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MS 76
BX 3
NBK 18

Barboursville History



MS 76
BX 3
NBK 18

By Wm. C. Goodwin
? Mellon, W. Va.

Children of Allen Rice

Joseph Rice (2)

b. 8-27-1781 d.

m. 1806, Mary Harmon, dau. Thomas

A. Harmon, Sr. & b. 6-29-1782

Nancy Ann Walker, sister

d

1877, at 94.

of Abia Rice, wife

Elizabeth Rice.
Buried — — ?

Three children:

Thomas Rice^{3?}

m. Anne Hefoe

Martha Rice

m. Cornelius Turley.

Mary ("Polly") Rice

m. Melcher Merrill

Rev. Thomas Harmon Sr. had
a son Rev. Thomas Harmon Jr. who
married Jane McCallister.

July 25, 1831 - Jurors appointed for a
road near Joseph Rice's plantation,
by the Dundas Mill to the
Turnpike road.

Genealogy

Allen Rice

b. Oct. 7, 1759

d. Nov. 29, 1837, at 78 yrs.

m. Mary Clymer

b. Sept. 9, 1763

d. May 9, 1855, at 91+

Children:

Joseph Rice

b. 8-27-1781

d.

m. Mary Harmon

b. 6-29-82

d.

1877, at 94

Three children:

Iros. Rice

m. Anne DeJofe

Martha Rice

m. Cornelius Turley

Mary (Polly) Rice

m. Melcher Merritt.

REMINISCENCES OF ANDERSON BIAS, MILTON, W. VA.

Born February 27, 1833 in Putnam County--78 years old.

Taken March 7, 1911 by F. B. Lambert.

I worked on the Kanawha Pike when I was about 19 years old from Charleston to Big Sewell. I got \$16.00 per month, and board by the J R & K Company. I worked from sun to sun, and then walked from two miles to four miles to camp. While working we were not allowed to sit down, except a half hour at noon, to eat.

We would rent a small house. The regular quota was fourteen men. We used oxen, altogether. Covered wagons were the only wagons used. They had a name, which I believe was "Conestoga". They hauled all kinds of freight. Nearly all of them carried whiskey and sold it to anyone who wanted to buy. I have seen thirty of these wagons in one train. One could see twelve or fifteen any day; but the long trains passed only about twice a week.

Coming this direction, they hauled fruit, plug tobacco, of which I have seen six-horse loads. Much salt, meal, iron, flour, &c. was hauled at the last.

The Drivers: I remember Jim Crow and three Hite Brothers, Bob, Dick and Bill; but there were hundreds of others. They slept in the wagons at night; bought corn and hay at taverns, cooked their own meals and drank their own whiskey. They were rough. They often sang negro melodies, the Hites, especially. They always carried their fiddles and had regular "Bull dances", with no women present.

Sometimes a slip in the road caused a wreck. Jim Crow was a hughty fellow: I threw a shovel full of gravel on his near lead horse to cause them to run. Jim Crow took off his hat, made a polite bow

and stopped. He asked who did it. I confessed. He treated and apologized, and was friendly afterwards. These wagons had the first "rubbers" I ever saw, the wagon beds being invariably boat shaped. The stage drivers put up at the taverns. I think they received one dollar per day.

I remember Dick Stanley, who drove between Coalsmouth and the Big Sandy. There was a stage stand at Catlettsburg and another one at Coalsmouth, where John Overshiner kept.

Johnny Morris kept tavern in Teay's Valley, two miles this side of Hurricane Station. The house is standing yet and is occupied by an old man

George C. Huddleston conducted the next hotel and stage stand.

The bridge at Coal's Mouth was not over 200 yards from the mouth of Coal. Here there were fifteen or twenty houses and the stand was near the river bank on the left side of the pike, going up. The stages were painted in bright colors of different hues and the horses were not "belled". The horses were driven at a rapid rate and never stopped unless hailed.

The stages had seats like street cars, each stage having two seats. Often a passenger would sit with the driver. The bodies of these coaches were about sixteen feet in length and were arranged to accommodate about twenty persons.

Vaugh's Tavern was located four miles beyond Hawk's Nest on top of The Gauley. This was a large two-story frame structure.

At the foot of Gauley Mountain, old man Miller kept in a frame house on the right side of the road going east. Vaughn's place

was on the same side of the road.

There was no house at Hawk's Nest.

Aaron Stockton kept tavern in a three-story brick house at the Kanawha Falls on the right side of the pike going east, two and one-half mile below Miller's. It was just above the Fall rock.

All taverns sold whiskey, which was kept in half-gallon demi johns, no more being in sight. It was in the sitting rooms.

George Paddy Huddleston (George C.) also kept three miles below the Falls on the left hand side, going east. I think Turkey Creek flowed nearby (or pefhaps it was Paint Creek).

These stage horses had very large harness, ornamented with brass, with large leathers covering the shoulders.

Tin horns were used by the drivers, which they blew at regular stopping places.

I recall a stage wreck which happened a mile or a mile and a half below Gauley Bridge in which some lady passengers were injured. This stage was trying to pass wagons and ran too close to the right bank, coming down. The horses were of the finest type, usually bred in Kentucky.

The coaches were equipped with lamps in front (?) suspended to an iron bar for each lamp.

Many people moved West; scores of them. They brought beds, and provisions, but no furniture.

My father set all the ancient mile posts, which were square rocks set into the ground. These were 8 in. or 10 in. square and 3 feet long, being set with 2 feet above ground, and were all set on the right hand side of the road.

My father's name was Bennett Bias, and he was raised on Guyan River just above Salt Rock and on the other side of the river. I think a Mr. Porter now owns this place.

So far as I know the mail was always carried on horseback and not by stages. I was only there about six months, but I never saw a stage put off any mail.

A Curry ran a Tavern at Hurricane Bridge. He owned a good frame house with-in twenty yards of the bridge on the east side and to the right of the road, going east. This Curry was a small, heavy set, sandy whiskered man with a long mustache. Was clever.

George P. Huddleston was a small, hump-shouldered man and nice; but his son George P. was a large man weighing from 175 lbs to 190 lbs, and a clever fellow.

The tavern was a two-story frame building with an "Ell" attached of one and one-half stories. The taverns all had signs "Public Entertainment" on a post by the road-side (on a board nailed near or at the top of the post).

Dr. Morris, of Milton, says:

Charles Conner had the contract for the building of Hurricane Bridge in 1834. (Query: He means Mud Bridge ?)

Note: He refers me to Charles Poindexter for information on Pike, he lives at Hurricane Inquire about Col Hill and Bobby Thompson's Tobacco Warehouse at Hurricane.

John Morris kept tavern in the house now occupied by T.J. Berkley. Rece lived where John Gerlach now lives. He kept

inn and stage stand at Mud Bridge. (See Joe Harbour, Milton, W.Va. for who *Abia* Rece's father was,

Cyrus Creek was Rece's Creek.

Mahlon S. Morris, an _____ of mine had an old stage wagon when I was about fifteen years of age (Poindexter may know whether or not he was a stage driver).

Henry (called Harry) Morris, had a still and made all kinds of whiskies and brandies about the year 1820 on a farm now owned by Bert Ellis about two miles east of Hurricane, although not on the stage road.

John Morris also had a whiskey still (See Leonard Morris, 92 years old, at St. Albans, W.Va).

Mr. J.C. Reynolds, 67, and lived on Dry Creek, where Rev. Hawkins lived:

Stage Drivers: James Oliver, and a _____ Mathews was an old driver and had been on the road many years. Horses had no bells. Some covered wagons were in use here. Charleston and Guyandotte were markets--Charleston for salt, and Guyandotte for goods. We usually went for a wagon load of salt each year, which supplied several neighbors.

Mail was carried under the seat of the driver in a mail boot and was not locked. He pitched the boots out at the post offices.

My father took a Charleston paper published by Newton; the baggage boot was behind. It could hold a large trunk and had straps on the out-side, with which baggage was strapped.

Much immigration came from Virginia to the West; great droves of slaves were moved to Missouri. I have seen as many as eight or

ten wagons in a group, owned by the same man, and accompanied by as many as a hundred slaves on the road to Missouri. They took boat at Guyandotte. Many hog drovers eith eight hundred to one thousand hogs passed on the way to Richmond and Baltimore. Mules and horses, also no cows or cattle.

There were four or five stage coaches daily, and often "extras". Mail coaches went regularly, each ~~day~~ way, daily. The rest were extras.

They (^{the coaches}) were swung on leather straps. Entrances to coaches on either side. The three seats held nine passengers. Sometimes there were extra passengers in front and on the tops. Lights were on the sides; mail drivers sometimes used horns.

John Hatfield, & ^{Reed} McKendree, & Billy Merritt kept at Barboursville. Fatty Baumgardner was after the war a *Tavern keeper*

Adam Black was at Thorndyke Post Office in a two-story brick. ~~now occupied by John Morris kept where T.J. Berkley now lives from~~ a period before I was born until the civil war.

Stage stands changed. There was a stable at Sampson Handley's near the Falls of Mud River, below Ona, W.Va. The stages paid by the month. We farmers paid monthly or yearly. Those at greater distances paid regularly. John Morris' was the place where they usually stopped for dinner at taverns, going east. West bound stages passed here about 3 P.M. or 4 P.M.

John Morris and Abia Rece kept whiskey. I have known it to sell at 15¢ per gallon, wholesale. It retailed at 5¢ per drink or ten cents per pint.

Stages had lamps on each side; they had two doors on each side.
The stage horses never went faster than a trot.

John Morris had much fruit, and he made brandy.

Mile posts were of stone.

Roads were sixty feet in width; they owned more ground.

Alex. Porter (Died winter of 1910-1911 at Milton, W.Va. where he is buried).

"I am the oldest Porter of the name in Cabell County. I was born in this County in 1810, in this county on Mud River, above the new railroad crossing.

"My father moved to Salt Rock when I was eighteen. There were five houses on this creek (I think he meant Mud River) when I was a small boy. Old Billy Merritt used to keep a whiskey tavern in Boursville. John Morris kept tavern just above the mouth of Kilgore Creek. You crossed Indian Fork. Abia Reese lived below Mud Bridge; Morris lived up on the hill like"

He said he had seen here as many as fifty deer in one group.

He died at Milton last fall, or in the early winter of 1910-1911.

NOTES FROM SOME OLD PAPERS,

Now partly torn up.

(These notes were given by old settlers years ago and are being re-dictated this the 14th day of November, 1927, by Fred B. Lambert.)

Near the C & O. station near the river at the railroad in Guyandotte Indians were so troublesome that they went back to Virginia and returned later.

Thomas Ward made salt in kettles of about 40 gallons each brought on mules from Richmond, Va. Salt, at first, was very high. At one time it was \$1.00 per pint. The wells were bored by the negroes with spring poles. Who the first settlers of Cabell County were cannot be accurately determined. Lewis and other writers claim that Thomas Hannon came in 17)?) and settled on The Greenbottoms. It is said that a number of his relatives reside to this day in Union District. The truth of the matter seems to be that they settled just over the line of Mason County.

A list of the early settlers of Mason County compiled by Miss Poffenbarger of Mason County, Pt. Pleasant, shows that they were inhabitants of that County; and this view is further strengthened by the fact that Hannon District in Mason County is named from him, notwithstanding the fact that Thomas Buffington came as a surveyor to Cabell County before the revolution.

There is every reason to believe that Jeremiah Ward and his son Thomas Ward were the oldest permanent settlers in the county. Shortly after the revolution the two came to this region from Virginia crossed the mountains to the Kanawha River; thence down this river

and the Ohio River in a boat or canoe to the mouth of the Guyandotte. Near the present C & O railroad bridge and not far from the watch tower at Guyandotte was ^athe deer lick. Jeremiah Ward killed a buffalo at this place.

The danger from Indians had not yet passed, and they took refuge, when in the City of Barboursville in the hollow of an old sycamore tree which stood opposite the mouth of Mud River. This tree had a hollow about twelve feet or fifteen feet from the ground, and they climbed into the hollow of it by means of a grape vine ladder. Here, they were safe for the time being.

They had another fort" about a mile above Guyandotte on a ridge not far from Everett's Branch. This was a cave made by a large ~~xx~~ rock which slid down over another rock. They walled this up in front, thus changing it into a Fort, and old Thomas Buffington is said to have spent many a night there.

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Scattering Notes

The family bedstead stood on high legs, which during the day was a trundle bed.

The house now occupied by the Brady's was standing before the war. Thomas Merritt lived there. He was a farmer and fed hogs and other stock going east. Greased paper was sometimes used to light the windows.

Log rollings, house raisings, corn shucking or flax pulling were rural past times. Folks at Barboursville were rural people just like the people of the surrounding farms, and they usually lived in log houses. Cotton and flax were grown by the farmers and woven into cloth. Very little wheat was raised until steam mills came in, as the old mills could only grind it into Graham flour, and this was very dark. Wild honey was plentiful and bees wax was an article of commerce. Fruits, pumpkins, &c. were dried over the fire.

The Brady house, originally owned by Thomas Merritt was a log house; but it has been improved, and mutilated beyond recognition.

P.A. Vallandingham also owns one of the old buildings.

Sig. & John G. Miller, who were Germans, did business in a frame building which they later moved away and built the present building known as Music Hall.

The large Merritt Hotel, run by William Merritt, was built of brick; it had a long, double porch on each side.

A Mat Thompson kept store between the Thornburg store and the present livery stable. Oscar Mathers also kept a store near the

site of the White Drug Company establishment. Wheat was a staple article of commerce.

Merchants also bought feathers, rags, gin seng and dried fruit. Sometimes hundreds of bushels of dried peaches were bought at a dollar per bushel and shipped to the Philadelphia markets. Honey was brought in in barrels from up the Guyandotte River; it sold for a dollar per gallon, and was said to have been fine. The merchants bought their goods on a year's time and sold them to nearly all the farmers on the same terms. They often took notes at the end of the first year, and in case the farmers were unable to pay them, renewed them for two or three years, after which time they took mortgages.

A man named Davis ran some kind of a factory and kept wagons on the road disposing of and delivering his products.

W.C.Miller killed hundreds of hogs and traded back for salt at the salines. The hams and lard were shipped by water to Pittsburg and then on to Philadelphia.

A man named Richey made "ever-lasting" hats, of wool where Miss Harrison Dirton now lives.

Tom Kyle, the gun smith lived and died where Mrs. Scherr now lives.

There was also a furniture factory here.

In the new addition stood a building called the McVickers house on the site of the dwelling occupied at the time of this paper by Mr. Cummins.

An old tannery stood below the college dormitory on the site of the former residence of W.S.McCutcheon. A man named Day was tanner in 1816.

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The old Lusher house which was standing a few years ago in the alley behind the Capt, Turner residence was an ancient affair, even in that day. John Hibbens, who was an old wagon maker, had his shop on the corner of Capt. Turner's lot opposite the old Ben Swann residence; and he lived on the Turner lot.

(Copy of C. M. Brady Statement)

Martin Moore and Mary Moore, his wife, with three boys and one girl emigrated from Albermarle County, Virginia, in 1813, to what is now McComas District in Cabell County, this county, was thinly settled at that time.

He was first employed as Superintendent for Sampson Sanders who was a large land and slave owner. He owned what now comprises many good farms along the Guyandotte River in McComas District. Martin Moore soon bought the farm which is now known as the Frying Pan, and here lived and died. He had fourteen children, of whom he raised twelve. He owned many slaves. He lived there thirty-eight years and died in 1851. His widow then sold the farm and the slaves and moved to Barboursville, then the County Seat and remained here until her death, which occurred on February 14th, 1877. At the present time only one child survives them, a Mrs. Lou. Dusenberry, of Louisville, Ky, several of the children dying on the farm and several settling in different parts of the United States. Two of the sons emigrated to the West, but were killed in the Confederate Army. Another son, Wilson B. Moore, moved to the County Seat, where he engaged in the mercantile business. He was elected Deputy Sheriff, which office he held for four years. At the close of his term he was elected Sheriff and held this office for four years.

The stone wall in front of the Morris-Harvey College (then the Court House) was built under Wilson B. Moore's direction.

He served in the Confederate Army under General Jenkins, or the Border Rangers, as they were known; was in a number of skirmishes and was once captured, with two others. They were being conveyed to prison at Camp Chase by boat when the federal guards on the boat became intoxicated. Under the shades of the night -1-

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Moore and Reece tied a rope to Vaughn, who could not swim, and all jumped over-board. They swam ashore and made their escape.

Wilson Moore, as he was known, was always in his day a prominent man in the affairs of the County. He was killed on the 14th day of December, 1868. He had five children, of whom only one survives, Mary E. Brady and a number of grand children.

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INTERVIEW WITH
William Miller, Barboursville, W.Va. November 13, 1927.

I was born in February, February 27, 1845.

I lived in Barboursville during and since the war, but about 1863 I went to Central Kentucky. Father sent me there to my Uncle to keep me out of the Confederate Army. My brother, Charley was in prison at Camp Chase. ~~Yes, I was back here during the war, came just be-~~

. Yes, I was back here during the war; came just before the war closed, and then went directly back to Kentucky.

Old People Who Lived in Barboursville.

John Mills lived right where Mrs. William Miller lived on, Water Street in the old Os. Mills house. He was a cooper by trade and he was a great church man and was a member of the Southern Methodist Church. All the cooperage stuff they used was made here such as flour barrels, whiskey barrels, &c. The demand from this country consumed them all. Molasses was made here, and also flour.

Mr. Mills had his house right close to the shop, and his premises were right along the Water Street Road. He was a very good man and conducted his shop almost up to the time of the Civil War and he died just about that time.

Just opposite to Mr. Mills lived a man by name of Baker, he managed the old tan yard here. He belonged to the firm of Baker & Westhoff. The tan yard was located right at the creek. Their labor force consisted of five or six Germans. I do not remember the names of any of them except Mr. Leist, and he was an apprentice. Mr. Baker, himself, was a full blooded German, and his wife was a Miss Maupin.

Dr. Henry Maupin lived here in Barboursville in the Jim Thacker house before and since the civil war. This doctor had a brother

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named William who also practiced medicine. There was also a Dr. Seashole, and he lived where Miss Tiernan lived.

Miss Tiernan came here directly after the war and is still living here.

Among the residents on Water Street was a Mr. William Merritt. The oldest son of William Merritt was Thomas Merritt, who died at an early date.

New inhabitants coming into the neighborhood invariably contracted malaria fever or chills in those early days, and I remember whenever a man came in from Virginia or the Carolinas he always suffered this ailment until he became acclimated.

Another man who, lived on Water Street was a Mr. Espey. He conducted a furniture factory and employed about six Germans in the factory, making everything by hand. He lived in the house owned by Millard Thornburg. This table in my front room was made at his shop.

At that time Lincoln County, a part of Logan County, parts of Boone County and Putnam County, and all of Wayne County were parts of Cabell County.

Many articles of hardware now made in foundries and factories were forged at local blacksmith shops, and saddles, harness and shoes were all made right here by hand.

People living on the farms came to the tan yard at Barboursvills and brought large loads of leather and traveling shoe makers would stop at the farm homes and make shoes and boots for the entire family.

Thomas Thornburg lived on Water Street, also.

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Ben McCune was the name of a carpenter who lived just above the black smith shop near the bank of the river, who was a busy man. In this connection, all the mouldings, facings, doors and sash were made by hand.

At that time we had three hotels and three livery stables here, all of which did business. People came from all parts of the county to do their trading and to attend court. They also came to "muster". A general "Muster" was held every year.

We did not have any high prices during the war until people began to speculate in gold. this started about 1863, when gold went to 263. And in those days goods were bought on long time, from six months to twelve months. Merchants would go to the large cities and lay in large stocks, of sufficient quantity to last a year; and this panic of 1863 occurred in April after the merchants had all "stocked up" with this high price goods and the panic came increasing prices 100%. I well remember the Black Friday during the panic of 1867.

Mr. Merritt ran a hotel; Mr. McKendree ran a hotel, and Mr. Beuring conducted a hotel. During those early days each of the hotels had livery stables in conjunction, and after the war livery stables did an independent business..

The country about here became a great agricultural section at that time and all farmers raised hogs. Farmers seemed to depend on hogs more than anything else for ready cash money, and there was mast everywhere on which the hogs fattened. These hogs were killed and packed right here in the town. The side meat was shipped to the Kanawha Salt Works; hams and salt went to Philadelphia or Pittsburgh, and frequently covered wagons would come -2 -

from North Carolina or Virginia loaded with whiskey and brandies and these wagons would "Load back" with ~~whiskey~~ bacon and salt from the Kanawha Salt Works. I have seen the whiskey wagons parked on the livery stable lots or the old Merritt Hotel near M.C.Johnson's garage and remain there for a week, selling out their liquor by the gram.

Hat Factory.

There was a hat factory located just where Miss Isabelle Dirton lives and managed by a man named Ritchie. He manufactured all sorts of hats, and Miss Isabelle Dirton still has some of these old hat blocks. This Mr.Ritchie was son-in-law to "Old Man Pinnell", commonly known as "Dad" Pinnell.

"Dad" Pinnell made a living by hauling water for the inhabitants of the town.

These hats were substantially made, and lasted for a long time. His residence and shop were both in the same building; but the entrance to the shop was separate from the residence. He enjoyed an immense trade in the hat business. I do not remember the names of his outside helpers, but feel certain he had help-- probably women folks. I am not certain that anything remains of the old house and factory as it has very likely been overhauled in construction of the present Dirton house.

Another Main Street man was Thomas Hatfield, one of the oldest residents who lived right where the Martin Restaurant is now. He made boots and shoes of all kinds by hand. I remember he brought here the first ready made suit of men's clothing I had ever seen; and he afterwards started a little store in the same

Shurtliff Aug 26 21

Another old citizen who lived on Water Street was Thomas Thornburg.

One of the oldest citizens here then, was Thomas Kyle, and he lived right where Mrs. Scherr now lives. Thomas Kyle was the gunsmith on Water Street and his place was just across the first alley back of the Methodist Church on Water Street.

The father of the late Major McKendree came and located on the corner of Main Street and Water Street just where the Southern Methodist Church now stands. He conducted a hotel. He conducted this hotel as far back as I can remember.

On the lower corner of the first alley on Water Street, just back of the Methodist Church stood an old log bar room. These were called "bar" rooms because bars went up from the counter to the ceiling. The bars (about 1-1/2" square) extended from the counter to the ceiling as a protection for the bar keeper, and were placed about 6 inches apart. The bar keeper would hand out the whiskey through a small window or opening.

A fine blacksmith of Barboursville then was Greenville Harrison, whose shop was on the river bank, on Water Street, or the Guyan River. He was one of the best smiths in the country, and the ground on which his shop stood has probably washed away as very much land along the Guyan River front has since caved in.

I remember a public well was just below the Greenville Harris house. This was a very fine well from which many of the citizens obtained their drinking water. There was a level stretch of land under the river bank well covered with timber, but this all caved in and was washed away.

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building in which he had the shoe shop. Another shoe maker who lived in Barboursville for years was a John Lloyd, and his shop was right over the Orasmus (Os) Mills store. All of these shoe shops always had one or more men helpers. They made men's and boy's boots and well as womens and childrens shoes. They made boots by hand for me. Men at that time, mostly wore boots. A Dennis Bryant was still another shoe maker, but I do not remember just where he had his shop. Dangerfield Bryant was another shoe maker, but was a school teacher, also. This Dangerfield Bryant kept his shop at one time on the site of the Garfield Stowasser little ware-house on Main Street. After he left the shoe shop he became a school teacher.

~~Saddles & Harness~~

-Saddles & Harness-

These commodities were made by several different people. The firm of Uferman & Son, (Germans), conducted a saddlery and harness shop for several years. They made all kinds of saddles, harness and bridles. They ~~were~~ were in the old corner building formerly owned by Frederick G.L. Beuring just before the war between the states. Henry(?) Fetter was also a saddle and harness maker, his shop being on Center Street not far from the Os.Mills store. There were several buildings on Main Street at that time but they have been torn down.

Men's saddles of a good grade cost from \$20.00 to \$25.00. An extra good ladies side saddle would cost as high as \$25.00. The hog skin saddles could be bought for \$8.00 and \$10.00. The better class of saddles were "quilted" close. The skirts were lined with home-made white flannel, high grade but coarse. Women from the farms would bring in this material in 50 yard rolls where they

found a ready market for it.

- Tomb Stones -

The first tomb stones were made from native stone and cut out by local masons. However, the better grade of these stones came from Portsmouth, Ohio, being made by a man there named Charlesworth, and he usually had a representative here all the time.

About 1809-or 1810 John Samuels, Attorney, and John Laidley, another attorney, came as young men, to Barboursville. they were from Virginia, but when the war of 1812 broke out they enlisted as volunteer soldiers, and after this war was over John ^{Samuels} was elected Clerk both circuit and county, filling both offices for many years. John Laidley was elected the Commonwealth Attorney and he served about the same length of time.

John Samuels lived where the Mason Long house on Main street is located and in the Mose Thornburg house, being the owners of all the land on which the Town of Barboursville is now built. The house he lived in was built with money that his mother-in-law Mrs. Gardner furnished. This Mrs. Gardner was a French subject and France forced the Island of San Domingo to pay this woman so much per year during her life time on account of losses which she suffered in an island insurrection.

During the height of this insurrection Mrs. Gardner and her husband escaped from San Domingo by the aid of two friendly and slaves they owned, whom they brought with them.

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The Gardners arrived in Philadelphia on board of a ship belonging to Stephen Girard which was running in the coffee trade from San Domingo to Philadelphia. They then came across the country from Philadelphia to Pittsburg; then took a steam boat, with the expectation of going to New Orleans a French settlement, being themselves French people, but the water was too low and they disembarked from the steamb boat at Greenupsburg where they engaged in the hotel business for some years. About 1821 they arrived at Guyandotte, and a little later on, located in Barboursville. Mr. Joseph Gardner was a Boston man and related to General Putnam, of Revolutionary war fame. Mr and Mrs. Gardner are both buried in the old Barboursville cemetary. They were my grand parents. She made her home with John Samuels her son-in-law and gave him the money with which to build the Most Thornburg house. This money was sent to an old dry goods house in Philadelphia, the Lippincott firm and was sent to her each year. It varied in amounts from \$400.00 to \$700.00. The history of Miller & Condon gives a full account of this.

A great Prosecuting Attorney was John Laidley.

With one exception, this William Miller house was the last one on this side going East, and the Epps Johnson house on the North side just a little above my house and still standing now owned by John Merritt was the last one in the corporation at that time. The old Tom Merritt house still stands but now belonging to the heirs was standing then, but has been considerably improved. The exception above mentioned was a little house which stood on the present Henry Nash site, but belonged then to a tailor named Jones.

This man Jones kept his shop in his own house; but he later

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moved to Gallipolis, O. and was lost sight of.

Going west from my house on the north side of the street stood the old Westhoff house where Capt. Coon lived when he died. This house later burned down,--some time after the war. The next house belonged to a man by the name of Abner Wingo. He was an old carpenter who originally hailed from Virginia. This Mr. Wingo was the father of Mrs. Charles Wilson, Sr. who yet lives--on the Pea Ridge Road west of town. The next house after that of the Wingo's was owned by a Mr. Church, an Englishman who married a Merritt, the sister of William Merritt. He was the father of "Bill" Church who lived in Barboursville a few years ago. He and Dr. Turner came here as single men from England but were married in Barboursville. Church was a well educated man, owning a fine library. All of his boys farmed.

P.A. Vallandingham lives at present on the site of the old house owned by Mr. Church.

The next house which stood right where the Baptist Church now stands was owned by a German butcher named Freitel. He cured his own meat and had a slaughter house in conjunction with his meat shop.

A property owner of that early day was Harrison Dirton who owned the house next to that of the butcher Freitel. He belonged to the old Dirton family oldest settlers in the neighborhood. The older set of Dirtons lived on the hill near the new dormitory of Morris Harvey College. A John Dirton was a toll gate keeper and his old house still stands.

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The next house to that of Stowasser's is was that of John ~~Bixian~~ Merritt's house. Old John Merritt and Aunt Jane Merritt came here from Harper's Ferry. John Merritt was the father of Cash Merritt. The next house was the Thomas Hatfield house. The old house which stands about a half mile below the Barboursville Bridge on Pea Ridge is the old John G. Miller house built before the war, between the states. John G. Miller, the father of George Miller who now lives. Was the owner of all the bottoms on both sides of the road about 450 acres. The James River pike crossed on this farm and passed in front of his house and went out Pea Ridge about the way it now runs, with very little variation, on down to Russell Creek.

Route of the old pike to Huntington; They had this old road when they got down to Russell Creek they went around through Galliher ville to Holderby's Landing (now Huntington), ending at foot of 16th Street.

Jim Wilson built all the old covered bridges from the east of Milton, and Jim Wilson owned all the land from the John Miller tract to Russell Creek. I was grand father to Charley Wilson who now lives on Pea Ridge. He built the bridge on Little Sandy as I was told by a man who lived at this bridge and boarded at his house.

The Merritt Mill, which stood on the other side of Mud was a big factor in causing the construction of the bridge across the mout of the Mud.

No toll was charged to people going down the Guyandotte River on the right hand side; but if they came up and passed through the toll bridge going east, toll was collected as they were then on the property of the James River Company. - 10 -

Elisha W. McComas, who later became Lt. Governor of Virginia, was the son of William McComas, who was a member of United States Congress from 1833 to 1837. He was a well known minister. He was one of fifteen children and lived in Barboursville. Was brought up in the Geo. J. McComas farm house. Elisha McComas became much interested when they were raising a company to serve in the Mexican war in 1847. He had something to do with raising a company for that conflict, and I think he went in person to Mexico. While recruiting their company they camped on a vacant farm near the town where Sandles now lives. They found that Virginia had raised her quota for this service and she refused to accept the Barboursville men, and after camping here a while they marched to Guyandotte and finally joined the United States regulars.

Joe Samuels was their First Lieutenant. He was a son of John Samuel living in the Samuels house in town. When the army was disbanded he was sent home sick from a fever contracted while in Mexico.

The Samuels family were a military family. John Samuels was in the War of 1812; Joe Samuels, his son was 1st. Lieutenant in the Mexican War; Alex. Samuels was 1st Lieutenant in Jenkins' Company in the civil war, later becoming adjutant general on General John S. Williams' staff in the Confederate Army. Lafe Samuels, another brother, was ~~captain in the Confederate Army~~ a Captain in the Confederate Army, dying directly after the war was over at home. Judge H.J. Samuels was Adjutant General of the State of W. Va.

Rev. Billy McComas married ^{Mildred Ward? Thomas} the daughter of Tommy Ward.

Elisha McComas was elected Lieutenant Governor of Virginia ^{under} Wise(?). He afterward went to Chicago and became editor

of one of the leading Chicago papers with which he was connected up to the time of the war between the states. He was accused by Northern people of being a Butternut, which was one of several societies opposed to the draft during the war; and, as a consequence he was banished to Canada.

The present Price Hotel in those days belonged to a man by the name of Kelly. This man Kelly was a blacksmith who later moved west. He had his shop on the back where two alleys connect

Next to this hotel was the house of Dr. Wast McComas and the house stood on the right of the present house of ^{Mrs.} ~~Miss~~ Mount.

Information from LucyBDundas (In writing of F.B.L.)

Capt. Wm. Merritt came from Hagerstown, Md.(?) His wife was Margaret Merritt. They left Germany during the religious wars. The sons of Capt. Merritt were George, John, Jacob, Thomas and Melchor. There were four girls: Elizabeth (Dirton) Margaret Strupe; Mary (Mrs. Jos. Wentz), and my mother's name was Ann, who married John Dundas

William Strupe, Jos. Wents, John Dundas, and Peter Dirton:

Wm. Strupe lived on Altizer farm where the oil and salt well was bored.

Wents lived above Stroupes.

Peter Dirton lived on site of Ayers residence.

My mother lived on Mud River, opposite Blue Sulphur Church on the opposite side, and later opposite to where Sampson Handly lived at the Falls of Mud.

The Dundas' came from Alenandria, Va.

George Merritt lived across Mud on the Barbourville side opposite his mill. The old Merritt homestead stood on the site of the Barnett house. The jail was kept in a room up-stairs in the house, which was a two-story house of logs with a single story porch in front. The road went on the north side of the river to where the Thacker farm was and here crossed the river by ferry--the old ferry at the present ford. George Merritt had one son, John Merritt. His wife, Lavinia Turley, died, and he ~~want~~ never married. Then he moved to Margaret Merritt's, his mother and lived with her.

John Merritt kept the hotel. He was twice married, his last wife being a McCormick (See Phil Merritt or Mary Duffin) John Merritt had three children. Elizabeth married Dr. Turner; Margaret married Church; William Merritt was the father of Mary Duffin.

Jacob Merritt moved to Harper's Ferry, Va. and Thomas Merritt moved to Missouri. Melchor Lived and died above Barbourville in a large frame on Mud River in sight of and just above the Barbourville Depot (See Mrs. Anderson) It was a large frame of two stories, yet standing, but it has been moved across the river. ~~and~~ Thomas Merritt owned the farm and lived where Mrs. Brady now lives. They lived in the Brady house. His family: John, William, Thomas, Frank ~~and~~ boys; and Eliza, Margaret and Sarah, girls.

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Melchor Merritt's family:

Mahala married William Merritt, of Harper's Ferry; Harriett Married Baxter Anderson; Emily Married Frank Adams; Martha married

Stewart; Joseph, Sr. and Thomas (Long Tom); Joseph married Edna Blake; Thomas Merritt married _____ Dodd. Margaret Stroup's children all ~~were dead~~ died young.

Ann Merritt had ~~nine children~~ nine children:

Agnes married Elijah Turley. Margarte married John Merritt; Eliza married Jonathan Turley; Mary married William Dirton; Anna Maria married Joseph Turley; Sarah married Napoleon B. Johnson; neither Lucy nor Thomas married; Frances married John Merritt, her brother-in-law. There was a Thomas in nearly all of the families. Cash Merritt is Mary Merritt's son.

John Dundas was a soldier in the War of 1812. Agnes Hepburn was born October 19, 1770 at one o'clock midday in Cragton parrish of Gavan, two miles from Glasgow, and died the 24th of May, 1820 at 5 o'clock in the afternoon in the Town of Alexandria, D.C.. She was my great Grandmother, Lucy Dundas.

The Dundas's were Scotch; the Merritts German.

Homicide. ^{19th June newspaper} ^{wyde} March 6, 1871.

Killing of John Thomas Moore.

Last Tues. night between the hours of 12 and 1 o'clock, one of the most unprovoked and brutal murders was committed here that we have ever known.

The town was full of raftsmen from up the Guyandote river and the noise and confusion early indicated that a large number of the party were bent on having a spree. On the same evening a party of negroes had rented the hall in Mr. J. Thomas Moore's new building for the purpose of having a ball. A party of raftsmen endeavored to force the door open and the negroes called on Mr. Moore to protect them. He appeared and told the white men to leave, that it was his property and he would defend it. Seeing his determination to do so they left and went to the Burnett House.

After the ball was over and all supposed the trouble ended, and as Mr. Moore was returning to the hotel where he was boarding, and while passing the sitting room door of the same, a young man by the name of Stratton, who it appears had been engaged in the disturbance up at the hall ran out and after exclaiming "Here's the d--o protector of the niggers" he ran up to him and plunged a knife into his right breast. A general melee ensued between some of the friends of Moore who were present, and two men who belonged to the party of timbermen were wounded by pistol balls. There were six or eight shots fired, two of which only, as far as we can learn, taking effect. Moore was carried into the parlor of the hotel where he died in less than five minutes. The wound was probed to the depth of five inches and the medical gentlemen who examined it said that it was made with a sharp pointed dirk-knife.

A coroner's jury was immediately impaneled from the information elicited, young Stratton was arrested and sent to jail, together with a man named Sellers. On the following day an examination was had before Squire Childers and Stratton was sent on for trial to the ~~next~~ ^{next} term of the Circuit Court here in May and Sellers was released. A motion to give bail was refused and the prisoner was remanded back to jail. We withhold the testimony taken before the examining court as we deem it inexpedient to publish it at this time.

There was considerable excitement after the occurrence all over town and we have heard no one speak of the affair except to brand it as a most outrageous dastardly act. We have attempted in the foregoing to give the details of this melancholy affair in as fair and impartial manner as we are capable of doing. There are a great many rumors in regard to it, but from all we can learn the above statement is about as near correct as we can obtain.

Obituary.

John Thomas Moore was the oldest son of W. B. Moore whose tragical death about two years ago will no doubt be remembered by many of our readers. The writer served several years in the Army with him and recalls many instances of disinterested acts of kindness during "the times that tried men's souls." In physique, general appearance and manners the son was the exact prototype of the father.

Generous, kind hearted and brave, his untimely demise has cast an untimely gloom over the entire community that time alone can efface. Cut off in the springtime of life, he now sleeps in the cold embrace of death. The charmed circle is broken, another link is taken away and our ears will never more be gladdened by welcome sound of his footsteps. We miss the genial greeting of our friend and can hardly recall the fact.

that he has passed away.

Mr. Moore was born on the 11th of August 1846, and was consequently 24 years 6 months and 17 days old at the time of his death. He was to have been married the following week to an estimable young lady of this place, whose heart-felt grief over the body touched a sympathetic chord in the hearts of all.

Ere the star of his happiness had reached its zenith, in the full flush of manhood, he was called to another sphere, where no distinction can be known but all must appear on a common level. "Earth to earth, dust to dust," is the fiat of the Great Dispenser of all our destinies; then how very important it is that we should always be ready for that solemn event.

Rev. J. C. Crooks preached the funeral ^{sermon} service at 10 o'clock last Thursday, and the body was then escorted to the grave by a large concourse of our citizens.

The occasion was one of deep solemnity and the bereaved family have the sympathies of our entire community.

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Died — Calvary M. Swann — and a tribute of
Respect by Minerva Lodge No. 13 was held on the
evening of Feb. 4th A.D. 1871. Thomas Thornburg. Sect.

Marriage.

The man must lead a happy life
Who is directed by his wife.
Who's free from matrimonial claims
Is sure to suffer for his pains.

Adam could find no peace
Until he saw a woman's face
When Eve was given for a mate
Adam was in a happy state.

In all the female hearts appear,
Truth, darling of hearts sincere.
Hypocrisy, deceit and pride
Was never known in woman to reside.

What tongue is able to unfold
The worth in woman we behold
The falsehood that in woman dwells
Is almost imperceptible.

Foiled be the foolish man I say
Who would not yield to woman's sway;
Who changes from his singleness
Is sure of perfect blessedness.

WILLIAM HALL.

I was born August 18, 1856, at Wayne County, on Twelve Pole. Left there when I was a child. My father was Allen Hall; married Tempy Stephens, of _____. They lived in Wayne County. I had brothers and sisters:

John Married Molly Horn. Lived near Ashland, Ky. Half brothers: George, not married. Died in time of Civil war. He was a half brother.

James M. Cap. Alley. Lived at Kenova, W. Va.

Sam, married Malissa Laney. Lived on Twelve Pole, and died there.

Henry, married Evalyn Jones ("Blackhead"). lived at Ceredo, and died at Barboursville.

Robert Patterson Spratt.

Born in Logan County. Married Martha Ann Christian, daughter of James and Annie Christian. They lived on Elk Creek, of Buffalo near mouth on Guyand river, at Man. Owned the land there.

Mrs. Hall was Sarah Yantis Spratt; born May 17, 1868. Daughter of R.P. Spratt and wife. Married, first, Poindexter Bradberry ("Deck").

Their children:

Walter Bradberry, born Nov. 28, 1886.

Alonzo " born June 23, 1889.

Hattie " Jan. 12, 1891.

French " July 19, 1894.

James, " Aug. 15, 1898.

Virgil, " April 2, 1903.

Sarah Spratt and Dexter Bradberry, married May 21, 1884.

Wm. Hall and Sarah Bradberry, married in Logan County.

We came here about 1907. We came March 6th, after he bought the farm. I have his picture, R.P. Spratt's. -1-

Bill Hall says he rode Jeff Gill's raft through the Betty Shoals. They are much changed. We live at 1113, Ralston Ave.

JOHN ("Jack") McCLINTOCK.

Was born Oct. 18, 1873, ten miles east of Pittsburgh; married Vergie May Jopling, daughter of Jas, Staunton Jopling and Cora Lee Wright, of Kanawha County, and later, moved to Huntington. My mother came here from Jackson County about 1866.

Henry L. Wright, a contractor, 94 years old, built first pavement; built 16th Street Viaduct, and he and brother were cleaning a cistern at 12th Street & 3rd Avenue. He saw the James Boys. He is a brother to my mother.

We have one son, Ralph Oren McClintock. An electrician apprentice, 29 years old, born Feb.28, 1913. We came to John Love house in 1934. We now live at 949 Lee Street.

JAMES HARVEY McCOMAS.

Named for Harvey Rece. Born May 30, 1869. Parents: George Riley McComas, daughter of James and _____Cyrus. She died in 1885, at He died in 1918, at 82 years, 4 months.

Grandparents: John McComas

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JOHN JACOB PATTERSON.

I was born Jan.31, 1863. I will be 79 Jan. 31, 1942. I came here March 1874, to the John G. Miller. I was, from January to March 11 years old. I came with my father from Bland County, Virginia in a covered wagon, down Guyan River across a large mountain, by a large grist mill on Guyand River owned by Snuggy Bias. (This was at Falls, above West Harlin) Reached the river here. Had to unhitch horses and move the wagon. My father was Syephen Patterson, who married Rebecca Warner, (?) of Bland County, daughter of Halsey (?) Warner. My grandfather Patterson was Harvey Patterson, who married Halsey.

My father and I worked for Jahn G. Miller about three years, and then went to the Jeff McComas farm. We broke up housekeeping. I don't remember seeing her, as I was sick. I had seen her before. She wanted a piece of ham meat. I wouldn't tell her I was sick, and started to get it, for James Hensley said he would get it for me. He was a brother to Chub Hensley.

When Minnie died she deeded the home adjoining this one (Harvey's) to me, and later, to Kathleen Claypool.

We stopped at the Jerome Shelton place and stayed a week. My wife was _____ Bates, daughter of Jack Bates and his wife, of Tom's Creek.

Children.

I only have three children living:

1. Minnie, the oldest; died several years ago. She married G.R.Claypool. They lived at Logan, and owned much property there. She is dead. The last account of him claimed he had lost his mind. One daughter, Kathleen.
2. Harvey:
3. Verdie: Married June Lawson. Separated. One child, Woodrow, of Barboursville. Married second, Wilkie Hatfield, Barboursville. Two children.

Everette died: was killed in a train wreck at Logan. Was single.

Ethel: D ied an infant.

By C. W. Riffle
Rt. 1 Box 179
Barboursville, W. Va.

George S. Riffle Born December 30th. 1814.

Rebecca P. Riffle Wife of George S. Riffle, Born March 24th. 1816.

Martha Ann Riffle, Second wife of George S. Riffle. Born April 4th. 1820

CHILDREN

Manerva A.	Born	May 9th. 1836
Barbara B.	"	Oct. 27th. 1837
Martha A.	"	May 22nd. 1839
Jess B.	"	Feb. 22nd. 1841
Jonathan M.	"	Oct. 15th. 1842
Daniel and Wilson H.	Born	Jan. 2nd. 1846
George D.	Born	Feb. 9th. 1845
Berlin W.	"	Nov. 8th. 1849
David P.	"	May 28th. 1844
Lewis L.	"	July 3rd. 1852
Pheba J.	"	June 2nd. 1854

These are the children of Rebecca P.

Birk S.	Born	Nov. 14th. 1861
John R.	"	March 28th. 1863
Dora S.	"	Sept. 11th. 1865
Victoria E.	"	June 28th. 1867
Ulysess G.	"	Oct. 18th. 1869

These are the children of Martha Ann.

George S. Riffle & Rebecca P. McCartney was Married or United in Holy Wedlock July 30th. 1835.
Rebecca was Converted in 1832:

George S. Riffle & Martha Ann Strader was joined together in Holy Wedlock September 13th. 1860:
Martha Ann was Converted in 1864:

George S. Riffle & Delia Elizabeth Woodel were united in Holy Wedlock July 6th. 1872:
George S. Riffle was Converted April 1860:

*James B. Riffle Born 1884
last child of Delia Elizabeth Woodel*

copy Zephaniah Meeks

By son, Felix Meeks

3277, Oakland Ave

My father, Zephaniah Meek published the Central Methodist, first started under the name of the Christian Advocate, in 1866, changed in 2-3 years to the "Central Methodist". His bound volumes (32 years) were all given to Morris Harvey College, but some have been lost or stolen. One was found in a cave (so rept) in Northern W. Va.

I was born Dec. 26, 1865
m. Anna Bruns, sister to
Dr. ^{Wm. Frederick} Bruns (another brother
moved from Callensburg - 82
yrs old - to Ceredo recently)

Zephania Meek b.
1833, buried in Callens-
burg cemetery. An older one
is on the road with
residences bet. the road
& cemetery - both near each
other - about 1/2 mi from me

My mother was Mary Jane Davis
of Johnson Co., Ky., dau. of Joseph
Davis and _____ Borders, sister of Judge
Borders. They lived on Sandy
two miles below the old White
House, below Paintsville.

My gr. father Meek
was named Isaac Meek the
m. _____. She died when
I was a child. They lived
below Paintsville, Ky.

Dick Bruns was son of
an N. & W. R.R. engineer,
killed by being run over
by a truck at Portsmouth
Dick is a Civil Eng. for
the U.S., at Washington.
Mr. Bruns d. about July 4,
1949. He had a son
and one dau.

Henry Frederick Bruns, a
rear admiral d. about 2
years ago - Buried at Arlington
Cemetery. He m.
& lived in Washington

Nellie Bromley (wife of Waller
Bromley. Credo, is a dau

By Mrs. Felix Meek

I was b. Aug. 15/1870, dau. of
Fred W. and Caroline Christina
Strohmeier, of ^{Schoenburg-Libby} Germany. He
was 21 and she was 16. They
came direct to Pomeroy where
they had relatives. They lived
in Pomeroy a few years, then
came to Callettsburg, about
75 years ago. There were
3 other children. My mother
previously Mr. John Vose (Gen
at Pomeroy & had 3 children
& children by 2nd m - 3 boys
& 1 girl.

~~Davis Meek~~ Deid
m. 2. #

Lafayette Meek
m. 1. Mame Powell of
Nashville, Tenn
1 dau.

m.
Calletsburg.
A preacher, d.
at Calletsburg

Cordelia m. J. C. Alkerson,
Buffalo, W. Va.

Davis Meek, deid
m. 1. Jennie Coats
of Calletsburg, deid
m. 2. Mame Wiatt
of Trouton
lived at Calletsburg

Victoria Meek, deid
m. M. V. Brown,
Pliny, W. Va., across
Kan. R. from Buffalo

"Hessie" Meeks
m. J. B. ^{son of} ~~Hutton~~ ^{Hattery}
Buckhamon, Ky.
(now Independence, Mo.)

Felix Meeks

Ernest " " deid
m. Eunice Menor
of Catlettsburg

Irwin Meek
m. Merla Cooley
of Catlettsburg.
She dr. of I. B. in
Colorado. He now
lives in Independence
Mo.

We, the undersigners three Comisinors, agreeable to appapntment made on the 2nd day of Feby, 1811 by the General Assembly of Virginia, have met on this day and has received and laid off a two acres of land on the ground proper for the necessary public building for holding Court for the County of Cabell, which land is laid off as followeth, to-wit:

Beginning at a stake about 120 poles above the mouth of Mud River, and S. 57 E. 16 poles to a stake S. 33 W. 20 poles to a stake, N. 57 W. 16 poles to a stake; N.33 E. 20 poles to the Beginning, containg two acres of land which we value, or rate as six dollars p acres in all, amounting t o twelve dollars.

Given under our hands this 27th day of March, 1811.

William Fullerton,

James Jordan,

John Hannen.

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Sunday, December 22, 1929.

MOB UPRISING AGAINST ED. WILLIAMS, IN 1876 RECALLED BY
ASSESSOR.

- - -

One of Cabell County's few mob scenes took place in Barboursville; Woman who conspired with Williams got Life Sentence.

One of Cabell County's few mob scenes occurred at Barboursville in 1876 when an angry crowd seized Ed. Williams, a farm laborer, and hung him after they had accused him of killing Charles Meehling, his employer, with a blow of ~~the~~ axe.

The incident was recalled by E.A. Salmon, county assessor who was at that time a Clerk in the office of Mose Thornburg, County Clerk, with offices at Barboursville. Mr. Salmon has a copy of the sentence pronounced upon Matilda Meehling, wife of the slain farmer. for her part in the crime.

The sentence was pronounced by Judge Vermont Ward, then on the circuit bench. The document is remarkable for the eloquence and feeling displayed by Judge Ward in pronouncing sentence upon the convicted woman. Other copies of the sentence are in the possession of various county employees. An early printed copy is owned by Mrs Charles Huffman, mother of E.M. Huffman, city auditor, whose husband was a protegee of Judge Ward's from his early childhood.

A copy of the sentence for a time believed to have been the original copy prepared by Judge Ward, is in possession of James Po-teet, Court house custodian. It was since discovered to have been a comparatively recent manuscript copy of the original document.

Feeling ran high in Barboursville when Williams was seized and hung by the mob. The crowd took a vote whether to hang Mrs. Meehling, but she was finally released on account of her sex

and regularly convicted in circuit court.

The sentence, as pronounced by Judge Ward, as shown in the copy in the possession of the county assessor, reads:

"Matilda Mæhling, you have been indicted, tried by a jury of your country, and convicted of murder in the first degree. Murder with aforethought--of wilful, deliberate, premeditated murder. Of the correctness of this verdict there not only no reasonable doubt, but not the shadow of a doubt.

The atrocity of your crime is almost without a parallel. The deed of which you have been convicted is the foulest that blackens the annals of time. You were a poor girl in the humblest walks of life. An honest, sober, industrious young man with no fortune but his own strong arm and manly resolves led you to the altar. You there gave him your hand, he supposed, your heart. He vowed to love, cherish and protect you and forsaking all others ~~xx~~ cleave to you alone; and this vow he made to the Most High. He made you the partner of his bosom and the mother of his children and provided you with reasonable comforts. He purchased a handsome little farm, on time, payable in numerous small installments, improved it, stocked it, and had paid all but a small pittance of the purchase money. He doubtless looked forward with bright expectations to an early period in the future when he could have a comfortable little home for loved ones, and owe no man anything. But, alas for human expectations: He employed Williams as a laborer, not dreaming that he was taking an adder into his bosom, a serpent into his Eden, to mar his happiness and destroy his life. But, it was so.

Williams dishonored his home, defiled his bed, and with his bloody minded and adulterous wife, conspired his death.

After the intimacy between yourself and Williams commenced, the presence of your lawful husband could no longer be brooked. He became a Mordecai, the Jew, at the King's gate. You could not consent to have your pleasures broken by circumscribed.

Twice you attempted to poison him and twice you failed by administering overdoses; and although you witnessed the terrible suffering he had to undergo on account of your cruel and inhuman act, your iron heart never felt the soft touches of pity. You saw his hands withering, his limbs paralyzing, and his frame wasting from the effects of the poison--grim death slowly and certainly doing his work, but too tardily for your impatient spirit. You could not leave to time his taking off, but you urged your associate to speedy work--the deed must be done this night--this very night. You could not let the hallowed Sabbath pass. He follows your evil counsels, and in a few hours afterward the dreadful deed was done--a deed which time cannot erase, or the ocean's waters wash out--a deed as deep, as foul, as black as any recorded on history's pages.

Whilst your poor husband is sitting by the fire, all unconscious of impending evil, he sees the uplifted axe, and has but time to say, "Oh, don't kill me" and blow after blow falls on his head, mashing it as it were to jelly. Next the head is almost severed from the body with a butcher's knife.

The evidence does not show how he obtained this knife, but your little boy, of too tender years to be sworn, whilst sitting on my knee, told me that you gave him the knife. He is now taken by the head and heels and buried in the dung and filth of the stable and animals are turned in to trample upon his already mangled

remains. You return, wash up the blood, and you and your associate inaugurate a new administration, take superintendance of affairs, and all goes maerrily, although within sixty or seventy yards of horrid spectacle. In a few days your husband is missing. An alarm is felt by neighbors, but none by yourself and Williams. Suspicians, however, are aroused, and fall in the right direction. Williams and yourself are arrested and committed to jail. All turn out to make search, and in a stable, buried by the dung, trodden by horses, there is found the mangled remains of a man who had lived amongst them and commanded their respect and esteem, exhibiting a spectacle, the very thought of which is sickening to the human heart. They were justly indignant, but let feeling carry them too far. They did not wait for the sentence of the law, but took judgment into their own hands. This was wrong; the law should have been permitted to take its own course, for while it reveals its terrors to the guilty offender, it is at the same time, the staff of honesty and the shield of innocence.

They came in mass, to the jail, took Williams and hung him. You were then brought, and the vote taken in your case, and at first there was no dissenting vote. But after a moment's pause some noble and spirited fellow said: "No, gentlemen, no. She is a woman; for the honor of her sex. spare her; forbear, and let the law take its course." Every soul yielded silent acquiescence; the crowd dispersed, and you were returned to your cell, and now the law has taken its course; its sentence is written, and it becomes my painful duty to pronounce it upon you.

And now twice has your life been saved solely on account of your sex. You are a woman, and woman is heaven's best, divinest

gift of man. She is his acknowledged superior in all excellence and refinements of life. She is pure; she is tender; she is kind; she is affectionate and loving; and man, masculine not only loves, but adores her, and the more so as she is part and parcel of his own being. Taken from his side to be his equal--under his arm to receive his protection--from near his heart, to be loved.

He regards her as a being dwelling in an atmosphere pure and serene and made a little lower than the angels who kept not their estate, she sometimes becomes fallen, and when she falls great is the fall. When she once turns fiend, she becomes a fiend incarnate.

Twice, I repeat, you have been spared because you are a woman; once by the mob, and once by the jury. I do not condemn, but appreciate this feeling. Mercy is the darling attribute of the Everliving and Just. But this supplication for it--not in answer to your imploring cry of 'that mercy I to others show, that mercy show to me', but simply, on account of your sex. It may be mercy to you to have your days prolonged as it gives greater opportunities for a preparation to meet the Judge of all the earth; but still your fate is hard, very hard indeed. You are to be excluded from society and housed with outcasts, without regard to color, face, or previous condition, and doomed to hard labor and coarse diet all the days of your life.

It is no small matter to give up our earthly enjoyments, but with you, they are pretty much at an end. Your neighbor's visits, your social meetings, and your church goings are now things of the past. When you leave this place you will have gazed, perhaps for the last time, upon the features of your aged father and your

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little children, whom you leave in the world without a mother's over-sight, and with no father save the Father in Heaven, who, thanks to His holy name, will ever be a father to the fatherless.

When you leave us, you leave us no more to return amongst us. Your counsel, in his eloquent appeals for mercy in your behalf, begged that you might be permitted to return, even though it was to be when your locks are whitened by time and your frame bent with age and infirmity. This cannot be; but were it possible, there would be nothing that would interest you. All things would be strange, passingly strange. The farms and roads would be changed; the little saplings would be trees; the old people gone, and the young people, old. They could afford you no pleasure; but if they could, that pleasure is forfeited. Your body must remain in the damp cells of the penitentiary until it is consigned to the colder chambers of the grave; and, Matilda, when your earthly imprisonment ends you will still have another trial to undergo before the Great Judge, the righteous and unerring Judge whose eye extends over all the transactions of the children of men and 'without whose knowledge not a sparrow falls to the ground'. He will judge without jury or witness; and from His sentence there is no appeal.

Oh, Matilda, prepare to meet thy God. Give up all hope or expectation of worldly pleasure. Such hopes will prove delusive and false, and the verdict of vanities. Send your petition to the throne of Heavenly grace. Rely not on your own merits, for we all are without merit; but plead the merits of One whose atoning virtues are sufficient to blot out the sins of the whole world.

The sentence of the law is that you be taken to jail, and the Sheriff of this County convey you from thence to the public jail and penitentiary of the state, and you be therein confined during your natural life. And may you there learn to unlearn what you have learned amiss."

Barboursville.

War of the Rebellion

Vol. #111, Series 1 p. 288

No 30

Report of General George B. McClellan
of Skirmish at Barboursville.

Beverly, Va., July 10, 1861

Col. E. D. Townsend :

One of Cox's regiments, Second
Kentucky, defeated and drove 600 of Wise's
men out of Barboursville, Cabell
County, on 16th.

Geo. B. McClellan

Major - General Commanding

War of Rebellion, Series 1, Vol 5 p. 411

Nov. 10, 1861 - Affair at Guyandotte

Report of Adjutant J. C. Wheeler, Ninth
Virginia Infantry, U. S. Army.

Commonwealth of Virginia,

Adjutants - General's Office, Wheeling.

Nov. 13, 1861

"The undersigned adjutant of the
Ninth Virginia Regiment, a new
regiment just forming at Guyandotte," Va, etc

(A full account)

Ser. 1 Vol 10 Part 11 p. 514 - See also previous
reports on Gen. Floyd. (Pellison of
Judge McCreas. etc)

THIRTY-FOURTH OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY.



This regiment was organized at Camp Lucas, Clermont County, Ohio during the months of July and August, 1861; the first detachment entering camp July 15th, and the first regular companies, under Captains Broadwell and Evans, July 21st. On the morning of September 1st it moved to Camp Dennison, and was there prepared for the field, adopting as its uniform (a license allowable at that early period of the war) a light blue Zouave dress. In compliment to their Colonel, the name of "Piatt Zouaves" was adopted.

The regiment left Camp Dennison on the 15th of September, 1861, for Western Virginia, with full ranks, and arrived at Camp Enyart, on the Kanawha River, on the 20th of the same month. On the 25th it fought its first battle in a gap near Chapmanville, Logan County, Virginia, whipping a Virginia regiment, inflicting considerable loss to the Rebels in men, and badly wounding their Commander, Colonel Devis. The loss of the Thirty-Fourth was one killed and eight wounded. During the remainder of the autumn and winter the regiment was engaged in the arduous duty of guarding the rear of General Rosecran's army, and the Counties of Cabell Putnam, Mason, Wayne and Logan were kept pretty free from Guerillas by continual scouting.

In March, 1862, the Thirty-Fourth was ordered to Gauley Bridge to join General Cox in his demonstration on the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad. The regiment participated in the battle of Princeton on the 17th and 18th of May, losing several men. Lieutenants Peck and Peters were wounded, and Capt. O.P. Evans

taken prisoner. Humphrey Marshall commanded the Rebels.

When General Cox was ordered to join General McClellan, in August, 1862, there were six regiments left to guard the Kanawha Valley. The Thirty-Fourth and Thirty-Seventh held the outpost at Fayetteville, where, on the morning of September 10th, they were attacked by a rebel force under General Loring, ten thousand strong. With the aid of admirable breastworks, previously constructed by General Scammon, two ten pound brass field pieces and four six pound mountain howitzers, the position was held until midnight, when the place was evacuated. Part of the time the Thirty-Fourth fought in the open field, and repeatedly charged on the enemy. Its loss was necessarily heavy. Of six companies engaged (the other four, under Major Franklin, being on a scout) the loss was one hundred and thirty, or fully one-third. One-half of the officers were either killed, or wounded. Cutting their way out under a heavy fire, the National troops fell back towards the Kanawha River, made a stand at Cotton Mountain the next day, and at Charleston on the 12th, where a severe engagement took place. From this point the entire National force fell back to Point Pleasant, leaving the entire valley in the hands of the Rebels. In October General Cox returned with his command, when another advance was made, and the valley regained.

From this time until May, 1863, nothing of moment occurred to vary the monotony of garrison duty. During May the regiment was furnished with horses and transformed into "Mounted Rifles."

On the 13th of July, 1863, an expedition consisting of the Thirty-Fourth, two companies of the First, and seven companies of

the Second Virginia Cavalry, under command of General Toland, made a demonstration on the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad, striking it on the evening of the 18th, at Wytheville. A desperate fight ensued, the enemy occupying the house, barns, yards, &c. on a slight elevation to the rear of the town. About dark the National forces succeeded in capturing the enemy's artillery, and driving him in all directions. Captain Delany, commanding the First Virginia, was killed; and Colonel Powell, Second Virginia, badly wounded. The Thirty-Fourth lost four killed, including Colonel Toland, thirteen wounded, and thirty-three missing. (Colonel Toland was shot from a window of a house in his immediate vicinity, while seated on his horse, engaged in giving orders, surrounded by a few of his staff. The ball passed through his left breast. The Colonel did not fall from his horse, but caught the mane with his right hand, when his orderly, who was about fifty yards distant from him, ran and caught him before he had time to reach the ground. With his last breath he requested that his horse and sword be sent to his mother.)

The brigard left Camp Piatt with nearly one thousand men; march six hundred and fifty-two miles in eleven days, traversing some of the highest mountains in West Virginia, capturing over two hundred and fifty horses and three hundred and sixty prisoners, two pieces of artillery, and a large amount of commissary stores; destroyed between three and five thousand stand of arms, a bridge of importance, and partially burned one of the wealthiest cities in Virginia.

Upon the fall of Colonel Toland, the command devolved upon Lieutenant-Colonel Franklin, who decided on a retrograde movement.

This he found it difficult to execute, from the fact that the Rebel General, McCauseland had blocaded the roads in the most effectual manner. For several days the command was moving in the mountains destitute of food for themselves or fodder for their horses, and continually harassed by Rebel cavalry. On the day previous to the arrival of the regiment at Wytheville, Company C. acting as rear guard, was attacked by a superior force of Rebel cavalry. A number were killed and wounded, and Captain Cutter and fifteen men were taken prisoners. Several expeditions under General Duffle (who had assumed command of the Kenawha cavalry), to Lewiburg and vicinity, completed this year's campaign.

In January, 1864, about two-thirds of the Regiment re-enlisted as veterans. On the 29th of April, 1864, the regiment was divided into two detachments. The mounted portion was to operate with the cavalry, under General Averill; the dismounted, with the Thirty-Sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in General Crook's division of infantry.

On the 1st of May, 1864, the second expedition for the destruction of the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad left Charleston. On the 9th the cavalry arrived at Wytheville, encountered the Rebels under General Morgan, were repulsed, and compelled to fall back, with considerable loss. The infantry, under General Crook, was more successful. On the same day that Averill was defeated, Crook achieved a solid victory over General Jenkins at Cloyd Mountain, near Dublin Depot, which was captured the same evening. On the day following the enemy was again encountered and defeated at the railroad bridge over New River, and the bridge totally destroyed. From this point the command returned to Meadow Bluffs, crossing Salt Pond and Peter's

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Mountains and the Greenbrier River, arriving at their destination on the 19th of May, completing a distance of four hundred miles marched during the month.

From Meadow Bluffs the Thirty-Fourth started to join General Hunter at Staunton, in the Shenandoah Valley, passing through White Sulphur Springs, Callahan's Stand, and crossing Panther Gap Mountain, where a skirmish ensued. On the 5th of June the regiment reached Goshen, on the Virginia Central railroad, and skirmished with a body of cavalry at Cow Pasture river. The day after the rebels were met at Buffalo Gap, in a position secure from direct attack; but General Hays's brigade succeeded in flanking and driving them out of it.

Staunton was reached on the 8th of June, where the Thirty-Fourth made its final preparations to join General Hunter on his disastrous raid to Lynchburg. General Hunter, now re-inforced by Generals Crook, Averill, and Duffie, left Staunton on the 9th; and passing through Brownsburg, reached Lexington on the 11th. The evening of the 14th found the regiment at Buckhannon, on the James River, at which point a few shots were exchanged with a small Rebel force that had been driven out of Lexington. Crossing the Blue Ridge, near the Peaks of Otter, the town of Liberty was reached on the 16th, when another skirmish occurred. From this point General Crook's command, with whom the dismounted members of the Thirty-Fourth were serving, was sent on a flanking expedition across the James, for the purpose of attacking Lynchburg in the rear, the cavalry, on the left, to make a diversion in their favor. The attack was made late in the afternoon of the 18th of June, was partly successful, and, in the opinion of the Thirty-Fourth, would have been

entirely so had General Crook been allowed to occupy the city that night, according to his wish, but orders from his superior officer forbade it. The enemy was re-inforced that night by about twenty thousand men from the vicinity of Richmond, under the command of General Early, which, of course, so strengthened the city that it was impossible, with the small and illy-equipped force under General Hunter, to cope with the rebels.

The situation was fully developed early the next morning by a fierce cannonade from the Rebels, which was promptly replied to by the National forces. In the afternoon an engagement occurred, in which the Thirty-Fourth suffered severely. The retreat of the National forces commenced at dark on the 19th of June. The rear being heavily pressed by the pursuing enemy. the second skirmish occurred at Liberty. At Salem, on the 21st, while the artillery of Hunter's command was passing through a narrow defile, totally unsupported, a party of rebels made a sudden descent from the hills and, dispersing the drivers and gunners, commenced the work of destruction by shooting horses, cutting spokes and harness, and blowing up caissons. The mounted portion of the Thirty-Fourth, being a few miles in the rear, hurried to the scene of action, dismounted, and with Lieutenant-Colonel Shaw as their leader, encountered the Rebels. After a sharp fight the Rebels were driven off and the artillery regained.

The retreat was continued. Big and Little Sewell Mountains were crossed, and Charleston reached on the 1st of July, where the exhausted, ragged, and starved troops were permitted to rest. Thus ended this most disastrous expedition. The constant skirmishing, the starved bodies, and blistered feet of those who participated

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in it made "Hunter's Retreat from Lynchburg" an event long to be remembered.

The Thirty-Fourth lay at Charleston on the 10th of July while General Crook with his main force and the Sixth and Nineteenth Corps, was pressing Early back on Winchester, General DuVal's brigade, of which the Thirty-Fourth was a part, attempted to occupy the place in advance of the Rebels, by a forced march from Martinsburg. Early, anticipating the movement, had sent his old division, under General Ramseur, to check it. The National force, only twelve hundred strong, met and attacked the Rebels two miles from Winchester, completely routing them, capturing their artillery, and killing and wounding all their brigade commanders. The loss of the Thirty-Fourth was ten killed and twenty wounded. Four days later occurred the fourth battle of Winchester, in which General Early, taking advantage of the absence of the Sixth and Nineteenth Corps, overwhelmed General Crook--the latter, however, effecting an orderly retreat, with the loss of only a few wagons. In this battle General Du Val's brigade had the honor of bringing up the rear, and the Thirty-Fourth suffered severely, losing their commander, Lieutenant-Colonel Shaw, a cool, determined soldier and Christian. He was struck in the abdomen by a musket ball, and was borne from the field by a few faithful men of his regiment, placed in an ambulance, and carried eleven miles distant, to a place called Bunker Hill, where he died.

The command of the regiment devolved upon Captain S. R. S. West, who fully sustained his reputation as a brave and gallant officer. The next day, July 25th, another stand was made at Martinsburg, the Thirty-Fourth being the last regiment to leave the field, which it

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did under a galling fire.

The time of the regiment between the 25th of July and the 3rd of September was occupied as follows: July 26th, forded the Potomac at Williamsport; 27th, marched to Sandy Hook, Maryland, opposite Harper's Ferry; 28th, crossed the Potomac at Halltown; 30th, re-crossed to Sandy Hook; 31st, marched to Middletown towards Pennsylvania State line; August 1st, continued the march to Wolfville, Maryland; 3rd, returned by same road to Frederick City, Md. and encamped on the Monocacy; 6th, returned to Harper's Ferry; 8th, re-crossed the Potomac and moved in the direction of Halltown; 10th, reached Berryville, Virginia; 11th, marched in line of battle in the direction of Front Royal--heavy skirmishing with Early, who was falling back on Fisher Hill; 12th, reached Cedar Creek, found the enemy had burned the bridge, and was intrenched on the south bank of the stream. The Thirty-Fourth lay here until the evening of the 17th (skirmishing heavily in the meantime). It then fell back, marching all night, passing through Winchester, and camping at Berryville early the next morning. The 20th of August found the Thirty-Fourth at Charlestown, with the enemy close in its rear. In the expectation of an attack, breast-works were thrown up; but, after waiting in vain until ten o'clock at night, the regiment fell back to Halltown. The enemy still followed, and taking a position in the immediate front of the regiment, heavy skirmishing ensued until the 27th, when they withdrew, to demonstrate on the upper Potomac. On the day following the Thirty-Fourth again occupied Charlestown, where the regimental officers were busily engaged making up the papers for the discharge of the non-veterans, who, on the morning of the 3d of September, proceeded to Columbus, Ohio, in charge of

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Captain West.

During the few months previous to this time the Thirty-Fourth had been largely re-inforced by new recruits. Counting the veterans and the men of 1862, it still numbered between four and five hundred men, present and absent. (On the evening of the day in which the non veterans left the regiment participated in the battle of Berryville. The non veterans were near enough to hear the booming of cannon.)

The enemy fell back to Winchester and Bunker Hill. The Thirty-Fourth marched to Summit Point and lay in camp until the morning of the 19th of September, the day on which occurred Sheridan's famous battle of Winchester, it being the third time the regiment had fought over nearly the same ground. It suffered terribly that day, the color guard having no less than six men, in quick succession, killed and wounded while carrying the flag. It was finally brought through safe by George Ryanls, of Company A. All know the result of that glorious battle, and remember Sheridan's celebrated dispatch, commencing: "I am moving up the valley to-night". In accordance with this announcement, the next evening found the regiment at Cedar Creek, where it lay until the 22nd, when occurred the Battle of Fisher's Hill. Here again, by the excellent management of General George Crook, the enemy was successfully flanked, which resulted in his total rout and capture of all his artillery. The loss of the Thirty-Fourth in the last two engagements was sixty-one killed.

The National forces followed the retreating and demoralized enemy to Harrisonburg, where they lay until the 6th of October. In the meantime the cavalry was busily engaged in burning barns filled with grain. driving in stock of all kinds, and otherwise rendering the

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Valley untenable as a base of supplies and literally fulfilling Grant's order to Sheridan, to render it so desolate and provisionless that "a crow in passing over it, would be compelled to carry his rations with him!" By the 6th the work of devastation was completed, and the National army again fell back to Cedar Creek; while the enemy, following at a respectful distance, once more resumed his old position at Fisher's Hill.

Of General Early's desperate attempt to regain his lost laurels on the 19th of October, and of his partial success on the morning of Sheridan's Ride" to the scene of action, and the irretrievable disaster of the Rebels in the after-noon, much has been said and sung. The brunt of the morning's surprise and attack fell on the left flank, composed of General Crook's Corps, which, with the Ninetttenth Corps occupying the center of the line, was badly shattered. The Sixth Corps, on the right, had time to fall back in good order. The troops were rallied near Middletown, from whence the final advance was made, which swept everything before it. It is sufficient to say that the day was won.

The evening before the battle the regiment under command of Lieutenant-Colonel L. Furnwy, was sent on picket. In the morning, before dawn, when the surprise occurred, the Colonel and eighteen of his men were taken prisoners. The Colonel escaped at Mount Jackson and joined his command a few days thereafter. The loss of the Thirty-Fourth in this affair was two killed, twelve wounded, and eighteen prisoners. From this time until the latter part of December 1864, the regiment lay in the neighborhood of Kersntown, when it marched to Opequan Crossing, and from thence to Martinsburg.

, On the evening of the 22nd of December, as the regiment was leaving Martinsburg, on its way to Webster, by rail, the train on

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which it was being transported came in collision with one loaded with coal, killing two men and wounding fourteen. It reached Webster on the 25th, and Beverly on the 28th.

On the 11th of January, 1865, the post of Beverly, garrisoned by the Thirty-Fourth, which by this time was reduced to three hundred men present for duty, and the dismounted portion of the Eighth Ohio Cavalry, was attacked by the enemy, under command of General Rosser. So secret and sudden was the attack--no alarm whatever being given until the enemy were in the quarters--that resistance was out of the question, and nearly every man was at one time a prisoner, though subsequently a great many escaped, favored by the darkness and intense excitement of the occasion. Colonel Youart, of the Eighth, commanding post, and Colonel Furney, were both captured, but afterward escaped. The survivors of this most unfortunate and disgraceful affair fell back to Phillippi, and from thence were ordered to Cumberland, Maryland, where they were consolidated with the Thirty-Sixth Ohio, (General Crook's old regiment), commanded by Colonel H.F. Du Val. The union of the separate organizations dates from the 22d of February, 1865, in which the old Thirty-Fourth loses its identity--the coalition being known as the Thirty-Sixth Ohio Veteran Volunteer Infantry.

HISTORY OF BARBOURSVILLE.

By Frank Ball.

Juley Lusher thought it was lots of fun. He loved to hide in the bushes along the banks of the Guyandot River and shout confusing orders to the raftsmen as they maneuvered their cumbersome craft with the current. Then when the flat boats collided and tangled in mid-stream and the summer air rang with the curses of the exasperated river sailors Juley would roll over and laugh and laugh.

Juley, whose exploits as the town jokester of Barboursville, W. Va. are still talked about, has been dead for many years. Gone, too are the rafts and steam boats that once made the Guyandot a bursting artery of commerce and Barboursville a thriving river port. Today, the little city on the Guyandot at the mouth of Mud River is a prosperous, peaceful community, busy with the present and the future, but proud of its past.

Barboursville local folks like to say, is no "mushrrom" town; it took its time growing up. Since its earliest days it has seen its fortunes rise and fall more than once. Boom times, and recessions have come and gone, and Barboursville has weathered them, all.

Just east of the Chesapeake and Ohio station in Barboursville visitors can see a reminder of the town's claim to antiquity. A stone monument there marks the boundary of the Savage land grant, the first "deed" to the land on which Barboursville grew. In 1772, John Savage, and sixty other persons received about 28,000 acres of land along the Ohio River in Wayne, Cabell and Mason Counties as a reward for their services during the French and Indian wars. With the exception of Savage, and a few others, most of the original land holders never lived on their property, preferring to sell it to settlers who were then crossing the Alleghanies in great numbers.

Descendants of the first Savage still live in and around Barboursville.

In 1802, two gentlemen whose names have become prominent in _____ Merritt and Jeremiah Ward, purchased land on either side of the Guyandot River a tributary of the Ohio. The 500 acres bought by Merritt are today the site of Barboursville, and Ward's holdings have become the community of Farmdale, Barboursville's neighbor across the Guyandot.

Life was easy going enough, at first. For several years the village expanded slowly. More cabins were added to the infant community as time passed, and every now and then a new harness shop, or store would open for business at Barboursville. Then in 1809 Barboursville got a brief taste of importance it was to assume not many years later--the town was selected as the County Seat. For one year the County Court House carried on its business in the home of William Merritt, just north of the present C & O bridge, across the Mud River. In 1810 the county seat was moved to nearby Guyandotte, but remained there only until 1813, when it returned to Barboursville for a long stay.

The same year Barboursville was given the status of a town by the State of Virginia (West Virginia was not to become an independent state for fifty more years). Barboursville had "arrived". By 1830 the town had taken another big step forward in its municipal growth: It got a Postmaster. He was appointed at a salary of \$14.60 per year, and twice a week a man on foot carried the mail between Barboursville and Logan. In 1849 Barboursville stuck out its chest again, and was incorporated by election and special court action.

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As center of business and politics in Cabell County, Barboursville enjoyed a singular prominence early in its history.

Local industry flourished; livery stables a large tannery, and harness shops were established, and did a brisk trade. Local mills sawed and shaped lumber from which much of the early Ohio River steam boat fleet was built.

Court House proceedings brought a steady stream of visitors into the community, and local business men were quick to capitalize on the need for suitable transient accommodations. Hotels sprang up in Barboursville's business center, hostelries like the Hatfield, the Charles Ryan, a second Hatfield, the Blume, a second Blume, and the Baumgardner House, presided over by J.B. Baumgardner, 300 lbs of gracious host and a well remembered town character. With the town's political decline in later years, the hotels disappeared one by one; and Barboursville's last ~~thing~~ the Price House, burned down several years ago.

Social life in the town kept pace with Barboursville's importance. Church activities were numerous, and the town's town Masonic Lodge was established in 1853. An earlier lodge had been formed in 1818, but had moved to Guyandotte seven years afterwards.

Barboursville had been the capital of Cabell County for seventy five years when its political position collapsed. Not many miles away on the Ohio River, the city of Huntington, founded by Collis P. Huntington as a western terminus for his Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad in 1871, had been steadily assuming civic leadership in the County. Boosted by the new railroad industry and the heavier shipping traffic on the Ohio, it soon dwarfed Barboursville in municipal stature. In 1887 Huntington became the County seat. The Barboursville Court House was occupied a year later by the Barboursville Seminary; but

an insitution of learning was poor compensation for the loss of a political prize; and, besides, students didn't have the bulging bank rolls of the old Court House visitors.

During its "Golden Age" Barboursville had nourished its prosperity from two other sources--highway and river traffic. In 1828 the Kanawha and James River Turnpike, the more practicable successor to dream of a canal linking the Kanawha and James River, was extended through to the town. The Guyandotte River had been locked and damned for a distance of thirty-five miles from its mouth. Stage coaches on the turn pike stopped at Barboursville to transfer passengers to the Ohio River packets that made regular ports of call at Barboursville Landing. The town became an important shipping point for both steam boats and rafts, and Barboursville's numerous taverns were favorite gathering spots for the boisterous, fresh water sailors who manned river craft..

Both the highway and river transport routes, however, were to become casualties of the double threat of war and progress. The locks were destroyed during the civil war, never to be re-built, and the extension of railroad service into Barboursville not long after-~~the war~~ killed off the turn-pike's business.

Except for the damaging of the river locks, Barboursville suffered little during the conflict between the North and the South (Guyandotte was put to the torch by the Federal troops in November, 1861).

HISTORY OF BARBOURSVILLE.

By Frank Ball.

The second encounter, in September, 1862, had a bit more dash. It took place right in the streets of Barboursville, when a regiment of Virginia cavalry and a regiment of Federal troops happened upon each other in the center of town. One Union soldier was killed, the sole fatality of the day.

The C & O. whose line through Barboursville had been under construction at the outbreak of the civil war, contributed much to the town's commercial liveliness after peace had returned to North and South. Before the Guyandotte branch of the C & O. was opened in 1903, Depot Street and the station grounds in Barboursville were lined daily with wagons and teams waiting to load the freight brought in by rail for the town and outlying communities.

In 1910 the C & O. decided to move some of its own business into Barboursville, dismantled an old freight house in Charleston, rebuilt it in Barboursville and established what was to become the C & O's reclamation plant.

Barboursville's long and colorful history can be read from its many old buildings, some of them more than a century old. The oldest frame building in Cabell County, built about 1848, stands far back off Main Street. The Henderson Grill, on the town's main corner, is housed in a brick building erected early in the 1850s. The Methodist church dates back to the town's beginnings.

Barboursville Seminary, which took over the empty Court House in 1888, became Barboursville College a year later, and in 1901

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was re-organized by the Methodist Church as Morris-Harvey College. Barboursville took on the aspect of a university town, and many citizens remember the intense collegiate rivalries between Morris-Harvey and Marshall College, in Huntington. The school moved to Charleston in 1935.

Every town has its characters, and Barboursville is no exception. Juley Lusher, the practical joker and scourge of the rivermen, was one of them, but probably the best known was Harrison Epps, towering ex-slave who had to have specially built shoes to encase his huge feet. He was famous, besides his bulk, for his laugh, the loudest and longest in Barboursville.

That's the Barboursville story.

The town, with a population of 2,000, has lost much of the feverish activity that characterized it when it was a lively frontier city, and later on, an important transportation and political hub. Its stately, ancient buildings and the memories of other days are but fragments from a past that had to make way for a modern world. Barboursville is keeping in step with the times and is looking ahead too--folks are already talking about a celebration for the town's 150th anniversary in 1963.