# THE 1878 CARROLLTON DEMOCRAT

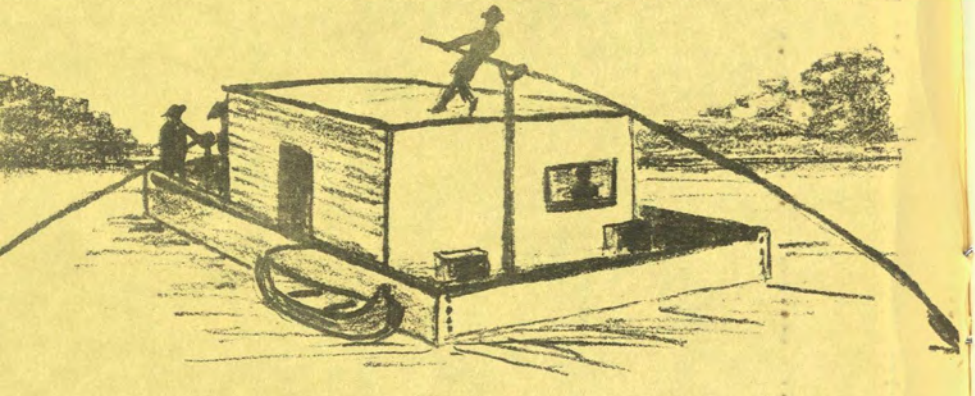
J. E. GEIER, EDITOR

and

Correspondents in five
areas of Carroll County
Kentucky

Interesting items taken from
weekly editions, compiled by
Mary Ann Gentry
1985

Dedicated to my grandmother, Mrs. Laura McCrackin Powers, 1871-1950, my only grandparent living to see me through my childhood.



Compilation, remarks and sketches by Mary Ann Gentry

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Dateline: Carrollton, Ky. May, 1985

When the 1937 Ohio and Kentucky Rivers flooded they rose so swiftly, there was not time to remove the files of our local News-Democrat office, and valuable history was lost to us.

In 1982 a huge book of bound copies of the Carrollton Democrat (former local newspaper) was found in an abandoned car when the car was removed by a local garage owner. It was purchased by the Port William Historical Society and placed inthe files inthe 190-year-old renovated Masterson Home on Highway 42 near here.

While I was compiling a short history of Carroll County, I visited these files and read these old papers. The bound volume was complete forthe year 1878, and was especially interesting because my great-grandfather, who was Town Marshall at that time, was mentioned several times when there was a bit of trouble in the city.

TownMarshall Charles McCrackin was a lad of eight when his parents, William Thomas and Sarah Squires, loaded him, his brother (Tom) and all their possessions on a flatboat. Leaving Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania, they came down the Ohio and docked where the mouth of the Kentucky River met. The little village there had begun in 1790 with a blockhouse fortified by Kentucky Volunteers to defend against the Indians. It was named Port William (for William Peachy who owned the first deed). In the fifty years, manysettlers had moved into the fertile valley and in 1838 when Carroll County was formed, the county seat was renamed Carrollton.

The McCrackin family soon became a part of the local scene, and in 1858 Charles married Nancy Jane Pounds, who had been born in Carroll County in 1842. When the Civil War began in 1861, Charles felt that the Union should be preserved and joined the Kentucky Volunteers, mustering inas a private in December, and not returning for two and a half years. Then only because he had been wounded in the battle of Kennesaw Mountain, one of the Union's worst defeats. Two months later he rejoined Sherman's

troops and remained until shortly before the end of the war, mustering out as a lieutenant.

The population of Carroll County in 1865 was reduced by several hundred due to the Emancipation Proclamation, but no battles were fought in the area and life soon resumed. Charles' brother was managing the Carroll Hotel on Fifth Street, with a bar and bowling alley next door. Charles assisted him until he was elected Town Marshall, and then his days were spent seeing that law and order prevailed. A city ordinance forbade any local officer partaking of strong drink. A notice on May 25, 1878, stated that "Charles McCrackin was offering $50 for information on the destruction of tombstones."

He and Nancy Jane were parents of three boys and three girls, all of whom married and remained in Carroll County.

## Carroll County Facts

In 1878 the population of the county was 6300 and Carrollton was 1200. The economy depended on agriculture. The two rivers were important for carrying produce to Louisville and Cincinnati.

The L & N Railroad had begun laying rail through

Worthville in 1865, and that village was growing. The spur to Carrollton would not be laid until 1905, so wagons carried products to Worthville in 1878 for transporting to city markets. This county had five thriving districts, each with its own court for dispensing quick justice.

Everyday living had generally improved, but daily chores were still rough. Most families had their own gardens and canned all summer. Each had a horse (and buggy), pigs, chickens, and cow. There were no paved roads, no plumbing, and no electricity.

## THE CARROLLTON DEMOCRAT

Mr. J.E. Geier was Editor of the Carrollton Democrat, and his love for this community showed as the weekly issues pressed out. The paper was delivered on Saturdays. Page one contained national and state news with, perhaps, an editorial on local issues, and some local advertisements. Pages two and three were filled with information on crops, sewing, recipes, an occasional poem, a love story or mystery, and general advertisements.

Probably most subscribers read page four first because it contained Carrollton news plus reports weekly from four correspondents, who reported on Ghent, Liberty Station (Sanders), Worthville, and Hunters Bottom including Prestonville and Locust. There were no pictures in any of the 52 issues, and the print was very small with five columns per page.

Officials that year were:

Circuit Judge - George C. Drane
Criminal Judge - O.D. McManama
Commonwealth Atty - Warren Montfort
Master Commissioner - W M. Fisher
Criminal & Circuit Clerk-W.O. Gullion
Trustee Jury Fund - W.O. Butler, Jr.

County Judge - W M. Fisher
Atty &School Commissioner-J.A. Donaldson
Sheriff - Joseph Myrick
County Treasurer - W. F. Howe
Assessor - J. H. Lindsay
Surveyor - M. M. Smith
Jailer - H. Humphrey

City Judge - E. A. Gullion
City Marshall - Charles McCrackin

Every issue carried an ad for The Point House on First Street, managed by Mrs. M. J. Houghton. Later Mr. Houghton would build a three story brick on Main and Third which is now the Carrollton Inn restored.

THE CARROLLTON DEMOCRAT
1878

January 5: Twenty-nine candidates for local and county offices have announced for the August vote. Two for judge; three for county clerk; eight for sheriff; seven for assessor; six for jailer; and three offices only 1 candidate each. During the months of June and July all candidates will visit each section at Saturday gatherings to plead their candidacy.

Jan.19: The Democrats of Vevay, remembering that General William O.Butler, the most distinguished survivor of the battle of New Orleans, is still living in Carrollton, have drawn up and signed a letter to that gentleman in which the "warrior, statesman and poet" is congratulated onthe return of another January 8. May the grand old hero live to see many more anniversaries of a battle that brought such glory to America.

Jan.19: Probably no county in Kentucky with a like number of inhabitants has among her population so many extremely old persons as Carroll: William De Mint-92; Captain Jos.Vance-89; Major Tom Butler-89; Captain Thos.Hanks-88; Okey Hoagland-88; General Wm.O.Butler-87; William Campbell-86; Richard O. Butler-85; Elijah Webster-85; Thos.Ogburn-82.

Jan.26; Magistrates will convene on February 6 to take into consideration the propriety of letting a contract to build a new courthouse and jail.
*(A storm or fire in 1877 had damaged the courthouse. The jail was replaced in 1880, and the courthouse in 1884)*

National news: The "Women's Right" ladies have been pursuing the officials at Washington in favor of their cause. All that women want is the temerity to handle arms to insure respect for their demands.
*(Susan B.Anthony was gaining fame for her speeches. "We ask our rulers for no special favors, just equality for all U.S.citizens". But it was 1920 before the 19th amendment allowed women to vote.)*

*Advertisement: The mechanical non-explosive Air Lamps burn coal oil without smoke or chimney. Burns longer, brighter, with no danger of explosion.*

*Feb. 6: There was too much stress and not enough water in the boiler of Williams Flour Mill, just seconds after William Shepherd left the mill for the evening, about 6:00, causing a tremendous explosion which blew up the mill. The boiler uprooted a 12' tree, went through a shed and stable killing a horse, through a corncrib, and the back room of the house Charles McCrackin rented to R.B.Booker, where the family was eating; also the front of G.W.Anderson's house. Miraculously, no one was injured.*
(Later reports were that both houses were repaired. Boilers had no pop-off valves t hen.)

Feb. 6: Mrs. Susan O'Neal Searcy was married to Mr. Adolphus Wilson at her father's home, Richard W.Searcy near Worthville.

Feb. 19: Obituary. Dr.Pierce Butler Turpin, 37 died of consumption. Although he practiced in Louisville, he's to be buried here in the family plot. His brother, Dr.T.J.Turpin is here from Florida for the funeral. *(These were the sons of Eleanor and Phillip Turpin who built the mansion at Butler Park)*

Prestonville: Good News: Residents are enjoying the new sidewalks, but are having trouble keeping the cows off of them.

Feb.26: The Woolen Mills of John Howe and Sons now run 47 looms, employ 68 hands, and are producing 6500 yards of jeans a week. The sons, John I. and Robert J. manage the wholesale house in Cincinnati.

Carrollton now has two incoming and outgoing mails a day. One by River and one by Rail.

JOHN HOWE. WM. F. HOWE. JOHN I. HOWE. ROBT. J. HOWE. JOS. B. HOWE.

# JOHN HOWE & SONS,

PROPRIETORS OF THE

# Carrollton Woolen Mills

**Merchant Tailors and Dry Goods Commission Merchants, and Manufacturing Agents.**

**Also Conduct a GENERAL BANKING and EXCHANGE Business.**

**77 Race Street, CINCINNATI, OHIO, and CARROLLTON, KY.**

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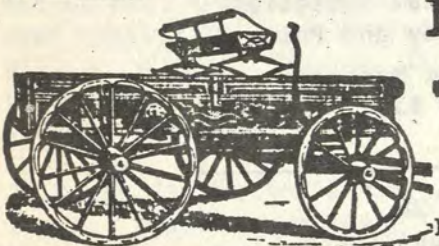

## H. B. HALMESS,

MANUFACTURER OF

# WAGONS

FARMING IMPLEMENTS.

Horseshoeing and Blacksmithing of all kinds.

Orders promptly attended to Repairing neatly done.

**N.E. Cor. High and Sixth Sts., CARROLLTON, KY.**

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# U.S. Mail and Stage Line

MAKES TWO TRIPS DAILY

**From CARROLLTON to WORTHVILLE Station and Return.**

Making close connections with all day passenger trains on the Louisville and Cincinnati Short Line R. R. Through Tickets to Louisville and Cincinnati sold at Carrollton. Also proprietors of

FIFTH STREET LIVERY AND SALE STABLES.

**J. E. and H. C. GROBMYER, . . CARROLLTON, KY.**

March 4: The Drama Club gave a presentation at the courthouse last week, titled "Saved From the Gallows". Some very thrilling scenes were presented. This drama teaches a fine temperance lesson.

March 4: Rev. W.T.Poynter, Methodist Minister, urges a new road between Carrollton and Worthville to improve transportation of goods by rail. He estimates the probable cost to be $15,000, and urges a meeting to get this project begun.

This ad appeared in nearly every issue:

JOHN GLAUBER
Boot and Shoe Store
on Main Street
Large stock, Great varieties
in Style, Quality and Price

Also Sewing Machines
$30 to $35

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JUNE 28
OLD JOHN ROBINSON'S
GREAT WORLD EXPOSITION
The Very Best Circus in the World
Stupendous Exhibition of Wonders
Five Colossal Elephants
One hundred Aerial Artists
Five Golden Chariots
Fifty Shetland Ponies
Lions Loose in the
Street
Will arrive on a fleet of Steam
Boats and Barges
Admission 50¢ Children 25¢

June 29: Shopping for home items: See C.D.Salyers dealer in stoves and tinware; Mayflower wood and coal cooking stoves;fine birdcages, moss baskets; fluting irons; rattraps, and guttering.

Men's Clothes: William Brothers store has a nice stock of suspenders, cotton socks, linen and paper collars, ties - all at astonishingly low prices.

Ad: J.H.FLOORE. DENTIST - $10 for a full set of teeth. Extractions without pain.

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July 6: Election campaigning is getting under way. The third annual picnic will be given by the Carroll Cornet Band at General Butler Grove near Carrollton next Thursday. All the candidates will be present. Dancing will be first class. A brass and string band will provide music. Good order will be kept.

July 13: The Butler Grove picnic was well attended. The dancing began early and continued late. The band was "all plumed and plaided in Tartan array". Their new uniforms made by Mr.E. Williams are beautiful and present quite a military appearance. Carrollton may be proud of this band.

July World News: The Swedish Nightingale, Jenny Lind, made a million dollars in America, touring with Barnum and Bailey Circus. Her husband, Mr. Goldschmidt, invested it well for her, doubling it. He is a nice quiet fellow, a Jew who became a Christian. They have two children, a boy and a girl. The girl could have been as great a singer as Jenny, but being already rich, she did not have to. The boy likes to spend money, and he's the apple of Jenny's eye.

July 13: Worthville: The new schoolhouse is nearly completed. It is a one room school that will serve 50 to 60 pupils.

All of the candidates will be in Worthville this coming Saturday.

There was a fight in town last weekend. The parties were drawn up before Judge Ewing, who fined the "white trash" five dollars, and let the colored gentlemen go free.

July 13, Carrollton: A picnic of about twenty couples from Madison came up the Ohio on the Madison ferry boat. Had a string band on board. The party celebrated in Carrollton; several sets were danced in the streets, and the beer saloons were patronized liberally by both sexes.

July 13, Editorial: Carroll County need be ashamed of herself no longer. All that can be done to add to convenience and comfort has been done without regard to expense. Some of our old buildings have been demolished and new structures erected of the most magnificent styles.

Institutions of learning are numerous; highways have been improved; streams rendered navigable; our farms beautiful and fertilized; the morals of our citizens trained to a point near perfection; and conscience and thought set at absolute liberty.

An edifice of imposing grandeur has been erected at acost of $15,000, the plan of which cost the enormous sum of $100. The Kentucky River is navigable for skiffs at all times, and frequently used for small steamboats. Nearly every district boasts a school house, many of which are the famous "log school house". In the town of Sanders is a fountain of Blue Lick water, conducted underground for several hundred miles at untold expense.

The last and largest stride will be the com-

pletion of the Carrollton-Worthville turnpike.

Our town clings to the exploded idea that temperance is a blessing. That pure, unalloyed democracy which expresses itself in mass meetings flourishes luxuriantly here and accordingly, about fifty peripatetic candidates teach oratory and politics throughout the county.

VALUE OF LAND, etc.

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|---|---|
| Lands | $1,323,405 |
| Town lots | 224,395 |
| Horses & mares | 90,695 |
| Mules | 12,252 |
| Cattle | 30,290 |
| Stores | 49,040 |
| Carriages | 9,504 |
| Merchandise | 15,931 |

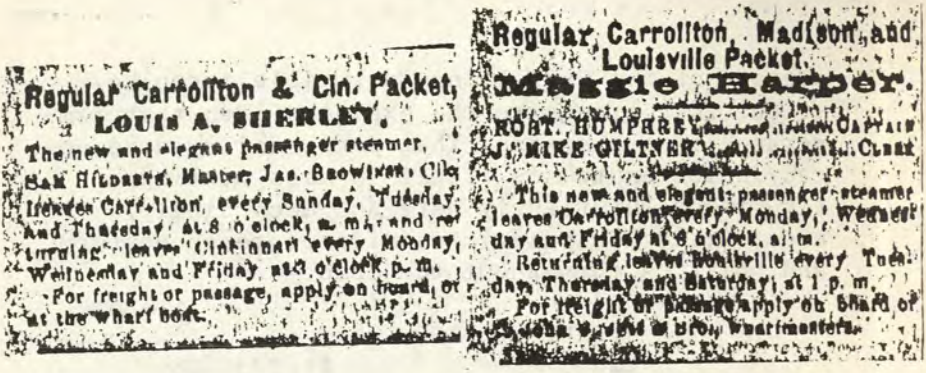
STATISTISTICS

| | |
|---|---|
| Males over 21, white | 1770 |
| Legal voters, white | 1768 |
| Women and infants | 2400 |
| Children age 6 - 20 | 2106 |
| Acres of land | 18,963 |
| Lbs tobacco raised | 1,233,040 |
| Tons of hay | 2,180 |
| Bushels of corn | 279,796 |
| Bushels of wheat | 14,302 |
| No. of hogs | 1,044 |

Advertisement in every issue: Young housekeepers should not forget that the way to reach a husband's heart is through his stomach. Use Dooley's Yeast Powder in making bread, cakes, rolls etc. They will be nice, light, digestible, wholesome.

July 13: Carroll Seminary will open the first Monday in September. Let all who have children to educate, apply for particulars before going elsewhere. John T. English, Principal.

July 27: Misses Lela and Mollie Giltner left yesterday on the Maggie Harper on an exploring trip--in search of cool weather!



Regular Carrollton & Cin. Packet,
LOUIS A. SHERLEY.
The new and elegant passenger steamer,
SAM Hildreth, Master; Jas. Brownlee, Clerk
leaves Carrollton, every Sunday, Tuesday
And Thursday at 8 o'clock, a. m., and re
turning, leaves Cincinnati every Monday,
Wednesday and Friday, at 3 o'clock, p. m.
For freight or passage, apply on board, or
at the wharf boat.

Regular Carrollton, Madison and
Louisville Packet.
Mattie Harper.
ROBT. HUMPHREY, Master.
J. MIKE GILTNER, Clerk.
This new and elegant passenger steamer
leaves Carrollton every Monday, Wednesday
and Friday at 6 o'clock, a. m.
Returning leaves Louisville every Tues-
day, Thursday and Saturday, at 1 p. m.
For freight or passage apply on board of
JOHN S. HOWE & BRO., Wharfmasters.

July 27. Prestonville: W. H. Whitmore of Prestonville desires to state that he will eat cove oysters against any man in the county for the championship of the world, the match to come off in Carrollton at any time during the next three months - for a purse of $100. *(No mention was ever made that any one took him up on this offer.)*

July 27: Ghent: This year the public school will be taught separately from the college.

Ghent: Saturday is expected to be a big day! We would recommend that those in attendance were overcoats as the candidates will be here to blow off their wind. It is also expected that a game of baseball will be played between a Whites Run nine and the Ghent Club.

Shopping Ad: John Howe and Sons. Summer goods all cheap and desirable. Gloves are 20¢ and up; shirts 50¢ and up; our own made jeans pants are $1.25; a summer suit, $2.25; linen collars 10¢ and 20¢; gauze undershirts, 30¢.

August 3: There was a picnic at Neal Coghill's barn on his Little Kentuck farm, last Saturday which was well attended. A few kegs of beer were sent down from town, the effect of which was to increase the excitement already existing over the election. The occasion, the beer, the excitement, or something else produced one big event--a fight.

## AUGUST 5 - ELECTION DAY

(As noted earlier, only white males, age 21, who had paid their poll tax could vote - 1768 in all. Thirty persons in Carrollton, and an unknown number in the county did not vote. However, 1790 votes were cast. In 1878 there was no restriction on the sale of liquor on election day. So we get the following report:

WINNERS

County Judge - W. M. Fisher
County Clerk - R. F. Harrison
Sheriff - J. H. Lindsey
Co. Attorney - J. A. Donaldson
Co. Coroner - A. F. Kipping
Jailer - H. Humphrey
Assessor - Frank Keves
Surveyor - M. M. Smith

August 10: Liberty Station: Last Monday was by no means dull here. The election was the most boisterous that we have had. Our town was thronged from early in the morning til late in the nite; and, of course, as evening shades closed on the earth, the majority of the crowd became overdosed with 'busthead'. There were several little difficulties, and one of a serious nature between Joe Ellis and Lee McDarment.

Dr. J.W.Connell was in the city and dressed the knife wounds of McDarment who is in critical condition.

(Dr.Connell was a very young man in 1878. He was the grandfather of the author's husband, E. P. Gentry.)
(A September issue indicated McDarment was recovering nicely.)

*August 10: Locust, Eagle, and Mill Creek all reported no trouble at their polls for the whole election day!*

August 10: Worthville. Several fights reported here on election day. One of serious consequence was Kent Taylor, deputy, shooting an Irishman by name of James Murray - when Murray started a fight at Center House. However, the wound did not kill him.
August 10: Ghent: The people of Ghent are happy with the election results. Now let's settle down to business!

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August 17: Lost item: Miss Ella Elston advertises for a canary-colored ostrich feather lost either in Prestonville or Carrollton. Finder will please return to the owner or leave at Mrs.Corn's Millinery Shop on Main Street.

August 24: Carrollton: On last Saturday about 6:00 in the evening, several pistol shots were heard behind Jones Barber Shop on Fifth Street. Both parties,Robert T. Darling of Carrollton and George S. Dean of Worthville, who represent two of the best families in our county, were injured.

The altercation came about when Darling called Dean out of the shop and charged Dean concerning his (Darlings) wife to which Dean gave the lie. Whereupon Darling drew a pistol from his pantaloon pocket and began to fire. Dean attempted to draw his pistol from his hip pocket but the hammer caught in his clothes and he could not return fire until Darling had fired three times.

The men were about ten paces apart. Darling was disarmed by Sheriff Joe Myrick, Dean being stopped by Marshall Chas.McCrackin inside the shop. Physicians were called and both men treated. Darling fainted from loss of blood, his wounds being caused by a .32 caliber six shooter. Dean's wounds were

slight, being caused by a seven shooter cartridge no. 22. The shooting of both parties was pretty good. Three of Darling's four shots touched, and two of Dean's three. The examining trial will be held Monday before Judge Fisher.

*(The August 31 edition reported that on the Monday after the shoot-out, both parties appeared in court, waived an examining trial, paid a bond of $200 each. Two weeks later, Darling was listed as scorekeeper at a baseball game.)*

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*August 24: State News:* Many citizens are meeting for the purpose of raising funds to be sent to yellow fever sufferers in the South.

August 31: Report of the Peoples Building and Loan Association meeting on August 26. Receipts were $927.11 and withdrawals allowed $515.25. Money loaned: $400 at 36½ percent and $600 at 35½ percent. Directors of the bank which opens each Monday evening at 7:00 are John Howe, Joseph Glauber, J.A.Donaldson, J.E.Geier, John Hogan R.T.Bell,A.W.Darling, and H.Cass Grobmeier.

August 31: Ghent as seen by the Liberty Station Correspondent: Ghent is a jolly place, noted for its many bachelors, fast young men, and goodlooking young women. Ghent is a town of some enterprise and does considerable business. They have trade in dry goods,groceries,a saddle shop, a cigar factory, livery stable, two blacksmith shops, a tin shop, a millinery shop, a good drug store, a large flour mill, a carriage and wagon factory, four doctors, and a reliable postmaster who has held the capacity for 20 years. Ghent College had a fine opening this year under the direction of Pres. Blackwell and Dr. Barbee.

August 31: Wedding: John R. Stout and Miss Belle Leachman of Worthville, were married in Cincinnati this week. They thought it best to go up and get married; then come back and get the consent of the bride's father.

## JUSTICE IN THE WATERMELON PATCH

Sept.14: Thomas G. Brown, Prestonville, discovered two trespasses in his watermelon patch last Wednesday night. Upon being ordered out the two (who had been drinking) attacked Brown with stones. They came to the house, stood outside and cursed him. Their conduct incensed the latter, who gave one fellow the contents of his double-barreled shotgun, both shots taking effect in the legs. The other man ran.

The wounded man was from Vevay. The doctor removed most of the shot and he soon will be able to go on similar expeditions. However, this one may destroy his love for watermelon.

Followup--on watermelon episode: The court was not long in deciding that Tom Brown had a right to point his old blunderbuss in the direction he did; and if, when he pulled the trigger and the old thing went off, lovers of his watermelons were in the way and got hurt, that was their business and not Tom's. The young man who got shot failed to put in an appearance.

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Sept.21: Carrollton: John Hill has purchased from Fred Able, the new brick house on Fifth Street now occupied by Mrs. Fellar. He is erecting on the same lot, a story and a half frame house.(Followup in the Nov.23 issue: Bans were published by the Catholic Church for the marriage of John F. Hill and Miss Maggie Fellar to take place the following week.)

Ad: William Griffith is delivering coal at 10¢ a bushel, or 9¢ in the barge.

Notice: The colored Baptists will have a grand celebration at the fairgrounds Saturday, of the emancipation proclamation of Mr. Lincoln.

The financial report of the Carrollton Methodist Church indicates Salary of pastor, $1000; Repairs

on church, $200.58; Repairs on parsonage $256.49; Number of members-172; Value of property $15,200. The Methodist Conference has returned Rev.W.T. Poynter for another year.

September 14. Ghent: A lively sensation was created last Friday evening by the educated bear kept at the buggy factory. He got out of his cage and while passing J.K.Pope's store spied a hog and gave chase. The hog ran into the meat shop and the bear pursued. As soon as the bruin saw the fresh beef, he ceased pursuit. He was got back to his cage with some difficulty and has been docile since. People along the street, especially the ladies in the millinery shop, enjoyed the scene with much zest.

Sept. 14: The Yellow Fever has reached almost epidemic stage. Cases are reported in Kentucky now. Many deaths have been reported in southern states, especially small towns where no medical aid is available. *(November frosts relieved the contagion, and citizens expressed their thanks to the many doctors who were self-sacrificing.)*

Sept 21. Ghent: On Wednesday evening Mr. John I.Howe,Carrollton, was married to Miss Lucy Froman of Ghent, at the home of her father, Mr.H.Froman, one of the wealthiest farmers in the county. The beautiful bride was dressed ina lovely Paris muslin, with regulation train, and garnished with garlands of orange blossoms on the skirt. The groom wore the conventional broadcloth. The happy pair took the mail boat for Cincinnati; from there they will make an extensive tour through the east.

Sept 28: Col. H.I.Giltner has sold his Hunters Bottom farm to Richard Conway for $6000.

Editorial: A Jealous Cincinnati Woman Writes about Bluegrass Girls: The Kentucky beauties

have nice features and beautiful, delicate hands and feet. But the inevitable result of their tight lacing and of plastering their faces with the poisonous cosmetics is that they are sallow, wrinkled old women at thirty. They may hang me with their corset laces, but the truth is the truth.

Oct.3: Correspondence Concerning Preacher Poynter: Preacher Poynter prepared a pen and prayed his people to present a pig. A pious Presbyterian person proved propitious and presented parson with a pig and put it in the pen. The aforesaid Presbyterian was prompted by a Campbellite, or it is feared the pen would still be pigless.

Answer: Parson Poynter, pleased with piggy, plights hispromise to a Presbyterian person not to ply with painful pressure the precious point of predestination--prized so pleasurably by pious Presbyterian. And as a Campbellite consented to the consoling circumstances and contributed her company tothe coming of the creature, she can come to his church and claim companionship with Christians. From 'Preciative Preacher.

Oct.26: Carrollton: Last Saturday night, the sawmill belonging to E. Hafford, at the mouth of the Kentucky River near Prestonville, was entirely destroyed by fire. Total loss of $5000. There seems to be no doubt with Mr. Hafford and others that the fire was the work of an incendiary but if they suspect anyone in particular, they refuse to give the name of such person.
Oct.26: A son of Mr. E.Hafford, 18 years old, was out hunting Tuesday, and while loading one barrel of his shotgun, the other went off and shot him in the hand. Dr.Meade dressed the wound and pronounced it not dangerous.

Oct.26: Worthville: Miss Bettie Dean, one of Carroll's fairest and most accomplished ladies, married Capt.Atwell Rennick of Frankfort, at the

residence of the bride's mother, Mrs.Permelia Dean, Worthville. The bride was handsomely dressed in black silk velvet and elegantly trimmed. Relatives and a few intimate friends were in attendance.

Oct. 26: Liberty Station: Last Saturday night Frank Sebree and Blanton Howard, mounted, were running a race on the public highway. Mr.Bud Parker, driving into town in a buggy, met the racers and a collision took place. Parker's buggy shaft penetrated the breast of Sebree's horse 12 inches, killing the horse instantly. Both horsemen were much bruised. Neither Parker nor his horse were injured.

Oct.26: General William O. Butler has a trunk that has crossed the mountains 27 times and has gone to Mexico 3 times. He has a hickory walking stick with which he has walked for 40 years. It had been presented to him by Captain J.P.Butler, his father, following the War of 1812.

Nov.22: Carrollton: A fire in the steam-dry room of the Howe's Woolen Mill about noon last Friday, destroyed most of the main mill, at a loss of $4000 to $5000. The firm dispatched immediately to the insurance company to send their adjusting agents in order that they might rebuild as speedily as possible. Over 700 persons assembled at the scene of the fire, and many worked with high energy.

Financial item: The value of the US trade dollar has again depreciated. Now worth only 95¢.

Nov. 29: $50 reward is offerred for the apprehension of Mrs. D.H.Claxon who disappeared from her home in Louisville.
Dec.7: Capt.Claxon found his missing wife in Indianapolis.

## TRAGEDY AT A DANCE

Dec. 14: On December 4, a group of young people gathered at the home of a farmer, the farm's being rented from Chance Neal. The farmer had several attractive daughters present at the party, and a fiddler had been hired for dancing.

Among the young men was Neal's son, age 22, who had been a suitor of the daughter, Mary, 19. Also present was another 22-year-old man named Stetham who worked occasionally on the crops. He, too, had an eye for Mary. The father suggested that Neal collect 15¢ from each fellow to pay the fiddler; but Stetham refused to pay and left.

Outside, he was urged to return to the party, by a friend named Hedge, and to confront Neal. The Stetham boy did so, pulled a knife and attacked Neal. In the ensuing struggle, the knife penetrated Neal's neck, and he fell to the floor in a pool of blood.

The father dispatched to get a doctor from Carrollton, but the young man died before they arrived back. Stetham simply walked out unnoticed. Apparently, he packed what he owned, including the only picture of himself, and left. Police are now looking for him. His friend, Hedge, also left the county the following day.

*(As the year came to a close, neither had been found, even though a reward was offered.)*

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*The December issues were not commercial with Christmas specials. Families then were not so scattered, only a sleighride away, and enjoyed the holidays together. There was not very much civic news. In fact, the biggest item in the December 21 issue was NO ONE WAS IN JAIL!)*

AND
THAT'S
THE
WAY
IT WAS
IN
1878
- MAG