherboarding. Would we tear this away there would remain the original logs.

Stroll continued:

William Everett married in 1812, built his home, also of logs, on the highest point in the town, afterwards building the brick house which was torn away about 1873-74 when the Baptists of the Liberty Association bought the grounds for their college, now the Glasgow Graded and High School.

“The Mud House,” ancestor of stucco houses in this section, known to later generations as the Anderson Wooten home, attractive for its peculiar shape aside from the material from which it was built, was erected seventy five years or more ago by one Mr. D. C. Nutting, who taught school through the week and built on his house with the help of his boy students on Saturdays.

The first house on the lot where Charles Shader lives, on Cleveland Ave., probably part of the old house is still standing, was built by John Mayfield, Sr. and is one of the oldest homes in town. Mr. Mayfield also built the hotel about the middle of Green Street, on the Public Square, known as the Moss Hotel. The hotel on the corner of Washington and Race Streets where the Christian Church now stands was built by a very early citizen, John Matthews. This was for a long time known as the “Maupin House” and its proprietor for years was Glasgow’s famous hostler, Buck Maupin. In 1865 Judge S. H. Boles moved from Burkesville to Glasgow and took charge of it, and afterwards it was run by Joseph Garnett and others.

On Cleveland Avenue, the place now the home of Claud Goad, was the residence of James P. Bates, one of the numerous, very excellent lawyers, who added to the fame of this “big little city.” This was also the home of Dr. T. C. Purcell from 1856 to about 1910, whose friends said of him, as he made his visits on horseback, that he “carried his religion in his saddle-pockets.”

The home of Trabue Rogers was the home of Mr. T. M. Dickey. Mr. W. F. Evans came from Virginia to Allen County; from there to Barren County. His home was in the suburbs, where Sunset Lane connects with Old and Lower Bowling Green Road, now Cleveland Avenue. This home was burned about 1885. There was a row of cedar trees bordering the long walk from the front gate to the house on the left side of which Mrs. Evans’ famous strawberry bed. She said, as they moved here they passed through a section where wild strawberries were ripe and filled the air with their appetizing fragrances and she, ever known for her thrift alighted from the wagon and secured enough plants for the foundation of a “patch.”

The Ritter home just beyond the bridge on the Burkesville Road, quite a mile from the Courthouse, and yet is said on a still day John W. Ritter, Esq. could hear a summons to Court when his friend, Richard Garnett, called. The house on East Main Street, home of the Norris Bros., now, was built of brick by Wm. T. Bush and was bought by John Lewis, Sr., for his son, Joseph H. Lewis. Lewis was afterwards General, and he lived until after the death of the wife and mother. It then became the home of Maj. Preston H. Leslie, who was prominent in public life of his church and town; was elected Governor of Kentucky from 1871 to 1875, serving a longer term than any Governor since 1804. He was appointed Territorial Governor of Montana in 1885. There he spent the declining years of his life. This house was then bought and became the home of Flem Page. He added an upper story and had the whole structure weatherboarded.

John R. Sampson lived on Race Street. His home was the house remodeled by John (Jack) Lewis, Jr., about 1885 who made his home there until his death. Mr. Sampson, another of our lawyers noted for ability, was elected to the Court of Appeals in 1869, and with his partner, I. W. Edwards, left here. Mr. Edwards was for almost twenty years Judge of the Louisville Chancery Court. Judge Sampson made his home in Frankfort. These two men were brothers-in-law.

The Wm. Bettersworth home on North Green Street is still standing. This was the home of Dr. W. A. Williams. The house is of brick, and is now the home of Miss Ellen Ford. The house on Washington Street, the home of Richard Bethel in the years following the Civil War, was built by a Mr. Settle in the early days, who had, nearby, a gun shop. Occasionally, now, we find a gun with the name “Settle” on it. The double

Stroll Continued:

brick house on West Main Street when the Farmers Union Building now stands, was built by a Mr. Harrison, who had a saddle shop on the corner now occupied as a fruit store. This property formerly embraced the whole block. The side of the grounds facing North Liberty Street was filled with a number of apple trees, such a “Father Abraham” and others of like ilk, gnarled and olden. This was owned from 1850 to 1870 by “Buck” Dearing.

To be continued. Photographs of many of homes can be found in the South Central KY Historical & Genealogical Society publication “Barren County Heritage” which is orderable; see Publications at the end.

Gorin Genealogical Publishing – 205 Clements Ave., Glasgow KY 42141
sgorin@glasgow-ky.com; <http://ggpublishing.tripod.com/>

- Barren County Order Book 7. Next in series, this is really the 6th book miss-numbered. Covers Aug 1838 through July 1851 - a time period where little information is known. Extensive transcription with over 14,000 names shown. Includes Revolutionary War soldiers pensions and widow’s pension, paupers and Poor House reports, guardianships, indentures, payments to citizens for jobs done for the county, waiver of taxes, names of administrators or executors with dates of death on some, and much more. 305 pages with full-name index \$30.00 including shipping and handling. E-price: \$18.00. KY residents please add 6% sales tax.

.Barren County Circuit Court Records Volume 11. Last of the series of Circuit Court records transcribed by the late Gladys Wilson. 25 cases dating from 1839-1884. Surnamed include Payne, Thomas (many), Houk, Tolle, Peck, Smith, McIntire, Bush, Mansfield, Rigdon & others. 87 pages including full-name index. \$15.00 including shipping & handling. KY residents please add 6% sales tax. Also available at E-book for \$10.00.

My Family History As I See It, by Gerald Moss. His second book published this year. This is a memoir including family history, genealogy charts, pictures, and a personal look into the growing up years of the author. Adair and Barren Counties comprise the main focus, but other areas are also covered including some out of state. 75 pages, \$12 plus \$3 shipping and handling.

Remember to check out the website for many more books now offered as E-books (PDF) files.

*Strange Rain of 1890 Was Very Hot But
Did Not Settle The Dust*

Glasgow Times. Undated. Courtesy South Central KY Cultural Center.

Barren countians may have been troubled by rains in the past few days but any more so than by an unusual rain which was reported to have fallen in the Coral Hill neighborhood on July 28, 1890. At that time a strange rain fell for an eight-hour stretch but still didn’t lay the dust and was “hot enough to boil an egg.”

An account of the singular downpour was contained in a newspaper clipping owned by Lewis Mayfield of Cave City and brought to The Times this week by Grover Long, also of Cave City. Both were reared in the Coral Hill community and recall hearing accounts of the fabulous rain.

Strange Rain continued:

Written by John Gibonnoise from Coral Hill, the story follows:

“We have been dry in this section of the county for some time, but on last Saturday morning heavy singular colored clouds began to bank up in the east and by 10 o’clock it began to rain very hard. But there was something very singular about this rain.

“Although it poured down for eight hours without stopping and fell so thick and fast that anyone might stand in it for the space of ten minutes and become thoroughly wet, it didn’t even lay the dust; it wet all the vegetation that reached as high as two feet from the ground, but it seemed to vanish before reaching the ground.

“The water was almost hot enough to boil an egg, and at some places was boiling hot. Mr. Reuben Hutchins, a farmer living about one mile east of this place, had two horses in the pasture and the hair was scalded from their backs. The oldest inhabitant claims to have never heard of anything like it before and everybody is in a high state of excitement.”

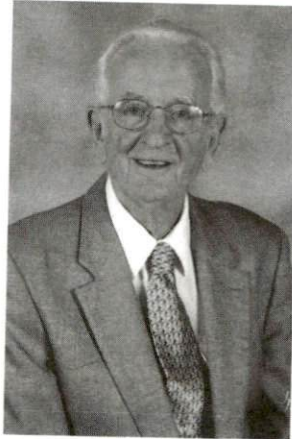
“Another singular feature about this is that eight distinct rainbows appeared. Three of them were of a bright golden color. Several notes scientists have visited us since this remarkable rain, but can not, or at least have not, thrown any light on the subject.

“This may appear unreasonable, but it can be proven by any number of reputable citizens, including F. M. Jones, postmaster at this place and Mr. N. G. Terry, a minister of the gospel.”

RECENT SPEAKERS



Tim Mullin, Timothy J. Mullin, Associate Professor Department Head, Library Special Collections Director, Kentucky Library & Museum, Western Kentucky University presented a very interesting program about the importance of tea to the world, tracing by a video presentation how tea was introduced to England and later to America and was so expensive and cherished as to be kept in locked tea chests.



Robert Morrison of Glasgow, presented a light-hearted program of his life including when he was known as the “Dentist to the Stars” when he practiced in Las Vegas, NV.

AS TIMES GOES ON – BON AYR, KENTUCKY

Source from unknown Glasgow newspaper, undated.

Bon Ayr is only a small village with two stores, a country school and two churches sitting quietly by the side of a cross road where each day the mail carriers on two routes meet and bring the Courier from the city of Louisville, one hundred miles away. There are few changes, only the old mud road has been made a highway that runs from the north to south since 1920.

The village is inhabited with people whose great-grandfather settled on the side of a creek called Sinking Creek where as a child I went fishing with my grandfather for the first time. Where the little courthouse of one room stood beside the road, that is where I went with my grandfather to vote on election day. The day when old friends met and voted the Republican or Democratic ticket. Grandfather Gray always taught me as a child to always vote the straight Republican ticket.

He was a Northern soldier in the Civil War and Abraham Lincoln had stood and watched his regiment march through the Capitol at Washington. And the Democrats were just as sincere in their belief on politics, but when each met as neighbors and friends, never with an argument about the way the other voted.

The churches were Methodist and Baptist where the whole neighborhood gathered at the church on the day of regular meetings at either church. Where the young folk met on Sunday night for singing. Along about the 1920's there were only a few automobiles and all the girls and their beaux went to church on Sunday in a buggy driven by a horse. I think that was the crossroads of our lives then from horse and buggy days to cars. I remember once, the teacher was boarding at our house and we went down to the front gate to see the first car that stopped in front of the house. The ladies wore auto veils of bright colors and were nice enough.

The little cemetery is by the church up on the hill, where members of the old generations are buried. Where great uncles lie in view of the old store house and the old farm where they once lived, where Aunt Millie and Uncle Lum Gray are buried beside the church where

Uncle Lum led the singing on Sunday afternoons. When he sang the song “Traveling On” and he sang with such an effort the sweat rolled off his forehead, and on winter days Aunt Millie made fried apple pies while Uncle Lum with his son, Porter, and Bounce, their dog, sat by the fire and practiced the songs in the

As Times Goes By continued:

new song book published each year. I'd like to dedicate this page to him now for the efforts he made to lead the young folks in singing and the jolly times I have spent at his house across the field.

My grandfather was a brother of Uncle Lum and I remember the quiet evenings spent in reading and Granny Gray would knit socks while Grandpap as I called him would tell us stories of the Civil War and I was brought up on the Star Spangled Banner. He also liked to sing "Nellie Gray" and "Old Black Joe." His motto was "Let's Have Peace" and old Tom our old gray cat would sit by him in perfect contentment around the big old fireplace with a big back log put on for the night.

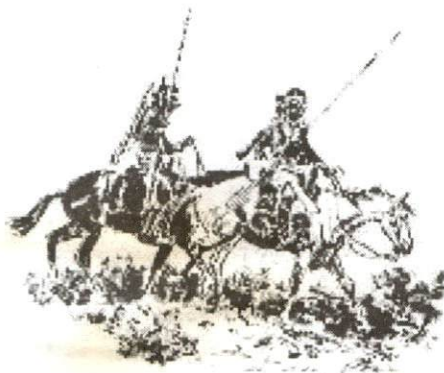
Oh the peace we had that people everywhere the world over now would like to have and trying to find in this time of atomic weapons. Thanks to the old way of living when people knew from one generation to another just what relations they were and were not married and divorced so many times the children didn't know what kin they were but that is just added to say something extra. I suppose we will have to go on living in a confused word. (rest of article missing).

SOME BARREN COUNTY ROADS

Unknown author, Glasgow newspaper, undated. Courtesy South Central KY Cultural Center files.

"The writer of this article [un-credited] is deeply grateful to Mrs. W. B. Smith, Mr. W. L. Porter, Mr. Frank Riherd, Scottsville, and Mr. Cyrus Edwards, Horse Cave, for their assistance in the preparation of this paper.

"Civilization and roads go hand in hand, each is mutually dependent upon the other. Before the white man visited Barren County, even the savages had their trails, or roads, there being two or three chief ones in the territory now known as Barren County. Over these trails, the stealthy tread of the moccasin feet of the Indians passed as they were on the war-path, or were seeking game. In following these trails the Indian was guided largely by his inborn sense of direction, his ability to read his natural surroundings and his almost uncanny knowledge of the heavenly bodies.



"When we agreed to undertake the development of this subject, we had in mind to trace out many roads and visit the quaint and interesting little towns and villages, which dotted our country side years ago, but when we began the work, we found ourselves hopelessly lost in the maze of roads which traverse our much loved county in all directions, and strange to say, in which every way we went, it seemed to us we were confronted with an "Old Lexington or State Road," so it has been impossible for us even to mention many of the roads, much less trace them out.

Barren County Roads continued:

“It is claimed that when the first white settlers came to Barren County, there were at least two, possibly three, Indian traces, or trails, supposedly connecting this “Happy Hunting Ground” with the Indian settlements both north and south, but as late as 1799, Barren County had no roads of any kind, not even a rude wagon road. Strange to say these early Indian traces were planned with almost the accuracy of the compass. When the county was formed in 1798-99, one of these trails was made the road which connected the cities of Lexington and Nashville, Tennessee. This old trail not only passed through Barren County, but it touched the south east corner of Allen County, passed through Monroe County by way of the Old Mulkey Meeting House, then down Long Creek, crossing it quite a number of times and running in it frequently then on out of the State of Kentucky. Our forebearers followed the trail consistently in laying out the Lexington-Nashville Road.

“On what is frequently called the northern Lexington road of Barren Co., some times spoken of as the New Orleans Trace, there were two places of special importance. One was Bear Wallow, which had an excellent spring of cold, never-failing water, surrounded by a magnificent grove of beautiful trees; this grove contained something like one-thousand acres. The other place was not in Barren County but was at the Long Spring, near the William Curle old place some ten miles north-east of Bear Wallow. Then there was Elk Lick, which was on Little Barren River, where Barren and Green counties once cornered, but today Barren, Green and Hart counties corner, the most popular place was Bear Wallow, in fact it was the best known place as a camping ground between Lexington and Nashville.

“Of the three Indian trails mentioned above, two of them seem to have been lost in the “shuffle” of the years; the third one was opened up and developed into a wagon road as the settlers came into this territory.

“The first permanent roads built after the organization of Barren County were from neighborhood to neighborhood and from county seat to county seat. From the south, the Indian trail, later known as the “New Orleans Trace” entered Barren County around one-half mile southwest of Bell’s Tavern at Three Forks, now Glasgow Junction. This trace, as its name indicates, had its beginning at the city of New Orleans; it ran to Nashville, Tennessee, then to Bowling Green, to Dripping Springs Meeting House, then entered Barren County. On reaching Three Forks, the Trace was divided into three parts, hence the name of the town, Three Forks, now Glasgow Junction. One branch of the Trace went to Bardstown, Ky., beginning at the Warren County line, then to Richard Owens’ place, and then to the Hart County line; the second branch came to Glasgow over the Denton Mill-Glasgow road by way of the Denton Mill, thence to the Oil City section and into Glasgow; this is over the old Denton’s Mill Road, one of the oldest in the county. The third prong ran from Three Forks, almost on a direct line to Prewitt’s Knob; one authority says it ran in one-half a mile of this Knob to a marked tree near James Curle’s on the hill opposite the old school house, then to Thomas Crenshaw’s, then to the Hart County line. This road was 13 feet wide. Prewitt’s Knob was a flourishing little village.

“Nathan Herzog had a large general merchandise store here; from here the road ran to Cool Spring, just across the road from where Mr. Wash Huggins lives today, passing through the farms of Mr. Phonsie Whitney and Dr. D. B. Curd, both of whom fenced it up later so as to turn travel through the newly settled town of Cave City which sprang up with the building of the Louisville and Nashville railroad, but since the building of the new concrete road, the old one has been opened again; from Cool Spring, the road continues in almost a direct line to Horse Well, or Burch’s Cross Roads, a thriving town then with its general merchandise store, its blacksmith shop, its store or more of residences, and McCown’s Inn, one of the best on the entire Trace; the next stop was at Bear Wallow, from there it passed by the Round Top Barn, near which was a splendid lake intersecting the State Road as Joshua Brent’s on Little Barren River.

Barren County Roads continued:

“This was almost a century and one-half ago, but in all that time practically no changes have been made in this historic old road. In fact, from Bell’s Tavern at Three Forks to Prewitt’s Knob, there had been no change until the building of the new Glasgow-Cave City concrete road; then from Prewitt’s Knob to Cool Spring to Horse Well, the road is practically u-changed from Horse Well to Bear Wallow no change whatever has been made.”

This article was to be continued; I have not located the second of the series as of yet.

PAUPERS CITED AUGUST 1838 – FEBRUARY 1851

The following names are shown in Barren County Order Book 7 covering the above time frame. Some of these were housed in the “Poor House” and some taken care of in private homes. More information is normally shown including dates of arrival or support and approximate dates of death on some.

Agers, Sally	Bennet, Wm..	Chambers, Rhoda
Baldock, Polly	Bond, Frances	Chapman, Margaret
Beckham, John & wife	Carter, Marjery	Coleman/Colman, Judy
Creek, John	Henderson, Nelly	Rainey/Raney, Matthew
Dean, Jennie	Henderson, William	Robertson’s, Chr. blind children
Denison, Jacob	Hester, Rhoda Sr.	Shaw, George & wife Mary
Doss, Elizabeth	Lawrence, Rebecca	Slave Feney/Fency
Doss, Louisa	Lesly, Mary	Slave, Jesse
Duncan?, Mr.	McClanahan, Mrs.	Staples, James, wife & 2 children
Elliott, Milly	McFeeley/McFelia, Mrs	Suter, John
Epling and daughter Mary C.	McLaughlin	Thomas, Rachel
Felia, Mrs.	Morrison, Joseph F	Willhelm, Jane alias Drane, Jane
Fisher, Elizabeth	Nunnally, Walter	Wilson, Richard Jr
Garmon, J’s daughter	Perkins	Wilson, Richard Sr.
Garrison, J’s daughter (same as Garmon?)	Phemaster/Femaster, Mary	
	Philpot, Mrs.	

Appeals Courts & Law Libraries
Two Often Overlooked Genealogical Research Tools

Contributed by Bill Utterback, a Certified Genealogist specializing in court and land records, and in research in the Jackson Purchase region of Kentucky. He can be reached at billco@ARN.NET.

Most family historians are familiar with research in the county court records, whether those records are contained in circuit, chancery (equity), quarterly, criminal, probate, or some other type of judicial body. Often, though, our research stops at these lowest levels of the judicial process. We do not press further with our investigation to determine if a decision reached at, for example, a circuit court, was appealed to the state court of appeals, or, if applicable, even further to the state

Appeals Courts and Law Libraries, continued:

supreme court, if the decision at the court of appeals was unfavorable. By failing to follow up these cases to the fullest extent possible, researchers can often miss vital clues (including lineage proofs) which may reside in the appeals courts case files.

In order to follow a court case through the judicial flow, it is necessary to know *how* the process works within any state, in the time frame in which the case was in the judicial system. In Kentucky, the circuit court was (and still is) the primary body in which legal actions were brought. A circuit court, especially in the early period of Kentucky's history as a State, could also sit as a criminal, or as a chancery (also known as an equity) court. Wills were often probated through the circuit courts, and administrators were appointed in intestate deaths through the circuit court process. Later, separate criminal and probate courts were established, and, for a period of a few years, quarterly courts also existed in Kentucky. These courts met quarterly, as the name implies, and their judicial responsibilities were wide ranging, including the occasional case in which a quarterly court handled a criminal case, although this was somewhat rare. However, the quarterly court system proved to be unwieldy, and was ultimately eliminated.

Any legal proceeding, with few exceptions, which rendered a ruling which was unsatisfactory to the defendant (and, in some cases, to the prosecution), had the right to appeal that decision to the next highest level of the legal process. In Kentucky, prior to statehood in 1792, the only court of appeal was The Supreme Court of Virginia for the District of Kentucky. After statehood, the Kentucky Court of Appeals was established, and it remained the only state level of appeal until 1975, when the Kentucky Supreme Court was established as a second level of state appeal. Certain types of cases, such as death penalty and severe criminal cases, go directly to the Supreme Court of Kentucky and bypass the Court of Appeals. Other courts have appeared in Kentucky in the 20th century, such as district courts and children's courts. For the genealogist,

Appeals Courts and Law Libraries, continued:

however, the main courts of interest are the lowest level courts in the 19th and 20th centuries, and the Court of Appeals.

Not every legal case presented to, for example, a Kentucky circuit court, was appealed. Indeed, a very small number of cases ever reached the appellate level. In order to determine if a case was moved on up to the Court of Appeals, researchers should look in the circuit court case file, if extant, and particularly at the case jacket, or the accounts report within the file, to see if there is notification of appeal reflected there. When a case was appealed to the Court of Appeals, if the case did not have many documents, a deputy clerk, or other person, might be paid to copy all of the documents within the file, so that the copies could be sent to the Court of Appeals. A charge from, and payment to, the scribe who did the work may appear on the account page, if it is in the case file. One must look carefully within the case file paperwork, since, in many cases, there is often no really prominent notation that the case was appealed. In cases in which the documentation was lengthy, the circuit court often sent the original file, in toto, to the Court of Appeals. Unless the county in which the case originated asked that the case file be returned, those files will be found today in the Kentucky Department for Libraries and Archives, from 1863 forward (earlier case files, except for some land disputes, were destroyed by fire). Another method of determining whether the case you are researching was appealed is to use the *Kentucky Digest – Table of Cases*, which has two volumes – one indexed by the plaintiff(s) name(s), and the other indexed by the name(s) of the defendant(s). In addition, *The American Digest – Table of Cases – 1658 – 1906 – Decennial Edition*, will often show the case in question, if it was appealed, although it is not as reliable as a state digest, such as the one mentioned first above. These publications were printed by West Publishing Company, which has been, for well over a century, the premier printer of digests and case reporters.

Appeals Courts and Law Libraries, continued:

The citation that will be found within these tables of cases will be in “legalese”. For example, a case might be captioned, “*Watson vs. Smith. 15 B.Monroe 225*”. This translates to the 15th volume of *Kentucky Case Reports*, as authored by Ben Monroe, with the opinion on this case to be found at page 225. Sometimes there may be more than one citation, if the court’s opinion was published in more than one reporter, or if one citation also is known in another manner (such as “*Watson vs. Smith. 15 B.Monroe 225 (35 Ky. Rpts 122)*”), which indicates that another volume contains the same opinion. There were also regional reporters that covered several states within a region. Once the correct case reporter volume has been determined, the next stop is the law library. Indeed, it may be necessary to go to a law library to even access the digests to determine which case reporter to consult.

It must be remembered that law libraries are not public libraries. They exist primarily for the use of law students and attorneys. Many states, virtually from their birth as a state, required each county to have a public law library, so that citizens, and, more often, visiting attorneys and circuit judges, could have access to pertinent law without having to carry books with them from place to place. Law libraries are always found at universities with law schools. However, the general public is usually not allowed access to those law libraries unless the university is a public, and not a private institution. As a result, the Harvard Law Library would not be open to the general public, while the law library at Texas Technological University, since it is state funded, would be open to the public. The county law libraries would, of course, be open to the public, but, generally, their holdings are very limited, and often cover only their own county and state (in the case of digests), and perhaps a few counties surrounding their own (relative to case reports). University law libraries often keep very long hours, sometimes staying open until the wee hours of the morning. Always be sure to check in advance with any law library in which you wish to research, to insure

Appeals Courts and Law Libraries, continued:

that they will be open when you are there, and that the general public is admitted. Always go prepared when you visit a law library. Law librarians are not there to answer questions such as, “What do you have in here that might give me some information on the Parkenfarker family?” Questions asked should be associated with their holdings, such as, “Where would I find your digest volumes?” It has not been unknown for a law librarian to show a genealogist the door, especially those who did not do their pre-visit research. Once you have found the citation in a digest, your next step is to find the case reporter in which the opinion of the Court of Appeals will be found. Usually, there are maps of law libraries posted in various places, which will help you locate the case reporters, or you can ask a librarian. Once you have the reporter in your hands, you can read the opinion rendered, and if it contains family information, you can take the necessary notes, or photocopy the pages. But be warned in advance: in only about 10% of the case opinions you will read will contain valuable family information. But, in those cases in which clues and family facts are found, those findings can be absolute gold mines. Of course, the ultimate documents you seek are the case files themselves, which can be ordered, if they exist, from the repository which holds them. The case files will have all of the depositions, petitions, answers, motions, and all of the minutiae which may contain even more information than the opinion rendered by the Court of Appeals, based on those documents.

This short explanation of the judicial appeals process, and the use of the law library, is only a scratching of the surface in this subject area. It is this writer’s hope that it will encourage researchers to get more involved in investigating court records more completely and in more depth. The old 49’ers saying, “Thar’s gold in them thar hills” can be applied to using appeals court records and law libraries – there can be gold there, if you only know where and how to find it.

A GREEN COUNTY MURDER

Contributed by Barbara Wright, author, researcher and genealogist, 150 Busy Baker Road, Campbellsville, KY 42718.

This below article is taken from the History of Kentucky, Biographical Sketches, by William B. Allen, 1872, Barbara's interest in this article is that in 1827 there was a mail robbery between Green Co and Glasgow involving a Lucinda White. Little is known of the robbery but in 1838, a Lucinda White and her family were murdered in lower Green County, close to present day Highway 88, which is the road to Glasgow. If anyone has any information, please write to the editor or contact Barbara.

Carrington Simpson

“The trite saying, that “murder will out,” was fully verified in the case of Carrington Simpson, of Green County, who was a *particeps criminis* in one of the most diabolical deeds of murder that was ever perpetrated in this, or, perhaps, any other county. A history of the affair, and of the man who was the principal actor in that tragic scene, will now be given, as far as my memory serves me, being greatly assisted by extensive notes taken at the time by General Samuel A. Spencer, who was one of the attorneys for the defense on the trial of the case in the Green Circuit Court.

In the month of July, 1838, Lucinda White, a widow lady of about forty-five years of age, and her two sons, Lewis Charner and John Quincy, and her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Matilda White, some twenty-two years of age, and her infant son, William Franklin, about two years of age, were all foully murdered, and their bodies deposited in an old potato-hole in a dilapidated cabin, situated in an unenclosed waste old field on the farm of Carrington Simpson, on the south side of Green River, about seven miles from Greensburg, and about one mile from the place the murdered persons lived. The bodies were slightly covered, principally with rotten tobacco stalks, the house having been used some years previously as a tobacco barn.

When the bodies were exhumed, they were found in the hole, or grave, in the following order, viz: The son, Lewis Charner, on top; next to him, Lucinda, the mother; next, the son, John Quincy, and the infant, William Franklin; and at the bottom, Matilda, the daughter-in-law. Although in a high state of putrefication, the bodies were all identified and recognized by those who had known them well; one by the comb in her head and the ring upon her finger; another by her teeth and the color of her hair; another by the peculiarity of his teeth, &c. It seems that all of them stripped of their clothing before interment, except Matilda, the daughter-in-law – her clothing appeared to have been pulled and tied over her head; she had also a rope about her body and arms, as though she had been tied. The skull of each one was broken, apparently, and, in the opinion of the physician present at the exhumation, with the same instrument, except that the head of the child was mashed and severed from the body. The coroner having held his inquest and made out his report, old Daniel Kesler, the father of young Mrs. White, collected the remains of his daughter (Matilda) and her child and placed them in one coffin, and those of Lucinda and her two sons, which he placed in another coffin, and deposited both coffins in the same grave on his farm, not far distant from the scene of the direful atrocity.

Carrington Simpson was an intemperate man in the use of liquor, petulant and fearless, especially when under its influence, had a great many quarrels and fights, and, in short, a general wrong-doer, and a terror to the neighborhood in which he lived. Some eighteen months had elapsed from the time of the murder to the discovery of the bodies spoken of, and during the whole period there was not even a suspicion that a murder had been committed; but the universal belief in the neighborhood was, that this family had moved clandestinely to the State of Alabama. The facts which influenced this general belief were, that Lucinda White had a brother and other relations living in that State, who were anxious for the removal of her family thither; she was anxious to go, and often spoke of going; her eldest son, the husband of Matilda, had gone there some months previously, with the view of securing a home for the family by the time they

A Green County Murder continued:

might arrive; the husband of Matilda, who had done, was by no means in good odor with his father-in-law, old Daniel Kesler, but on the other hand was regarded by him a very sorry chance, and who consequently opposed vehemently the going of his daughter to Alabama; but she was determined to accompany her mother-in-law, Lucinda, whenever she went, at all hazards, and it was agreed among the family that Matilda should go to her father's (old Daniel Kessler's) to spend the day and while there collect some articles of clothing belonging to her, and bring them away; in the meantime give her father's family to understand that she had abandoned all idea of going to Alabama. The arrangement was further made, however, with Carrington Simpson, who was present at the time, that he was to remove them five day's journey with his ox team, and that they were to start out at a late hour that night. Lewis Charner, the eldest of the murdered sons, had been started off a day or two previous to the contemplated movement of the rest of the family, on an old worn-out gray horse, which they feared would not be able to hold out, and that he possibly might have to return before he had traveled very far, which the sequel will show was the case.

The night appointed for the removal was the first Saturday in July, 1838. Jason Bell, who lived about six miles from Greensburg, and three or four miles from Simpson's, on the same side of the river, had a still-house of very low character, where rowdies frequently met to carouse. Carrington Simpson was one of the most frequent attendants. On the Thursday before the murder, Simpson went to this still-house. Pleasant Sadler was there also, who was the step-son of Bell. Simpson's account of that meeting, as related in his testimony on the trial of Bell and Sadler, was that after talking awhile on other matters he remarked to them that Lucinda White wanted someone to remove her to Alabama. Sadler remarked that she had a purse of money as long as his arm. Bell then said, that would be a pretty good hand. Sadler then proposed to him and Bell, that they should kill old Lucinda and all the family, throw them into the river, and get her long purse of money. Bell agreed to the killing, but objected to throwing them into the river, as it might lead to their discovery, and inquired of Simpson if he did not know of some deep hole in which they could throw the bodies. Simpson mentioned as a very suitable place, near by, an old potato-hole, in a falling-in waste-house in an old field of his. It was then agreed that Simpson should go to Lucinda's on Friday, and tell her that Bell and Sadler would move her five days' journey for ten dollars; that she must be ready to start by Saturday night; that they would all be there with a cart and ox team by dark, prepared to start on the trip.

They were at the place by the time appointed, with the cart and ox team, but had previously murdered Matilda and the child in the old field in which the waste-house was situated. They had met her on her return from her father's. Lucinda and her son John Quincy were murdered at her house after their arrival there with the cart, and their bodies taken to the old waste-house and thrown into the same hole with Matilda and her child. The cart was then loaded up with Lucinda's plunder, which was carried off to Simpson's house, where the division of spoils took place.

The next day, Lewis Charner, who had started off before-hand on the old gray horse, returned, alleging that the horse was about to give out, that he was satisfied it could never perform the trip, and that he had concluded to leave the old horse and travel with the rest of the family. Arriving at Lucinda's house he found it vacated, and supposing they had started on their trip and that he had missed them on the way, he hunted up Sadler, who prevailed upon him to conceal himself (under some pretext, not now remembered), in an old barn until night, when he was inveigled into the old field, murdered, and deposited in the same hole with the rest, there to remain until time and circumstances should reveal to the public observation the whole affair.

I should have mentioned that the poor old gray horse was also taken to the old field and killed near the waste-house, so that any disagreeable effluvia which might arise from the decomposing human bodies would be attributed to the carcass of the dead horse.

After the night of Saturday, the 7th of July, 1838, the whole of this family were known to be missing; yet nearly eighteen months had elapsed before even the faintest suspicion had been aroused in the

A Green County Murder continued:

neighborhood that they had been foully dealt with, because it was generally understood in the neighborhood that they intended to move to Alabama. Many months afterward, however, the anxiety of old Mr. Kesler in regard to his daughter Matilda induced him to write to Alabama to ascertain where they had settled, how they were doing, &c. After waiting a long time and receiving no reply, he wrote again, and again, with no better success. About this time various articles of clothing, such as ladies' dresses, children's clothes, bed clothing, &c., were seen worn and used by Simpson's family, which were recognized by the neighbors as having been worn and used by Lucinda and Matilda; but still their suspicions were slight, from the fact that Simpson had repeatedly stated openly that he had received his pay for moving them in such articles, they having no money to spare for that purpose. About this time, the suspicions of the neighbors began to gather strength, daily, from new discoveries of articles worn by the Simpsons, articles which it was unreasonable to suppose those persons would have parted with, such as under-dresses, flannels, shirts, shoes, children's clothing, and new calico dresses which these people were seen making a few days before they started. These suspicions and circumstances led to the arrest of Simpson, in March, 1840, under a warrant obtained by Daniel Kesler, the father of Matilda, and he was brought before Justices J. D. Mottley and Isaac Gibbons, who, after hearing the evidence and duly deliberating thereon, committed him to jail, to be held for trial at the ensuing circuit court for the murder of the five persons before mentioned.

Some few days after his commitment, a number of persons of the neighborhood in which the murder was supposed to have been committed assembled, divided themselves into different parties or companies, intending to search the neighborhood thoroughly, in every direction, for the bodies supposed to be murdered. One of the companies having with them a grubbing hoe, proceeded immediately to the old field and waste-house of which I have spoken, which they all entered; and, after casting their eyes about a little, the man with the grubbing-hoe, without the expectations of many any discoveries, made two licks with his hoe, in quick succession, into the loose looking tobacco stalks which covered the hole. The second lick brought up the rib of a human body. The rubbish being cleared away, several human forms were discoverable, but they were not disturbed until the arrival of the coroner. An inquest being held, the remains were disposed of as heretofore stated. Before his arrest, Simpson's statements in regard to what had become of this family were very contradictory. In regard to their manner of leaving he was generally consistent. At one time he said he did not know where they had gone, at another, that he did know, but would not tell; and at another, that he could go to them in three hours, and that but one person besides himself knew anything about them. He said that some of them left on Saturday night, and the rest on Sunday night; that the reason they left separately and in the night was that old man Kesler, the father of Matilda, intended to stop her from going, and this plan had been adopted to escape him. These evasive answers went far to strengthen the suspicions already afloat.

On the evening of the day on which the dead bodies were found, Simpson was visited at the jail by several persons, who communicated to him the fact of their discovery, and all the circumstances which conduced to prove him, beyond all reasonable doubt, a guilty participant at least. He, however, denied, as he had uniformly done before, any participation in the affair. One of the visitors, upon leaving the jail, addressing himself to Simpson said, "As regards you, Simpson, your guilt is conclusive, and your doom is fixed, but I have no doubt thee were others connected with you in the affair, for no one man could have accomplished so tragic an act unaided and alone, and you had as well come out fully and tell us all about it." To these remarks Simpson made no reply. Early next morning, however, he gave information that Jason Bell and Pleasant Sadler were his accomplices in the affair, and that Sadler, a stout young man, had done the killing in each instance.

Some months previous to this time Bell and Sadler had removed from the neighborhood in which they had lived to the head waters of Brush Creek, in Green County, some twelve or fifteen miles distant; but a warrant was forthwith obtained, and an officer immediately dispatched for their arrest. They were soon brought to town, delivered over to the justices, an investigation had, mainly upon the testimony of Simpson,

A Green County Murder continued:

who made a full confession of his own guilt and of their participation, which resulted in their commitment also for further trial, without bail. At a subsequent circuit court, they were all tried, condemned, and sentenced to be capitally executed.

Soon after the sentence Bell became sick, and in a few days afterward was found dead in his cell. His illness was not thought to be dangerous, and he and Sadler being confined in a room together, separate from Simpson, it was generally believed that Sadler, his step-son, had smothered him to death. A short time after this, Sadler made a rope out of his bed clothing and hung himself, fastening one end of the rope around his neck and the other to the grating of a small window in the dungeon some seven or eight feet high from the floor. Simpson abided his time, and was hung in the suburbs of Greensburg on the 21st of September, 1841. Bell and Sadler were to have been hung on the 27th of the same month. The throng of people who attended the hanging of Simpson was tremendous. I would say there were present on that occasion then thousand persons at least." (There follows several pages of his life history.)

CRIMINAL DOCKET, BARREN CIRCUIT COURT
APRIL TERM, 1870

From the Thursday, April 7, 1870 Glasgow Weekly Times. Charges were normally shown as initials. In checking with the Barren County Circuit Court and the Glasgow Police Department, only a few were identified or known by your editor. Race not shown.

Commonwealth vs:

Joseph Clark, PI	James Ferguson, Assault, CW (2)	John & Sam Davis, MM
Ben Bybee, Adultery	Wm. Carver, CW	E. G. Dearing, MM
Ben Gibbs, GL & FM	James Carver, CW	Jas. Kirby, GL
Robert Gibbs, HS	Richard Powell, CW	J. H. Poynter, Tippling
Al Bush, MS	John Neal, CW	S. Duncan, Rape
John Brown, MS & CW	Wm Barton, MS	Isaac Ritter, SWW
Robert Dennison, HS	Edward Hudson, Tippling	Wm. Rowler, Rape
Sam Lewis, G H	Isaac Ritter, Tippling & BP	Lucy Young, Retailing
Arch Strange, Gaming	Alex Smith, CW	J. R. Crabb, Tippling
Wm Buckner, CW	Jane Alexander, GL	George Britt, Tippling
Richard Martin, CW	Thomas Ray, GL	Asa Crapoe, Tippling
Joe Hester, Murder	G B Kirby, Murder	John Hulsey, CW
David Bowman HS (2)	Rufus Defevers, FR	Jas. McCalebs, Tipling
Bryant Young, GL	J. T. Mansfield, Tippling (2)	E. H. Greer, MS & CW
D. Underwood, BP	A. Morgan, Trespass (2)	Jas. McGlocklin, Assault
Riley Harston, Tippling	A. C. Wood, BP	Puss Church, Nuisance
Edward Jewell, Tippling	Thos. Strange, Trespass	Barney Gibbs, FR
Jeremiah Fant, Tippling	L. Downs, Trespass	Wm. Mansfield, FR
J L Pulliam, CW	S. Turner, DPW	Jos. H. Lewis, FR
Margaret Halsey, BP	Elizabeth Davis, Nuisance	M. A. Ferguson, FR (3)
Albert Scott, GL	William Talley, MS	W. L. Poynter, FR
John Wilcoxon, CW	John Nelee, MS	
J Edmunds, GL	Chas. Cook, MS	
F Durham, Robert & HS	Wm Overstreet, Tippling	
Thos. Chase, CW	Robt. Dennison, CW	

Criminal Docket continued:

Meanings change over the years but here are the suggested charges from the criminal court records.

BP – Breach of Peace	CW – Concealed Weapon	DP – disturbing the peace
FR – False Report	GL – Grand Larceny	MS – Misdemeanor/manslaughter
PI – Public Intoxication	HS – possible horse stealing	BP – Breach of the peace

From the *Times Journal*, an early Bowling Green newspaper.

“Mr. James Harvey Duff died very suddenly of pneumonia December 27, 1907 at the home of his nephew, George Butler, near here. His death came as a surprise to everyone, he was sick only a few days. Mr. Duff was in his fifty-seventh year and was a well known citizen of Allen County. He leaves one brother and sister to mourn his loss, Mr. John Duff and Mrs. G. I. Tabor of this county. Mr. Duff had been a member of the Baptist Church for a number of years. Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. Chenault of the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church. The remains were laid to rest in the Pleasant Grove Cemetery burying ground. The many friends of the diseased [sic] will regret to learn of his death.”

From The Glasgow Weekly Times, Saturday, Sept. 25, 1865:

“Mr. Chas. P. Edmunds left at our office, a few days since, the finest specimen of leaf tobacco we have ever seen in this country – as fine as we ever saw anywhere, and we are somewhat acquainted with the “weed” in every phase of its production, and in ever manner of its use. Mr. Edmunds stands at head of the list of producers in this county.”

From the Glasgow Weekly Times, Thursday, April 7, 1870:

“The following person(s) have obtained license to marry in this county since last report:

J. J. Tolle & Lucinda Nickols
W. C. Jolly and Erther Carver
Chas. Holman and Mary W. Deff
H. C. Parker and M. W. Monroe
R. Lowe and Almira Huckaby
W. H. Dickinson and N. Harlow
J. W. Foster and S. H. Glover
Moses Marshall and S. H. Glover
M. P. Anderson and N. Shipley

“On last Monday morning, Mrs. Helen Dearing, while on her way to the funeral of her uncle, Mr. Chas. Denton, at Merry Oaks, was thrown from her horse and severely injured by the fracture of one of her limbs, near the hip joint. As an excellent and estimable lady, she possesses, in this distressing casualty, the cordial sympathies of all who know her, while as the mother of our clever foreman, the accident affords as a serious and anxious concern. The physician in attendance reports her at present as comfortable as could be expected, considering the grave nature of the injury.”

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

New Member (Y) (N) Renewal (Y) (N)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Names being researched: (Please limit to three)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Enclosed is my check/money order in the amount of \$_____ for membership in the Society. Dues received before January 31st of each year will insure that your name is on the mailing list of "Traces" for the first issue of the year. If received after that date, you will be mailed your current issue and all back issues due you at that time. Please notify us of address changes!

Regular Membership	\$12.00
Family	\$15.00 (one copy of "Traces")
Life, under age 70	\$150.00
Life, over age 70	\$100.00

Thank you for your continued support!

Mail this application to:

South Central Kentucky Historical and Genealogical Society
Post Office Box 157
Glasgow, KY 42142-0157

BOOKS FOR SALE BY THE SOCIETY

Barren County Cemeteries: Ken Beard and Brice T. Leech, Editors. Hardbound. \$25.00 plus \$4.00 shipping & handling.

Barren County Heritage: Goode and Gardner, Editors. Hardbound. \$25.00 plus \$4.00 shipping & handling.

Barrens: The Family Genealogy of the White, Jones, Maxey, Rennick, Pope and Kirkpatrick Families, related families. Emery H. White, \$15.00 plus \$3.00 shipping & handling.

Biography of Elder Jacob Locke, James P. Brooks, \$4.00 plus \$1.00 shipping & handling.

Callum Bailey: Planter and Early Settler of Barren County. \$20.00 plus \$3.50 shipping & handling.

Historic Trip Through Barren County, C. Clayton Simmons. Hardbound. \$18.00 plus \$3.00 shipping & handling.

Little Barren (Trammel's Creek) Baptist Church, Metcalfe County. Peden. \$6.00.

Mt. Tabor Baptist Church by the Committee. \$10.00 plus \$2.00 shipping & handling.

Pleasant Run Church, McFarland's Creek, 1827-1844. Peden. \$6.00

Stories of the Early Days, Cyrus Edwards. Hardbound. \$17.00 plus \$3.00 shipping & handling.

Then and Now, Dr. R. H. Grinstead. \$2.00 plus \$1.00 shipping & handling.

Times of Long Ago, Franklin Gorin. Hardbound. \$12.00 plus \$3.00 postage.

1879 Beers & Lanagan Map of Barren County. 24x30 laminated cardstock, black and white. Landowners shown, community inserts. \$7.25 plus \$3.75 shipping & handling.

I would like to order the following books:

TITLE	COST
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Total Cost \$ _____

GENERAL INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIP is open to anyone interested in the history of the South Central Kentucky area, centering around Barren County. Annual dues are \$12.00.

TRACES, the Society's quarterly publication is received by all members. It is published seasonally; Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. Members joining during the year will receive the past issues of that year in a separate mailing.

CONTRIBUTIONS are earnestly solicited. Family genealogies, marriages, Bible, will and probate, cemetery, court and other records are all acceptable. You will be listed as the contributor.

QUERIES are accepted only from members, without limit, and will be published as space permits. Queries should be limited to about 50 words.

EXCHANGE of Traces with other Societies or publications is acceptable and welcome.

BOOKS to be reviewed in Traces must be sent with information as to cost, including postage, from whom the book may be obtained. They become the property of the Society library. Books should have Kentucky interest. Reviews will be published as space permits.

MEETINGS are held monthly, except December, at the South Central Kentucky Cultural Center (Museum of the Barrens), 200 Water Street, Glasgow, KY, on the fourth Thursday, 7:00 p.m. Interesting and informative programs are planned for each meeting and your supportive attendance is always welcome.

BACK ISSUES of Traces are available. Our supplies of the following are gone: Vol. 1, Nos. 1-4 (1973); Nos. 1-4 (1974); Vol. 4. (1976); Vol. 5, No. 1 (1977), Vol. 3, Nos. 1 and 4 (1981); Vol. 10, Nos. 1 and 2 (1982), Vol. 12, No. 2 (1984). All others can be purchased as long as the supply lasts at \$4.00. Back issues will be mailed with our regular quarterly mailing.

CORRESPONDENCE of any type that requires a reply must contain a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Address to: South Central Kentucky Historical and Genealogical Society, P. O. Box 157, Glasgow, KY 42142-0157.

BOOKS AND MATERIALS of a genealogical nature that you no longer need - would you consider donating them to the Society? They will be preserved for other researchers and are deeply appreciated. Contact the editor, Sandi Gorin, 205 Clements Avenue, Glasgow, KY 42141-3049.

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