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History of Auburn, Ky. 1941.

H. W. H. C. Clary -

Auburn, is located on U. S. Highway No. 68, in Logan County Ky., 18 miles South of Bowling Green, 10 miles North of Russellville, on Black Lick Creek.

At an early date (after Ky. had become a state) Four Clark brothers came from Virginia into what is now Logan County, and took up a Military or Revolutionary survey- beginning at the head waters of two big springs--- both of which are located in the corporate limits of Auburn: one known as the Price Spring and the other now known as the Blue Hole where the City water works are located. This is really an underground stream that seems to come up just for a fresh breath of air and to supply the best town of Kentucky with good pure water. The water from these two springs meet in the corporate limits of Auburn and form Black Lick Creek, which creek flows through the town; and about one mile in a northern direction when it again hides its self in Mother Earth, only to show it's face some two miles from this hiding place.

The above mentioned survey of the Clark Brothers included many hundred acres of the land on either side of Black Lick Creek. A Mrs. Temple kinswoman, heired the land South of the now Bowling Green and Russellville Highway. She gave to the Methodist Church what is perhaps the oldest church site in this vacinity and the church was called "Temples Chapple", being located just back of the now, new and beautiful 'Methodist Pierce Memorial Church'.

Some time later the land lying North of now Highway #68 and West of Black Lick Creek became the property of one Mr. Viers, and on this was located the Vier's Foundry which manufactured (among other things) the first plow to plow on both sides a row at one time, later known as the one row cultivator.

There was also at this time a large flouring and Woolen Mill, owned and operated by a Mr. Gordan. And there was also operated on the creek a Tan Yark, which tanned leather by the old Tan-Bark process. A part of this same building is still standing, and is still used as a tannery, but, by the latest and best up-to-date methods. It's' products are known over all the U.S.A as Cladwells Indian Tan and Raw-hide Leathers.

Auburn was first called Woodville, and was located about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile North of its' present city square, where Mr. Scott Hall's residence now stands.

In course of time (about 1858) the L.&N. R.R. came through and there was much rivalry between Captain Woods, who had a blacksmith shop, general store and a large school on the site just mentioned, and a Mr. Viers, who owned the North side of the town; as to where the Railroad station of the then thriving village should be located. Capt. Woods wanted the Depot placed in front of his property and Mr. Viers wanted it on the creek near his foundry. Capt. Woods of course, wanted the name Woodville, the dispute was settled by a New England school teacher name "Corney", who was teaching in Capt. Woods' school; placing the location near Mr. Viers foundry and naming it "Auburn"---. Who then wrote these lines,- "Auburn, Sweet Auburn, the loveliest village of the Plaines". (From Goldsmith, The Deserted Village.)

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There are some, however, who still persist that Auburn was named for an early settler, who (trying to get his fire to burn), exclaimed: "Au--Burn!, dam you burn". But we are quite sure the first mentioned is the way Auburn was named.

When the Shakers came from New York State to locate in this section, they first purchased the Viers' farm (now owned by Curry C. Hall) on the North side of Auburn, but later they purchased some 3000 acres of land near South Union and Shakertown, became a permanent settlement until they were disbanded in 1922.

The first brick house built near Auburn was on the Old Blakey Farm. It was so rocker and shaken that large cracks came in the walls and the top was taken off by the Earthquake that made Reel-Foot Lake and the sunken lands of Arkansas, at which time it was owned by Captain Haden, now the W. S. Hall, Sr. farm.

Auburn has never been one of those boom towns, but has made a gradual growth of good substantial citizens, who stand for right at all cost. We are the only corporate town near, that will not allow intoxicating liquors sold.

Auburn is principally an Agricultural town, though we have, two, good flouring mills, a hosiery mill, four drygoods, stores, five grocery stores, a drug store, bank, two hardware stores, a good hotel, three garages, filling stations galore, a tannery, one large leather manufacturing establishment, ice plant, restaurants, picture show, undertakers, etc. Yes and we have one of the best Rotary Clubs in the world- now that's a strong statement, but true. Not only that but we have the best town of it's size we know of.

Our town is supplied with electricity, natural gas, and a good water system; in fact everything to make life comfortable and living worth while. But our greatest and most cherished assets are our five beautiful churches with their loyal congregations of God-fearing and God-loving men and women; and, our good school with it's wonderful core of teachers.

To visit Auburn, is to love it.

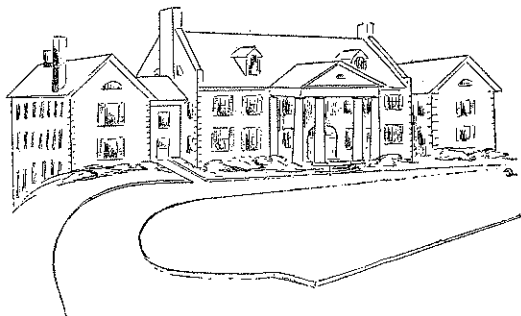
Dear Mr. Moore: Sorry can't come by
to see you & sorry did not answer
your other letter - but my wife has
been very ill since Dec 30th so
am just sending copy of receipt
I gave over WFB Jr. some time
since hope it will serve the
purpose.

Yours truly

Wm McCleary

Dec 1/14

8/30/42



MRS. MARY T. MOORE
LIBRARIAN OF THE KENTUCKY COLLECTION

THE KENTUCKY BUILDING
WESTERN KENTUCKY STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE
BOWLING GREEN, KENTUCKY

Jan. 29/42.

Dear Mr. M^cClary:

We would like
so much to have everything possible
on the history of Auburn & vicinity
in our Kentucky Library.

It occurs to me that you may
have some material, including
the script of the very interesting
sketch you gave our N. L. B. f.
some time ago.

Please stop by the Library &
Museum some time when you are
passing, & let's talk it over -
Sincerely, Mary T. Moore
(over)