

thenceforward his home; was elected to the house of representatives, 1841 and 1843—where, on Feb. 23, 1842, he cast a solitary vote for Judge Richard French, in opposition to John J. Crittenden, and was hissed for it. In the majesty of one conscious that he was voting for eternal principles, he rose and prophesied that he would yet live to stand upon the floor of the legislature when the majority would be Democrats—which came to pass in 1857-61, when he was elected, by over 2,000 majority, the senator from Floyd, Morgan, Johnson, and Pike counties. He was elected to congress for two years, 1845-47, beating Adams and McKee, in a district where the party majority was some 3,500 against him; in 1849, he was beaten for congress by Judge Daniel Breck, by only 900 votes—having reduced the Democratic majority from 3,500 to 900. In 1848, as the Democratic candidate for lieutenant governor, he was beaten only 7,722 votes by John L. Helm (carrying his own district by a handsome majority), whereas his distinguished co-nominee, Lazarus W. Powell, was beaten 8,521 votes by John J. Crittenden. In 1856, he was a delegate from the state at large to the Democratic national convention at Cincinnati; and advocated the claims of his warm personal friend, Linn Boyd, for the presidency, in preference to James Buchanan. His efforts and influence turned the tide in the mountains against Know-Nothingism. In 1860, he was on the Democratic ticket for the Peace convention, and canvassed a large portion of the state—then returned to his home, and quietly observed the logic of events, until his death in 1862. Col. Martin was a gentleman of high social qualities, fine intellect, extensive information, and generous heart. Few men had so great influence with the masses, and none equaled him in personal popularity in the eastern or mountain portion of Kentucky. His son, Col. Alex. L. Martin, represented Floyd county in the legislature of 1867-69, and is now (1873) in the middle of a term in the state senate, where he is recognized as one of the leaders of that body and one of the ablest young men of the state.

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## MASON COUNTY.

MASON county—established in 1788 by the legislature of Virginia, and named after George Mason, one of her most eminent lawyers and statesmen—was the 8th formed, of the nine which existed in 1792, when Kentucky was separated from the mother state and admitted into the Union. It was formed out of all that part of the then county of Bourbon which lay to the N. E. of Licking river, from its mouth to its source; thence, by a direct line to the nearest point on the Virginia state line and county line of Russell; thence along said line to Big Sandy river, down that river to the Ohio, and down the Ohio to the mouth of Licking—embracing all the territory out of which have been formed the following counties: Campbell (part) in 1794, Bracken in 1796, Fleming and part of Pendleton in 1798, part of Floyd and part of Nicholas in 1799, Greenup in 1803, Lewis in 1806, Lawrence and part of Pike in 1821, part of Morgan in 1822, Carter in 1838, Johnson in 1843, Rowan in 1856, Boyd and Magoffin in 1860, Robertson in 1867, Elliott in 1869, and Martin in 1870—nineteen in all.

The present county of Mason lies in the northern section of the state; is bounded N. by the Ohio river for 17 miles, E. by Lewis and Fleming counties, S. by Fleming and Robertson, and W. by Robertson and Bracken; and measures about 221 square

miles. It is watered by Cabin, Bull, Kennedy's, Limestone, Beasley's, Lawrence, and Lee's creeks, which flow into the Ohio river on the north; and the North fork of Licking river in the center and south, with its tributaries, Mill, Wells', Lee's, Shannon, and Bracken creeks. The surface of the country is generally uneven, part of it hilly and broken, most of it gently undulating; the soil, based upon limestone, is deep, rich, and highly productive, except in the N. E. and S. W.; much of it is the finest quality of bluegrass land, not surpassed in the world. The largest productions are corn, wheat, hemp, tobacco, mules, cattle, and hogs. It was once the largest, now the 6th, hemp-producing county. In amount of taxable property it is the 8th largest county in the state, in average value of land the 6th; while in population it has fallen, by the more rapid increase of others, to the 12th.

*Towns.*—*Maysville*, on the Ohio river, at the mouth of *Limestone* creek (from which the landing or town was generally called *Limestone* until about 1793), is 65 miles from Lexington by the *Maysville* and *Lexington* railroad (Northern Division), and by the Ohio river 405½ miles below Pittsburgh, Pa., 91 below Catlettsburg, Ky., at the mouth of Big Sandy river, 52 below Portsmouth, Ohio, 61 above Cincinnati, 193 above Louisville, and 562 above Cairo at the mouth of the Ohio; was established as a town by the legislature of Virginia, Dec. 11, 1787, incorporated as a city in 1833, and became the county seat, April 1, 1848; is beautifully situated on one of the highest spots along the bank of the Ohio, only a small part of which was overflowed by even the great flood of 1832; is handsomely and compactly built, and contains a brick court house and fire-proof clerk's offices, 13 churches (2 Presbyterian—one connected with the northern and one with the southern General Assembly—Baptist, Methodist Episcopal South, 2 Methodist Episcopal, German Methodist Episcopal, Reformed or Christian, Protestant Episcopal, German Lutheran, Roman Catholic, and 2 for colored people, Baptist and Methodist), 3 banks, 24 lawyers, 11 physicians, 4 newspaper and printing offices (*Eagle*, *Bulletin*, *Republican*, and *Ohio River Traveler*), city high school and 3 district public schools, 5 seminaries (2 male and 3 female), several other private schools, gas works, 2 wholesale and 7 retail dry goods stores, 2 drug stores, 5 tinware and stove stores, 2 hardware stores, 4 hotels, and a large number of other business houses, shops, and small factories—besides 2 steam flouring mills, 2 steam saw mills, 2 planing mills, 2 very large and several small plow factories, 1 large cotton-spinning factory, 1 piano-forte factory, 1 chair factory, 1 foundry, 1 very large and several small cigar factories, 2 carriage factories, 1 brewery, 1 railroad car shop, and 1 pork-packing establishment; population in 1870, 4,705, of whom 681 were colored. *Washington*, the ancient county seat (from 1788 to April 1, 1848), 3½ miles S. W. of Maysville, on the turnpike to Lexington (see sketch in succeeding pages); has 3 churches (Baptist, Presbyterian, and Methodist); population in 1870, 240, of whom 106 whites, 134

CITY OF MANVILLE (From the Germantown Turnpike Road).



1875

colored. *Mayslick*, on same pike, 12 miles w. of s. of Maysville, was named after John May, of Virginia, the former proprietor of the land and of a famous *lick* near the place (hence its original name *May's Lick*); has 3 churches (Baptist, Reformed or Christian, and Presbyterian), and a number of stores and shops; incorporated Feb. 1, 1837; population in 1870, 199, whites 128, colored 71. *Dover*, in importance the second town in the county, in the extreme n. w. corner, on the Ohio river 11 miles below and n. w. of Maysville, and 1 mile from the Bracken county line; is the largest tobacco prizing and shipping point, and has a number of business houses; incorporated Jan. 20, 1836; population in 1870, 532, whites 465, colored 67. *Minerva*, 4 miles s. w. of Dover and 10 miles from Maysville; incorporated Jan. 31, 1844; population in 1870, 159. *Germantown*, 11 miles s. of w. of Maysville, lies partly in Mason and partly in Bracken county; established in 1795; population in 1870, 351, of which 160 in Mason and 191 in Bracken (33 colored). *Sardis*, 14 miles s. w. of Maysville; population in 1870, 149. *Lewisburg*, 7 miles s. of Maysville, on the turnpike to Flemingsburg; population in 1870, 151. *Helena*, 11 miles w. of s. from Maysville, *Mount Gilead*, 9 miles E. of s., *Murphysville*, 9 miles s. w., and *Orangeburg*, 8 miles s. E., are small villages, with one or two stores and churches each, and a population of 40 to 100 each. *Woodville* and *Chester* are growing suburbs of Maysville, recently laid off.

The main roads and nearly all the intersecting and neighborhood roads, in Mason county, are macadamized.

STATISTICS OF MASON COUNTY.

When formed.....	See page 26	Corn, wheat, hay, tobacco.....	pages 266, 268
Population, from 1790 to 1870.....	p. 258	Horses, mules, cattle, hogs.....	p. 268
“ whites and colored.....	p. 260	Taxable property, 1846 and 1870.....	p. 270
“ towns.....	p. 262	Land—No. of acres, and value.....	p. 270
“ white males over 21.....	p. 266	Latitude and longitude.....	p. 257
“ children bet. 6 and 20.....	p. 266	Distinguished citizens.....	see Index.

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE FROM MASON COUNTY.

*Senate*.—Alex. D. Orr, 1792; John Machir, 1796–1800; Philemon Thomas, 1800–03; Gen. Joseph Desha, 1803–07; DeVall Payne, 1807–11; Michael Dougherty, 1811–15; Jas. Chambers, 1815–19; John Pickett, 1819–22; Winslow Parker, Jr., 1822, '36; Jas. Ward, 1823–27; Robert Taylor, 1827–35; Adam Beatty, 1836–39; Thos. Y. Payne, 1839–43; Marshall Key, 1843–47; John D. Taylor, 1851–53; Wm. H. Wadsworth, 1853–57; Harrison Taylor, 1857–61; Martin P. Marshall, 1861–65; Lucien B. Goggin, 1865–69, seat declared vacant Dec. 14th, 1865, succeeded by Wm. C. Halbert, of Lewis co.; Emery Whitaker, 1869–73. [See page 776.]

*House of Representatives*.—John Wilson, 1792; Wm. Ward, 1792, '93, '94, '95; John Machir, 1792, '93, '94, '95, '98, '99, 1800; John How, Winslow Parker, George Lewis, 1796; Philemon Thomas, 1796, '97, '98, '99; John Pickett, 1796, 1801, '02; Thos. Forman, 1797; Michael Cassidy, 1797, '98; Alex. K. Marshall, 1797, '98, '99, 1800; Gen. Joseph Desha, 1797, '99, 1800, '01, '02; John Graham, 1800; DeVall Payne, 1801, '02, '05, '17, '28; Michael Dougherty, 1801, '05, '06; John Keroheval, 1802, '03, '04, '05, '06; John Lamb, 1803; Alfred Wm. Grayson, Lewis Bullock, 1803, '04; Wm. Holton, 1806; John Shotwell, 1806; Jas. Chambers, 1808, '09, '11; Adam Beatty, 1809; Walker Reid, 1810, '11, '13, '17; Jas. Ward, 1810, '16, '18; Jas. Morris, 1812; John Chambers, 1812, '15, '30, '31; John McKee, 1813, '14; Jas. W. Coburn, 1814, '16, '18; Septimus D. Clarke, 1815, '19, '20, '21; Wm. Worthington, 1819; Walter Lacy, Wm. B. Phillips, 1820; Benj. Desha, 1821, '22; Col. Jacob A. Slaok, 1821, '22, '24; Jas. C. Pickett, 1822; Robert Taylor, 1824, '25; Jas. W. Waddell, 1825, '26, '37, '38; Dr. Thos. W. Nelson, 1826; Adam Beatty, 1827, '28; David Morris, 1827, '32, '33; Jas. G. Bailey, 1829; Winslow Parker, Jr., 1829, '33; Jas. K. Marshall, 1830; Jasper S. Morris, 1831; Richard H. Lee, Thos. J. Pickett, 1832; Jas. Byers,

1833; Wm. G. Bullock, John Triplett, 1834; Gen. Richard Collins, 1834, '44, '47; Alex. Hunter, Chas. Mitchell, 1835; Peter Lashbrooke, 1835, '50; James W. Anderson, 1836; Harrison Taylor, 1836, '61-65, '65-67 (speaker); John A. McClung, 1837, '38; Henry R. Reeder, 1839; Gen. Thos. Morgan Forman, 1839, '40; Col. Chas. A. Marshall, 1840, '55-59; Parry Jefferson, 1841; Francis T. Chambers, 1841, '43, '44; Marshall Key, Wm. D. Coryell, 1842; Robert Humphreys, 1843; Henry Waller, 1845, '46; John M. Breeden, 1845; Jas. B. Hord, 1846; D. Rice Bullock, 1847; Wm. Bickley, John N. Jefferson, 1848; John McCarthey, Emery Whitaker, 1849; Thos. Y. Payne, 1850; Henry S. Johnson, John A. Keith, 1851-53; Lucien B. Goggin, John G. Hickman, 1853-55; Wm. B. A. Baker, 1855-57; Gen. Samuel Worthington, 1857-59; Geo. L. Forman, 1859-61; Lucien S. Luttrell, 1859-61, '63-65; M. Smith, 1861-63; Col. James W. Gault, 1865-67; Dr. Henry L. Parry, 1867-69; Elijah C. Phister, 1867-71; Dr. Robert L. Cooper, 1869-73; William W. Baldwin, 1871-73; Geo. L. Forman, W. W. Browning, 1873-75; Lucien S. Luttrell, 1875-77.

*Antiquities.*—On the plantation owned by Samuel Henderson, two miles n. of Mayslick, there were, in August, 1827, distinct traces of ancient fortifications. The principal fort contained about one acre of ground; the others were not more than half so large. The walls of these entrenchments were quite plain; as were the marks of trenches or subterranean passages leading to Lee's creek, 300 yards distant—apparently tunneled to provide a supply of water, secure from danger of a blockading enemy. On about 100 acres of land around, the soil to the depth of one to three feet was mixed with shells, flints, potter's ware, and bones of various descriptions—among the latter several entire human skeletons, besides fragments of others, lying without regularity as if they had fallen in battle and been hastily and carelessly buried. The potter's ware, in shape somewhat resembling articles now in common use, was made of muscle shells and stones, pulverized and thoroughly mixed; the vessels were carved on the outside, and remarkably strong, notwithstanding the exposure to the elements for centuries. All is conjecture as to the age of these fortifications—the trees in the several forts and upon the walls being quite as large as in the surrounding forest.\*

*A Council Chamber* of the aborigines—but who or what they were will always remain a sealed book—was plainly visible as late as 1823, on the east side of the farm of Samuel Frazee,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles n. e. of Germantown, Mason co., Ky. It was sunk or excavated about eight feet beneath the surrounding surface. Around the sides of this large room were recesses in the walls, forming seats for the council. Here the chieftains of a hundred battles held their councils of war. Mounds and fortifications surrounded, but not immediately, this council chamber. Stone axes, trinkets, and implements were found in and around these ancient works. But the Indians had no knowledge by whom or for what purpose these were made; although they could go back with accuracy for many years, perhaps centuries, by their wampums—which was the Indian's book of history.†

The celebrated antiquarian, Rafinesque, in his enumeration in the year 1824, of the sites of ancient towns and monuments in Kentucky, has two sites and two monuments in this county, and a small teocalli near Washington.

*The First White Persons* upon the soil of Mason county (omitting those who passed down the river in canoes or perigoes without landing) were Christopher Gist (see his signature, page 000) and a boy, each on horseback, and leading two pack-horses laden with provisions, surveying instruments, etc.—Gist having been sent out by the Ohio Company (of England) "to search out and discover the lands upon the river Ohio, take an exact account of the soil, quality, and product of the land, the width and depth of rivers, the courses and bearings of the rivers and mountains," with a view to find "a large quantity of good level land, such as will suit the company;" then "measure the breadth of it in several places, and fix the beginning and bounds in such a manner that they may be easily found again by the description." His Journal records that on Wednesday, March 13, 1761, having crossed the Ohio river the evening before from the Shawane

\* Communication in *Maysville Eagle*, Aug. 8, 1827.

† Letter to the author from Wm. D. Frazee, grandson of Samuel Frazee, Aug., 1872.

Town (now Portsmouth, Ohio), they set out through Lewis county s. 45° w. down the river 8 miles, then s. 10 miles; next day, s. 15 miles; next day, s. 5 miles, s. w. 10 miles, "to a creek so high they could not get over that night"—probably Cabin creek, in the e. edge of Mason county. Next day, Saturday, March 16, 1751, they traveled s. 45° w.\* about 35 miles—on that day passing entirely through the n. border of Mason and nearly through Bracken county. It says nothing of the country passed over. They returned to s. e. Virginia, up the valley of the Cuttawba (Kentucky) river.

*The Second White Visitors and First White Females* upon the soil of Mason county, were Mrs. Mary Inglis and an elderly Dutch woman, name unknown, in 1756. (See detailed account of same under Boone county, *ante*, page 000.)

In 1773, *Several Companies* of adventurers and explorers visited what is now Mason co. Gen. Wm. Thompson, of Pennsylvania, at the head of a company (whose names we have not ascertained with certainty) landed at the mouth of Cabin creek, and made a survey, on July 23, 1773, on Mill creek, which they divided into fifty-three parts; and on Nov. 20, 1773, made another survey on Lee's creek, a mile or two north of Mayslick. Their course of surveys was quite extensive, and embraced the rich lands on the North fork of Licking and its tributaries.†

Capt. Thos. Bullitt, and his company of surveyors and assistants, sent out to the Falls by Gov. Dunmore, of Virginia, and also the McAfee company, going together down the Ohio, reached the mouth of Limestone creek, where Maysville now is, on June 22, 1773, and *remained two days*. In the former company were Abraham Haptonstall, John Fitzpatrick, Jacob Drennon, Ebenezer Severns, John Smith, Isaac Hite, and several others; in the latter, James McAfee, Geo. McAfee, Robert McAfee, James McCown, Jr., Samuel Adams, Matthew Bracken, Peter Shoemaker, and Hancock Taylor, the surveyor.‡ Robert McAfee left the party temporarily, went alone up Limestone creek to the waters of the North fork, and down that stream (see Collins' Annals, page 17, vol. i.)

Still earlier in this same year, a company of ten—among them Capt. Thos. Young, Capt. John Hedges, and Lawrence Darnall—came down the Ohio river from Pittsburgh—one of the company leaving, near Sandy river. The other nine encamped for several days at the mouth of a creek, where Maysville now is, to which Capt. Hedges then gave the name of Limestone, which it has borne ever since. A few days after, Darnall's first name (Lawrence) was given by the same company to the first large creek below, and that name also soon became notorious.§

In July, 1773, John Finley was doubtless in the eastern part of Mason county, as he passed from the Ohio river out to the Upper Blue Lick spring, and some of the same party discovered the Lower Blue Lick spring. They were probably a portion of Gen. Thompson's party—as both were from Pennsylvania.¶

In the year 1774, Wm. McConnell explored the land on Lawrence creek, and "was desirous of improving for himself at the lick near where the town of Washington now stands." So say several depositions of Alex. McClelland, in 1803 and 1804. It is not known that any other explorers were out in the county during that year, although Harrod's and Hite's two companies of 42 men passed down the Ohio, and up the Kentucky, into what are now Mercer and Boyle counties—so thoroughly was the spirit of adventure checked, that season, by the Indian hostilities, which culminated in the great battle at Point Pleasant, at the mouth of the Kanawha river, Oct. 10, 1774.

*Several Companies of Improvers*, in 1775, visited Mason county, selecting, and in some cases surveying the rich cane lands. In April, Chas. Lecompte,

\* While Mr. Gist's distances are not very far wrong, his courses are in great error.

† Withers' Border Warfare; Marshall, i, 11; Bradford's Notes on Kentucky; and Depositions.

‡ Journals of the McAfee Brothers; also, Depositions of James McAfee and Samuel Adams, May, 1797.

§ Depositions of Capt. Thos. Young, Nov. 24, 1804, Aug. 13, 1810, etc., and of Simon Kenton, Aug. 15, 1814.

¶ Depositions of John Finley, June 29, 1802, etc.

Wm. McConnell, Alex. McClelland, Andrew McConnell, Francis McConnell, John McClelland, and David Perry, came from the Monongahela country to Kentucky to improve lands—first, up the Kentucky river to the Elkhorn country. In June, they set out to return—the last five across the country to the mouth of Lawrence creek, which they reached in advance of the others, who came by canoe to the same point. They went up that creek, and, near Washington, and on other forks of the creek, made improvements—two of the cabins of split ash and logs, some of the logs quartered, the roof or ribs of round poles. Their appointed place of meeting was “the Indian camp,” near where Kenton’s station was afterwards built.\*

In May, 1775, a company of 10 young men—Samuel Wells, Haydon Wells, Thos. Tebbs, John Tebbs, John Rust, Matthew Rust, Thos. Young, Wm. Triplett, Richard Masterson, and Jonathan Higgs—came from Virginia to Mason county, to survey and improve lands. They went on below to Bracken county, then returned to their camp at Limestone creek, whence in June they explored, and then surveyed between 12,000 and 20,000 acres lying between the Ohio river hills and the North fork, from the mouth of Wells’ creek to above Mill creek. They built for each of the party a cabin, covered with bark, and deadened trees around them; Higgs’ cabin was near the east end of York street, in Washington. John Rust and Haydon Wells had a fight so desperate and prolonged that Matthew Rust, in his deposition, spoke of it as a “damnation fight.” From that circumstance, the creek on which it occurred was for some years known as “Battle creek,” but since as Wells’ creek.†

It appears from depositions that James Gilmore, Ignatius Mitchell, Col. Calmes’ company, and several others, were in Mason county in 1775.

In the year 1776, what is now Mason county fairly swarmed with visitors and “improvers” from Virginia and Pennsylvania—in most cases, of the latter class, many of whom came to select their future *homes*, while others “improved” for friends or for speculation. As already stated, these improvements varied greatly; from deadening a few trees and marking initials upon them, up to a log cabin, sometimes covered with bark, but generally uncovered, clearing a patch of ground and planting corn. The men remained generally from two to four weeks.

Two of these companies came in the latter part of January. One—composed of David Perry, John Lafferty, Hugh Shannon [one of the company who, in June, 1775, had given the name of *Lexington* to the spot where that beautiful city was founded in 1779], Joseph Blackford, and John Warfield—improved on Lawrence creek, where Joseph Wilson found them. Another company—Wm. Watkins, Jas. Thomas, Andrew Zane, Wm. White, and — Blair—had preceded them a few days, landing at Limestone.‡

In February, came a 3d company, of 10—Samuel Wells, Haydon Wells, Thos. Tebbs, John Tebbs, Matthew Rust, John Rust [it is thus observable how the early adventurers came in families, often brothers-in-law and cousins, as well as sons or brothers], Thos. Young, Wm. Bartlett, Richard Masterson, and John Higgs (or Higgs)—who improved mainly on the North (then called the *East*) fork of Licking, between the mouths of Lee and Mill creeks; building 10 cabins, one for each of the company, on as many improvements, usually half to three quarters of a mile apart.‡

Other companies in 1776, were: One of 7—Samuel Boggs, Wm. Lindsay, Joseph Lindsay, John Vance, David Vance, Andrew Steele, and Wm. Bartlett—who built 2 cabins for each, thus making 14 improvements, mainly on Mill creek and its small branches. While thus improving, Bartholomew Fitzgerald (a member of another company) paid them a visit, and selected a site where he afterwards built a mill-dam, well known in 1796 as his Fitzgerald’s company—John Simrall, John McGrew, John Williams, Thos. White, and perhaps others—also improved upon and near Mill creek, and kept an accurate journal of their improvements, which they used and all parties relied upon, when the permanent surveys were made in 1784. When they reached

\* Depositions of Alex. McClelland, May 26, 1797, Oct. 18, 1803, April 5, 1804.

† Depositions of several of the company, 1795 to 1804.

‡ Depositions of Joseph Wilson, Wm. Bartlett, Richard Masterson, Matthew Rust, Simon Kenton, Andrew McConnell, Thos. Tebbs, and 21 others.



the mouth of Mill creek, they found an improvement had already been made there.

In March, 1776, Wm. McConnell (at whose cabin, improperly called a station, near where Lexington now is, that city was so happily named, in the June preceding), Francis McConnell, Sen., Francis McConnell, Jr., Alex. McClelland, and David Perry, built several cabins and deadened timber on the head waters of Lawrence creek, w. and n. w. of Washington. One of these, which fell by lot to Francis McConnell, Sen., he exchanged with Col. Robert Patterson for an improvement the latter had made,  $\frac{1}{4}$ ths of a mile below Lexington, on the waters of the Town fork of Elkhorn. Thus early was the trading of lands initiated by the trading of improvements, which were really only land-claims. It was at a later date, however, that some analytical mind, regarding the predisposition to trade as an innate principle, described man as the "trading animal."

In April, 1776, Geo. Stockton, John Fleming, Sam. Strode, and Wm. McClary, passed through the eastern end of Mason county, and made several improvements in what is now Fleming county. They also improved for Strode, in Mason county, the spot on Strode's run, a branch of the North Fork, where he afterwards settled and had a small station.

In the beginning of April, 1776, John McCausland, Wm. Biggs, Geo. Deakins, and James Duncan came down the Ohio, and spent about 10 days in what is now Mason county. Landing at Limestone, they "were met by a man who called himself Simon *Butler*, the same now called *Kenton*;"\* who conducted them out from the river, along a war path for some distance, then turned off to a *camp* he had on Lawrence creek, where they staid some time; thence he conducted them to a canebrake (now Washington), and to other places. At several places, they made improvements and built cabins. None but Kenton had ever been in Kentucky before.

In the same month, April, 1776, a company of 9—John Virgin, Rezin Virgin, Thos. Dickerson, Henry Dickerson, James Boggs, John Lyon, James Kelly, Wm. Markland, and Wm. Graden—came down the Ohio, to the mouth of Cabin creek, where they met Simon Kenton, who piloted them down to the mouth of Limestone creek, and thence to his *camp* on Lawrence creek, and to the "canebrake where Washington now stands." They established a "station camp" near the head of the right hand fork of Wells' creek; and after improving around there, and finding that several companies had preceded them and selected many choice spots, they went into what is now Bourbon county, and improved on Stoner. The company, except Deakins and Graden, returned up the Ohio, in June.

In May, 1776, John Fitzgerald, James Batterton, and Richard Masterson came down the Ohio, made cabins and deadened trees on the s. side of the North Fork.

In June or July, 1776, Patrick Jordan, James Waters, Thos. Clark, and R. Hendricks built a few rounds of a cabin on a branch of Johnson's fork of Licking, belted a few trees, and marked a white oak tree, R H 1776. This was afterwards known as James Waters' entry.

In June or July, 1776, Simon Kenton and his employé, Thos. Williams, went with Geo. Deakins, "a stranger in this country," to show him where he might improve safely, on Kenton's run, a small branch of the North Fork. Kenton left Williams to assist Deakins in building a cabin.

In the same month, Simon Kenton and Samuel Arrowsmith assisted Jacob Drennon to build a cabin on the waters of Mill creek. [This is the same Drennon for whom was named the spring where Kenton in 1784 built his station, that became the most celebrated n. of Bryan's station and Lexington.] Arrowsmith at another place cleared about half an acre of land, and cultivated it in corn—the only crop known to have been raised in the county in that year. He was driven off by Indians, but the field was known for many years as "Smith's corn-field."

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\* John McCausland's deposition, Aug. 11, 1798. This entire narrative of exploration in 1776 and 1776 is made up of the depositions of the explorers themselves, in land suits in the courts of Mason, Bourbon, Fayette, and other counties.

During the same summer, on a branch of Lee's creek, itself a branch of the North Fork, another company—Isaac Pearce, Wm. Harrison, Robert Harrison, and Henry Byles or Boyle—built several cabins and made other improvements.

Ignatius Mitchell, Daniel Brown. — Hunter, and a company of men, in the summer of 1776, were improving in the bottom immediately above the mouth of Lawrence creek—which several Indians at Fort Pitt had told Mitchell were "the best banks they knew." Mitchell built a cabin and improved some; and, a few years later, settled and lived there for many years.

With the year 1776 ceased, in great measure, until the year 1784, this extraordinary fever for selecting lands, for future homes or for speculation, in the wilds of Kentucky. The spirit of "improving" was lost in the prudent regard for personal safety. With the Indians "upon the war-path," the whites were compelled to constant watchfulness. Exposure without great care was to court almost certain death by the rifle and tomahawk, or by the gunshot and fire. So few white men visited this county, this year, and so great and pervading was the danger, that even that fearless woodsman and great lover of the wilds of nature, Simon Kenton, "from 1777 to 1781 generally resided on the south side of the Kentucky river."\* In Jan. 1777, he was the pilot of the party which came from Harrodsburg to the Three Islands for the powder, which Geo. Rogers Clark and John Gabriel Jones had brought to that point and secreted (see full details under Lewis county). In 1778, he crossed the Ohio river at Limestone on a scout; and, later in that year, himself fell a prisoner to the Indians, and did not make his escape until the summer of 1779. Daniel Boone himself passed along Stone Lick, in the eastern end of the county, in Feb., 1778. In 1783, Simon Kenton landed at Limestone, and passed on by way of the Lower Blue Licks to Danville. In 1780, a few authorized surveys were made in the county; an increased number in 1782-83; while in 1784-85 came the comparative flood of surveys, corresponding with the flood of improving companies in 1776.

*The First Crop* raised in Mason county was of corn, by Simon Kenton, in 1775. At the point below described—[why the spring was known as Drennon's, after Jacob Drennon, instead of Kenton's, after Simon Kenton, is not explained, except by the supposition that when here in 1773 Drennon may have followed up Lawrence creek until he discovered it]—Kenton and his companion, a young man named Thomas Williams, in May, made a camp, cleared with their tomahawks a small piece of ground, and from the remains of some corn procured from a French trader for parching, planted the first corn ever planted at any point on the north side of the Licking river. During the same season, several other "improvers" or explorers planted corn (and in one case *snap beans*) on or near Hinkson, the Town folk of Elkhorn, and Lulbegrud creeks—in Harrison, Fayette, and Clark counties. In 1776, Samuel Arrowsmith, as already stated, planted corn in Mason county—the only known instance in that year, or until 1784 or 1785. James McKinley sowed the first wheat in the county, on the farm now owned by David Hunter, near Washington.

*Fortified Possession of Mason county* was not taken until the summer and fall of 1784. Once taken, it was never relinquished; the power of the Indian was broken; his hunting ground, this favorite portion of it, was gone. Possession was not yielded without a struggle. Although the stations in this region were never regularly besieged, as had been the whole circuit of stations in the interior, from 1777 to 1782, yet Indian forays for murder and horse-stealing were common. The first settlers knew no exemption from the most approved methods of savage aggression. As the mode of emigration in 1784 began to change somewhat—was enlarged from the canoe and periogue to the "Kentucky boat," "broadhorn," or common flat-boat of the present day—a new field of operations was opened to the Indian which he was not slow to cultivate.

\* Depositions of Simon Kenton, June 5, 1824; of Daniel Boone, Sept. 23, 1817; and others.

*Tecumseh* in 1785, when about 17 years of age, manifested signal prowess in an attack on some family boats, on the Ohio river, near Maysville. The boats were captured, and the passengers all killed—except one person, who was burnt alive. *Tecumseh* was a silent spectator, never before having witnessed the burning of a prisoner. After it was over, he expressed his strong abhorrence of the act, and by his eloquence, young as he was, persuaded his party never to burn any more prisoners.

*The First Water Mill* established in Mason county, with distillery attached, was probably that of John Nichols, about the year 1787, on the n. side of the North fork of Licking, half a mile below the mouth of Mill creek.

*The First Number of the First Newspaper* ever printed in Kentucky or at any point west of Pittsburgh, was one-half set up in type, and the first form locked up, in Limestone (Maysville), early in August, 1787, by Fielding Bradford—while waiting for a wagon to transport the printing material to Lexington, where it appeared on Aug. 18th, as the *Kentuck Gazette*. The veteran printer was still living, in July, 1839, on his farm two miles from Georgetown, Ky. Singular to relate, John Bradford, the editor, in that first number announced that “in the carriage of them from Limestone, a great part of the types fell into pi”—the first dish of “printer's pi” in the now great west.

*The Muster-Roll of the Spies* employed against the Indians, from the county of Mason, by virtue of instructions from Brig. Gen. James Wilkinson, dated Fort Washington (now Cincinnati), March 31, 1792, is still preserved by the family of the late Gen. Henry Lee, then county-lieutenant of Mason county. The names of the spies were Mercer Beason, Archibald Bennett, Wm. Bennett, Henry Cochran, Samuel Davis, John Dowden, John Dyal, Matthew Hart, James Ireland, Ellis Palmer, Isaac Pennington, Cornelius (or Neal) Washburn. Most of them were employed from May 4th to Dec. 9th, 1792.

*The First Grist Mill* in Kentucky at any point north of Bryan's station, near Lexington, was at Limestone (now Maysville), about the year 1785, and is thus described in a letter from the Hon. George Corwine, of Portsmouth, Ohio, written in 1842. He says: “It was made of timber, stone, and buffalo hides; I am not sure there was any iron about it. It came not within the scope of things worshipped in idolatry, for it was like nothing else, either on the earth or in the patent office. It was to grind corn into meal to make mush and johnny-cakes. It was constructed of round logs, set in the ground to make them stand up. Over them a roof of bark, under which was an upright shaft turning on a wooden gudgeon or pivot. Over the horse, for it was a horse-mill, extended arms from the upright shaft; and in these were holes like as you sometimes see in the arms of blades or swifts on which weavers put skeins of yarn to wind. In these holes were pins, over or around which was thrown a long buffalo hide tug, or rope, made by cutting hides round and round into long strips and twisting them. The different holes in the arms were for the purpose of tightening this tug or band. From these arms the tug extended to and around the trundle to which the running stone was attached; and to prevent its slipping, the tug was crossed between the long arms and the trundle, which was a short log with a groove cut round it. More effectually to prevent slipping, a bucket of tar was kept ready to daub it. Still it was with great difficulty that the mill could be kept going, even when the horses moved, and it was sure to stop when they did. It required a man like Job to tend this mill, but the miller was not one of that temperament. He always seemed to doubt or distrust the performance of his machine, and to be continually on the lookout for some disaster or disappointment. I was once present when he got in a team of fractious horses, which broke his tug and otherwise deranged the parts of his mill; which made him exclaim, among other hard words, that such horses were enough to drive ‘Satan out of hogs.’”

*The Prices of Provisions* and country produce in 1790 are in astonishing contrast with those of the present day: Beef, at Washington, was then only 2 to 2½ cents per pound, buffalo beef 1½ cents, venison 1½ cents, butter 7 to 8½ cents, turkeys 12½ to 16½ cents each, potatoes 50 cents per burrel, flour 25 cents per barrel, beer 25 cents per gallon by the barrel, and whiskey 50 cents.

*Robert McClure.*—Under an officer of the regular army, Major Hamtranch, a number of men were on an expedition near Maysville. They lost horses, every night, by the Indians, who followed cautiously. Robert McClure (the same who had the desperate adventure with Davis and Caffree, mentioned under Lincoln county) proposed to take a scalp, if allowed; and consequently left the camp a mile or so, concealing himself in the tall grass. At a suitable hour, he emerged near the path, and rang a bell, so as to imitate a belled horse; then hid, to watch. Soon an Indian came peering along, stretching his neck to see; when McClure shot him, ran up and tore off his scalp, and escaped to camp.\*

The next night, McClure and two other men, one named Crary, put a bell on an old white horse of little value, and slipped out of camp with him to wait for Indian thieves. A gallon of rum being the prize for a scalp, they agreed to shoot at different parts of the body, so as to identify the successful one—McClure agreeing to shoot at the loins, which would cripple him and thus prevent escape, Crary at the heart, and the third man at the head. They had not waited long, when a solitary Indian appeared, and all three fired; then, fearful of a party of Indians, hurriedly escaped to the camp. Next morning, a force was sent out. When near the spot, McClure called out, "Where are you, Indian?" and he replied from his hiding place, "Here me." One of the company shot him. It was soon apparent that he had been bleeding all night, from the wound in his loins. But Crary so positively claimed the successful shot that, as McClure was careless about it, Maj. Hamtranch gave to Crary the rum, but swore he believed that McClure had killed the Indian.

*The First County Court in Mason County* met at the house of Robert Rankin, in the town of Washington, May 26, 1789. Among other acts, they adopted the following rates for tavern-keepers: [A Kentucky shilling was 16½ cents.]

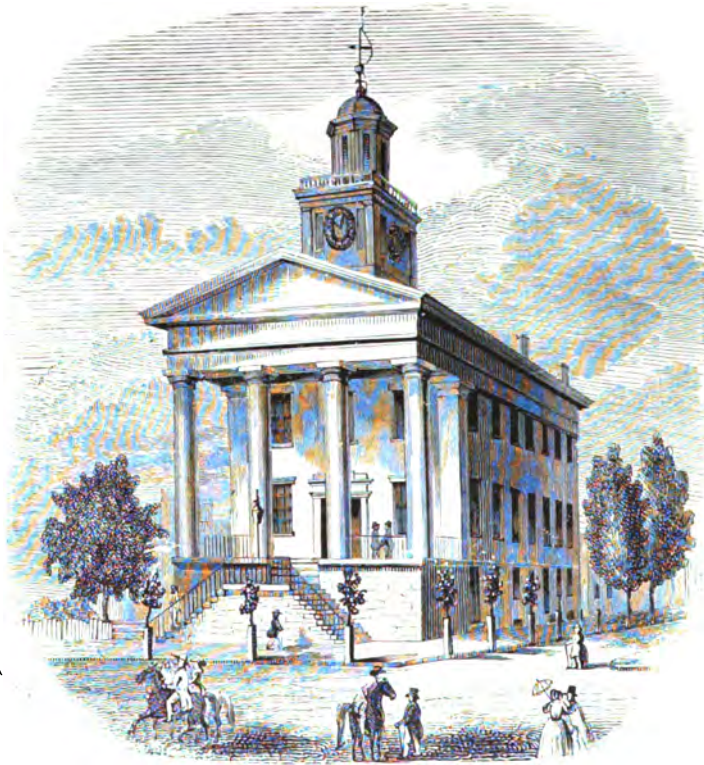
£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
A warm dinner .....	1 3	Corn, per gallon.....	0 8
A cold dinner.....	1 3	Whiskey, per half pint.....	0 9
A warm breakfast, with tea or coffee, etc .....	1 3	West India Rum, per half pint ...	1 0
A cold breakfast, with tea or coffee, etc .....	1 0	Continent Rum, " " " " .....	0 9
Lodging, with clean sheets.....	0 9	Apple or Peach Brandy, per half pint .....	0 9
Stablage and hay, per night .....	1 3	Madeira Wine, per quart .....	6 0
Pasturage, per night.....	0 6	Cider or Beer, per quart .....	0 9

*An Expedition* against the Indians, which started at Washington, about 1792, had a startling and terrible termination at the mouth of Limestone creek. Just after entering the boat to be ferried over the Ohio, and while it was still in the creek, the restlessness of some of the party upset the frail vessel, and carried them all down. Not more than half of the men rose to the surface and were saved—among the latter David S. Brodrick, for a short time a merchant and then one of the first tavern-keepers at Washington, and grandfather of the present Jos. Forman Brodrick, of Maysville. He was held under the water by the death-grip of a large and strong man, and only released and saved himself by the most remarkable exertions.

*Simon Kenton* had his peculiarities, one of which is nowhere better illustrated than in a letter now before the editor, written by S. Morgan to James Marshall, March 30, 1786—which says that Kenton, when sent to for provisions by a party who were employed by him to survey lands which he had contracted to survey, sent back word to Morgan that "he had no provisions for him, and would, the first time he could lay his hands on him, give him (Morgan) a flogging." He often disappointed such parties, and delayed them about furnishing the notes and directions for survey—even when in his power to obtain them by a little exertion.

\* Mrs. Jane Allen Stuart, *nee* McClure, Owensboro, Ky., when aged 87, in June, 1871. She was born Sept. 5, 1783, in a stockade on Logan's creek, 2 miles from Logan's station, and 2½ miles from Stanford, Lincoln county.





COURT HOUSE AND CITY HALL, MAYSVILLE, KY.



JOHN RENTON'S STATION, NEAR WASHINGTON, KY., 1786.

*Simon Kenton*, the most universally active, enterprising, and useful of the pioneers of Kentucky who entered from the northern border—as Daniel Boone was of those who came by Cumberland Gap—had been the first (in 1775) to take planting possession of the soil of Mason county. So now he was the first (in 1784) to erect a station and take permanent possession. At Drennon's spring, on one of the forks of Lawrence creek—about 3 miles from Maysville and 1 mile from Washington, on the farm for many years owned by the late Thos. Forman, but in 1873 owned by Dr. Alex. K. Marshall—he built a station for protection and defence. He did not select it as a town site; and so, unlike Boone, was not mortified that it did not grow to be a town. It was simply Kenton's station; until the erection of another station, in the spring of 1786, by his brother John, nearly 2 miles distant and 1 mile s. w. of Washington, made it necessary to distinguish them apart by applying the first names of the brothers.

*The Stations in Mason county*, once begun, multiplied rapidly. Their names, locations, and dates of settlement—as far as ascertained from the depositions of the old settlers and otherwise—were: 1. *Simon Kenton's*, described above. 2. *Limestone* (or Maysville), which was first settled in 1784, and a double log cabin and block-house built by Edward Waller, John Waller, and George Lewis, of Virginia. 3. *John Kenton's*, described above. 4. *Washington*, sometimes called *Fox's* station,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles s. w. of Maysville—laid out in 1786 as a town, by Rev. Wm. Wood and Arthur Fox, Sen. 5. *Mefford's*,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles s. of Maysville, on the farm now owned by Jos. J. Mefford, a quarter of a mile from his residence, and near the line of the Blanchard farm; an old cedar still marks the spot; settled by Geo. Mefford, 1787. 6. *McKinley's block-house*, on the old buffalo trace s. of Washington, where David Hunter now lives; built by James McKinley in 1785. 7. *Waring's*, about half a mile from Mefford's, and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles w. of s. from Maysville, a short distance w. of the Lexington turnpike, on the farm owned for many years by the late Col. James Byers; settled in 1785 by Col. Thos. Waring. 8. *Lee's*, over 2 miles e. of s. from Maysville, 100 yards from the present residence of Mrs. Edward P. Lee; settled by Gen. Henry Lee. 9. *Bailey's*,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles s. of Maysville, and 1 mile from Washington; settled in 1791. 10. *Curtis's*, about 2 miles s. w. of Washington, on the farm now owned by Dr. Henry Morgan. 11. *Whaley's*, in the same neighborhood. 12. *Bosley's*,  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile above the main fork of Wells' creek, near Washington; settled before 1793. 13. *Byne's*, on the North Fork; settled by Edmund Byne. 14. *Clark's*, on the North Fork, where Lewisburg now is, 7 miles from Maysville; settled by Geo. Clark in 1787, but abandoned. 15. *Lewis's*, same as *Clark's*; resettled by Geo. Lewis in 1789. 16. *Strode's*, sometimes called *Stroud's*, on the North Fork, at the mouth of Strode's run; settled in 1785 by Samuel Strode. 17. *Feagan's*,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  or 2 miles e. of German-town; settled by Daniel Feagan. 18. *May's Lick*, at the spring in the edge of the present town of Mayslick.

*Col. Daniel Boone*, on two occasions, Sept. 28, 1795, and July 3, 1797, deposed that having made his escape from captivity among the Indians, on June 19, 1778, he reached on his way home this spot—a large open space of ground at a buffalo road and the forks of three branches of the waters of Johnson's fork—where “he roasted some meat, and got some drink near the mouth of the branches.” He entered the land around it for James Peek, on the commissioners' books, Jan. 11, 1780.

*The Old Wagon-Road* from Limestone to Lexington was frequently spoken of in 1784–5 as “Smith's wagon-road,” because in the summer of 1783, or earlier, one Smith, of Lexington, was the first that traveled it with a wagon.

*Early Settlers of Mason county*.—Simon Kenton's station, 3 miles s. w. of Maysville and 1 mile n. of Washington, although the spot was occupied by Kenton as a camp in 1775 and 1776, was not erected into a station until July, 1784. Capt. John Waller (who, a few months later, assisted in building the block-house at Maysville) was one, and the only one whose name is preserved, of those who assisted Kenton “in forming a settlement and building a block-house at the spring then called Drennon's spring,” Lawrence creek.\* But as the

\* McDonald's Life of Kenton, page 250. Depositions of John Waller, July 15, 1797, and Nov. 30, 1804.

Indians were roaming through the country, evidently bent on mischief, it was dangerous to remain there; and the party scattered, Kenton going to his own station (where, in 1782, he had settled his mother's family) on Salt river. He returned to his Mason county station in November; employed men as they came, to assist in building cabins until there were twenty odd on each side enclosed; and made frequent trips to the mouth of Limestone creek to encourage passing emigrants to settle at his station, and make it permanent. The name of the first man whose family settled there (about Nov. 15th) is not preserved; the second was Abner Overfield, a few days later in the same month; the third was probably John Dowden, early in December; in the same month, after the 9th, came Rev. Wm. Wood, Elijah Berry, and George Berry, Jr., with their families. Wilson Maddox, in November, 1784, Wm. Henry and Bethel Owens,\* in December, are known to have settled there—whether with their families, does not appear.

At *Maysville*, possibly in November but more probably in December, 1784, a settlement was made, and a double log cabin and block-house built, by Edward (familiarly spoken of as "Old Ned") Waller, John Waller, and George Lewis, all from Virginia. Until after 1800 it was generally known as *Limestone*, and in the region around often called *The Point*. James Turner arrived there on Dec. 24th, and remained a few days; then went out and "built a camp," just above where John Machir's tan-yard stood in 1805, at the n. end of Washington. He deposed that, in hunting, he saw a considerable number of cabins and improvements, and on Wells' creek saw Dexter's camp, and also McClelland's. Wm. Bickley, Ignatius Mitchell, and Col. Alex. D. Orr, were in the county in 1784. In 1785, *Lee's*, *Strode's*, and *Waring's* stations were established. The Indians made no interruption this year, and the infant settlements grew rapidly. Emigration flowed in steadily for years to come, in spite of the Indian incursions—which were mainly devoted to horse-stealing, but with occasional loss of human life.

*Washington*, the oldest town in (then Bourbon—now) Mason county, and the county seat until 1847, was established as a town by act of the Virginia legislature in 1786—having been laid off, the year before, on "about 700 acres of land." Edmund Byne, Edward Waller, Henry Lee, Miles Withers Conway, Arthur Fox, Daniel Boone [who then lived at Maysville], Robert Rankin, John Gutridge, and Wm. Lamb, gentlemen, were made the first trustees; and each owner of a lot, so soon as he should build a dwelling-house 16 feet square, with a brick or stone chimney, was to have the privileges and immunities of freeholders and inhabitants of other towns, not incorporated. In 1790, by amended act, the boundaries of the town were described, and Alex. D. Orr, Thos. Sloo, and Richard Corwine made trustees in place of Daniel Boone and Edward Waller, who had removed from the county—the former to western Virginia and the latter to near Paris.

Simon Kenton deposed, May 11, 1821, when 66 years old—while lying in the debtor's prison at Washington (from which he refused to go, upon bail offered by friends, or upon their offer to pay the debt, he claiming the *debt was unjust* and he would not pay it)—that in 1780 he undertook to locate 3,000 acres of land-warrants for Edmund Byne, his pay to be one-half. In the division he got the 1,000 acres which he had located where the town of Washington now stands, and which he sold—as part of a very large sale of lands—to Rev. Wm. Wood (a Baptist preacher), and Arthur Fox, Sen., who laid out the town of Washington. The 700 acres were almost entirely covered with cane of luxuriant growth, from 6 to 15 feet high. As lots were sold and cabins or tenements erected, the cane was cleared away. For several years, what is now the Main street was simply a wagon road through the thick cauebrake, with narrow openings or paths leading to each cabin. The town grew quite rapidly; for the official U. S. census shows that in 1790 there were 462 inhabitants, of whom only 21 were slaves, 183 white females, 95 white males under 16, and 163 white males over 16 years. In 1800 it had

\* Depositions of Abner Overfield, Oct. 9, 1797, and March 14, 1805; of John Dowden, Rev. Wm. Wood, Elijah Berry, Geo. Berry, Jr., Wilson Maddox, Wm. Henry, Bethel Owens, and 17 others.



increased its total population to 570, in 1810 to 815; in 1860, it had fallen off to 645, and in 1870 to 240. On the 8th of January, 1790, Washington had 119 houses—according to the entry in the journal, at that date, of Judge Wm. Goforth, who was then a visitor there for four days, and who noted that as one of the remarkable facts in the new west. In 1805, a Philadelphia merchant who visited the place, described it as a thriving town, containing about 150 dwelling houses, 10 or 12 of which were of brick or stone. In 1797 there were 17 stores in Washington; among the merchants' names or firms—Morton & Thoms, Burgess & Green, Dr. Geo. W. Mackey (afterwards of Augusta), David Bell (afterwards of Danville, father of Hon. Joshua F. Bell).

Washington was celebrated for its schools, at an early day. Among the male teachers—Mann Butler (the Kentucky historian of 1834), David V. Rannels (editor of the *Union*, also) Rev. Lorin Andrews (afterwards missionary and judge, in the Sandwich Islands), James Grimsley Arnold (still living at the ripe age of 80, in Covington, Ky.), Reuben Case (also living, aged 78, in Kansas). Among the students of Mr. Arnold, were Albert Sidney Johnston (the celebrated Confederate general) and his brothers, Richard Henry Lee (at his death, editor of the Cincinnati *Commercial*), Thos. J. Pickett, and Dr. John Shackelford. The most celebrated female school in the west at the time was in Washington, 1807–12; that of Mrs. Louise Caroline Warburton Fitzherbert Kents, sister of Sir Geo. Fitzherbert, of St. James Square, London, and wife of Rev. Mr. Kents, a deaf and uninteresting old gentleman, relative of the great English poet, George Keats. Among her scholars were daughters of distinguished citizens, and who themselves became the wives of like distinguished men—daughters of John Breckinridge (late U. S. attorney general), Gov. Thos. Worthington, and Gen. Findlay, of Ohio, and the wives of Gen. Peter B. Porter, of N. Y. (U. S. secretary of war), Gov. Duncan McArthur, of Ohio, John J. Crittenden, of Ky., etc.

*The First Water Works* proposed in Mason county (none have ever been built) were at Washington—which place was, by act of the Kentucky legislature, Jan. 26, 1798, authorized to raise by lottery \$1,000 to introduce water into the town from the public spring; or, if impracticable, to spend the amount in sinking wells.

*The Second Town*, in now Mason (then Bourbon) county, established by law of the Virginia legislature—in 1787, five years before Kentucky became a state—was *Charlestown*, on 80 acres of land belonging to Ignatius Mitchell, on the Ohio river at the mouth of Lawrence creek. The lots contained half an acre each, and were ordered to be sold at auction, with the condition that a dwelling 16 feet square at least, with brick or stone chimney, and fit for habitation, should be erected within five years. This was another illustration of what had been proven a thousand times before Kentucky was settled, and was as beautifully illustrated in the cases of Warwick (in Mercer county), Milford and Boonesborough (in Madison county), Liberty (below mentioned), New Market (at the confluence of the Kentucky and Dick's rivers), Beallsborough (at the mouth of Beech fork, on Salt river, in Nelson county), and other places in the state—that a law "establishing" a town was not, of itself, enough to build up a town, and that some towns grew rapidly before they were "established," while legislation did not seem to help others in the least.

*The Third Town "Established"* by act of the Virginia legislature, only a few days after Charlestown, was *Maysville*—on 100 acres (modest quantity, compared with the 700 acres of her then more enterprising neighbor, Washington), "on the lower side of Limestone creek, in the county of Bourbon, the property of John May and Simon Canton" [Kenton]. Six trustees—Daniel Boone, his cousin Jacob Boone, Henry Lee, Arthur Fox, Thos. Brooks, and Geo. Mefford, gentlemen—were appointed to lay off the land into half acre lots, and sell them at public auction, subject to the like building condition as Charlestown above. Just previously, a law passed establishing at the same place "Limestone warehouse," for the reception and inspection of tobacco—the only one on the Ohio river except that established in 1783 at the falls of the Ohio (Louisville).

*Maysville*, overshadowed by Washington, was of slow growth. In 1789, Jedidiah Morse, the great American geographer, had not so much as heard of

it; and in 1796 was still innocent of any knowledge of it, although giving to her neighbor, Washington—as “the shire town of Mason county, having about 1,000 inhabitants and fast increasing”—nearly double her due. In 1795, the great English writer, W. Winterbotham (vol. iii, 129), speaks of “the mouth of Lime-stone creek as a fine harbor for boats coming down the Ohio, and now a common landing, with a large wagon-road to Lexington.” On Sunday, Feb. 26, 1797, another great English traveler, Francis Bailey, president of the Royal Astronomical society, spent four hours at Limestone, “the landing place to Kentucky; situated on the western side of the mouth of a creek, and at the bottom of a hill; it may contain from 30 to 40 houses, which we found to be chiefly log houses; the place when we came to it appeared to us very dirty, and presented a much more pleasing prospect on our approach from the water than when close to it; provisions of every kind were very dear, owing to the number of boats lately come down. There is a place about a mile above [*i. e.*, Rittersville, or Brooks’ landing], called the upper landing—where was a settlement formed prior to Limestone and meant for its site; here a number of boats stop to unload, owing to their being convenient warehouses and cranes; but it has greatly fallen to decay lately.” [Notwithstanding this appearance of decay, a few weeks after, Thos. Brooks advertised that he “would lay off a town, and, on May 8th, have the first sale of lots; a superior road could be had to the interior,” etc.]

Impressed with the importance of the neighborhood, Judge John Coburn in 1805 laid off a town, which he called *Madison*, on the front part of his farm, immediately above and adjoining East Maysville, on the Ohio river. He advertised it as an excellent situation, one mile above the mouth of Limestone; on an extensive bottom three miles long and three quarters of a mile wide; with a landing remarkably easy and convenient, and shielded from the current by a considerable eddy; a ferry over the Ohio already established; a firm and excellent road may be made, with little additional expense, to the interior; a ship of 300 tons is now on the stocks at the place, and several valuable factories will be fixed there in a short time; the vicinity of Limestone is at present the key to Kentucky and Ohio, etc. Lots were sold at very handsome prices, but were not improved; and fifty years after, being still a *farm*, the owner of the land, all unconscious that they were corner-stones, was digging up stones because in the way of the plough. Such is the fate of some towns!

By Joseph Scott’s Geographical Dictionary of the United States, 1805, it appears that Limestone then contained but few houses, but had arrived to the dignity of a post-town. In the same year, Oct. 16th, it was visited by Josiah Espy, a Philadelphia merchant, who described it as “a little town, but the greatest landing place on the river; it contains only about 50 dwelling-houses, and does not appear to be rapidly growing.” The celebrated French traveler, Dr. F. A. Michaux, visiting it the same year, says: “Limestone consists of not more than 30 or 40 houses, built of planks. This small town which has been begun upwards of fifteen years, ought to have acquired a large extent.” Finding it difficult to purchase a horse, except at an unreasonable price, he walked to Lexington in 2½ days, passing through Washington—which is “larger than Limestone; contains about 200 houses, all of planks, and built on both sides of the road; commerce is very brisk here, consisting principally of flour, which is exported to New Orleans. There are very beautiful plantations in its environs, the fields of which are as well cultivated and the fences as well kept as in Virginia and Pennsylvania. . . . Mays-Lick consisted of five or six houses, of which two are spacious well-built taverns, where the neighboring inhabitants meet.”

In 1806, says Morse’s American Gazetteer of date July, 1810, Maysville “contained 70 houses. Since the establishment of *Liberty*, one mile above, this place is on the decline.” [Liberty was the name actually given to the town laid off (see above) by Judge Coburn, instead of Madison, as at first intended.] In 1811, Sept. 9th, the English traveler, John Melish, on his sailing voyage down the Ohio, stopped at Maysville just long enough to take breakfast, and simply describes it, on first sight, as “quite a bustling place.” Its era of improvement had begun, though slowly. Its population, the year

before, was 335; in 1800, only 137. On Thursday, June 26, 1817, another English traveler,\* John Palmer, "arrived at Maysville (or Limestone), by 5 P. M.; and having near half our cargo to deliver, brought our boat into the creek. About an hour after we landed, a large boat (something like a river barge), of 100 tons, carrying two masts, and manned by 14 or 16 hands, arrived with West India produce from New Orleans, 1,730 miles below. She had been near three months ascending the river, the men having to pole up most part of the way; whereas boats descend the same distance in 20 or 25 days. The safe arrival of one of these barges being considered a fortunate circumstance, the owners were manifesting their joy by firing salutes of small cannon from each side of the river. The men who navigated this boat, from the action of the sun and air upon their features, looked swarthy as Indians. Being the day of their arrival, they were offering libations of their favorite whiskey, till a late hour. Indeed, most of the boatmen of the Ohio have adopted Dr. Aldrich's five reasons for drinking:

*Whiskey, a friend, or being dry,  
Or, lest we should be, by and by,  
Or, any other reason why.*

"Limestone is situated on a high bank, backed by high limestone land. It is laid out in several straight streets, and has the appearance of increase and business. The houses, perhaps 100 in number, are most of them brick; there are some good stores and taverns. The inhabitants are Virginian descendants."

*The First Churches and Organizations in Mason County.*—In 1871, was torn down, and a new one erected on its site, the old Baptist church in Washington, the first house of worship, built in northern Kentucky and one of the very first in the state. The church was constituted, and the building erected in 1785, upon ground given by Rev. Wm. Wood, their first preacher; who also gave the ground around it for a grave-yard, setting apart the northeast corner for strangers. When the location was made, the entire ground was densely covered by a canebrake, part of which was not entirely removed as late as 1840. The settlers in Washington and the neighboring stations labored jointly in erecting the church, each contributing his personal labor. In this building was held, in 1823, the celebrated debate between Elder Alexander Campbell, of the "Reformed Baptist," and Rev. Wm. L. McCalla, of the Presbyterian church. In the grave-yard, the oldest stone with an inscription is of undressed limestone; the lettering, rudely carved with a chisel and now almost illegible, is: "Heare lies the body of John Coulter, aged 50 years, deceased July 7th, 1789." An Indian chief, and several of his wives and warriors, are buried in this ground.

Upon a tombstone in the western part of Mason county is preserved the following record: "Sacred to the memory of Sarah Stevenson, who was born Oct. 7, 1756; united with the Methodist church, and embraced religion in 1768; lived the Gospel half a century; and died in peace, May 27, 1822." Beside her rests the body of her husband, Thomas Stevenson, who also died in peace. On the second *flat-boat* [the voyages previously had been by canoes] which left Fort Pitt, now Pittsburgh, this couple, shortly after their marriage, descended the Ohio river to the block-house at Limestone, now Maysville; thence going, in a few days, to Simon Kenton's station, three miles out. During their stay there, they entertained, in 1786, a Methodist preacher, Rev. Benj. Ogden. Mr. Stevenson, as soon as Indian hostilities ceased so as to make it safe, erected a cabin two and a half miles west of Washington, and there removed his family. In that cabin, in 1786, Rev. Mr. Ogden and his presiding elder, Rev. James Haw—the first regular itinerant Methodist preachers in the West—organized the *second* Methodist church in Kentucky, and the first north of the Kentucky river. What is still more singular, Mr. Stevenson and his wife had united, in 1768, in the state of Maryland, with the *second* society of Methodists organized in America—when that great denomination numbered less than two hundred members on this continent.

\* These extracts from *English* travelers are given, simply because they furnish a running sketch of the growth of the place. There are no American books of travel from which to obtain like information.

*Newspapers and Editors.*—The third newspaper in Kentucky and the first ever published in Mason county (see above, page 000, in reference to the type-setting or composition on the *Kentucks Gazette* in 1787), was *The Mirror*, in 1797, at Washington, by Hunter & Beaumont. Col. Wm. Hunter was a native of New Brunswick, New Jersey; captured, when quite young, by a French man-of-war, and with his parents taken to France; left an orphan in a foreign land, he learned the printing business; returned, in 1793, to Philadelphia, where he established a French and American paper, with which Matthew Carey (afterwards one of the most useful and remarkable men in the world) became associated; removed to Washington, Pennsylvania, in 1795, and established the *Telegraph*; to Washington, Ky., in 1797, and established the *Mirror*; to Frankfort, Ky., in 1798, and established the *Palladium*, and for ten consecutive years was elected state printer. He continued publishing at Frankfort until 1825, when, under the patronage of Amos Kendall, he went to Washington city, and was a clerk in the office of the 4th auditor of the U. S. treasury until his death, in Oct., 1854, aged 84 years.

The following list comprises all the newspapers ever published, regularly, for more than three months, in Mason county, so far as ascertained:

1797—Mirror.....	Hunter & Beaumont	1847—50—Herald.....	Jos. Sprigg Chambers
1803—Western Messenger.....		1847—51—Kentucky Flag.....	Samuel Pike
1806—Republican Auxiliary.....		1850—51—Post Boy....	{ John D. Taylor & Chas. D. Kirk
1808—14—Dove..	Joab H. & Rich'd Corwine	1852—Watchman.....	Samuel J. Hill
1814—24—Union.....	David V. Rannells	1856—62—Express.....	W. Wallace Pike
1814—73—Eagle.....	(See below)	1858—Ledger.....	Samuel J. Hill
1830—42—Monitor.....	Wm. Tanner	1842—Masonic Mirror....	{ Basil D. Crook- shanks
1838—Whig Advocate {	Geo. W. Nelson & Wm. H. McCardle	1862—73—Bulletin.....	Ross & Rosser
1840—Tippecanoe Banner...	Martin Smith	1867—73—Republican.....	Thos. A. Davis
1841—43—Temperance Banner.....		1871—73—Ohio River Traveler.	{ W. Wal- lace Pike
1843—Western Star.....	{ Crookshanks & Richeson		
1844—Henry Clay Bugle..	Collins & Brown		

The first five papers in this list were published at Washington; all the others at Maysville. The *Maysville Eagle*, counting from the first publication of *The Dove* at Washington, in 1808, is, and for 15 years (since the *Kentucky Gazette* was suspended) has been, of equal age with the oldest papers published in Kentucky. If it be contended that the change of name in 1814, from *Dove* to *Eagle*—although the type and publishers were the same precisely, removed together from Washington to Maysville, and changed the name without any *interregnum* or loss of time—destroyed the identity of the paper, then the *Eagle* must lose six years of its honored life, and fall behind the *Lexington Observer and Reporter* (which died in April, 1873, aged 65 years), and the *Paris Citizen*, which is still vigorous and useful at the same age. All three were started in the same year, 1808. The brothers Joab H. and Richard Corwine (the latter left his paper, to become a soldier in the war of 1812) published the *Dove* for six years at Washington, 1808—14; then removed to Maysville and continued its publication, first changing its name to *The Eagle*. In 1815 they sold it to Chalfant and Pickett, who published it for a year and then sold it to Mr. Grinstead. In 1817, its ownership passed to Aaron Crookshanks, and on the 1st of November, 1820, to its most permanent publisher and editor, Lewis Collins, with whom it remained constantly (except the short ownership of Richard Henry Leo, May, 1828—30) until Nov. 1, 1847. Henry B. Brown was associate editor and publisher, May 1, 1842, to May 1, 1845. Richard H. Collins purchased it, Nov. 1, 1847, and was the editor and publisher until March 1, 1850, and again from June 1, 1853, to March 1, 1857, and joint owner and editor one year longer, to March 1, 1858. Thos. B. Stevenson was the editor and publisher from March 1, 1850, to June 1, 1853, with James E. Byers associate publisher a year, from March 1, 1852. Thos. A. Curran, edited and published the *Eagle* from March 1, 1857, to 1860, except for a few months when it was edited and controlled by Wm. F. Trimble, now a judge in Oregon. At the latter date, Thos. M. Green purchased it, and has since been, and in 1873 is still, the editor and publisher, twice having an associate publisher for a short time. The first

'head' or title of "*The Eagle*" was cast shortly after the siege of Fort Meigs, in that fort, by a printer-soldier named Rogle, who presented it to his fellow-soldier, Richard Corwine, one of its publishers—so we were told, in 1872, by Elias P. Hudnut, another fellow-soldier from Maysville.

The *Monitor* was published by Wm. Tanner until about 1839, then by Richard H. Stanton for several years, and finally for a short time by Basil D. Crookshanks. Judge Stanton (member of congress, 1849-55, and now circuit judge of the Mason district, 1868-74) was its editor for about three-fourths of its existence. He has been, ever since, a frequent and at times a regular writer for the Democratic press at Maysville, of marked versatility and vigor, finding recreation in it from the graver labors of the bar and the bench.

Besides those already mentioned, Mason county has numbered among her citizens a long roll of editors and of writers for the press. Among those of greatest brilliancy and power were: Col. James C. Pickett, of the *Eagle* in 1816, and of the Washington city *Globe* about 1855-60 (see biographical sketch); John Bickley, of the Lexington *Kentucky Gazette*, 1814; Col. Wm. Henry McCardle, of the Maysville *Whig Advocate*, 1838, and of the Vicksburg *Whig* and New Orleans *Delta*, 1839-60; Wm. Musgrove, of the Lexington (Mo.) *Express*, 1845-55; Henry Waller, of the *Eagle*, 1838 (representative from Mason county in the Kentucky legislature, 1845 and 1846, and now a leading member of the Chicago bar); Elijah C. Phister, of the *Eagle*, in 1849 (see biographical sketch); Wm. P. Conwell, of the *Post Boy* in 1860, for the *Eagle* in 1853-54, and the Cincinnati *Daily Commercial* in 1855-56 (one of the very ablest writers and chancery-lawyers of his day, but, like many of Kentucky's most promising young men, the victim of an appetite which sapped his energy and usefulness); John D. Taylor, of the *Western Star*, 1843-44, *Post Boy*, 1850-51, and for several other papers (a delegate to the convention which formed the present constitution of Kentucky, 1849-50, and member of the state senate, 1851-53; died April 4, 1871, aged 67); Col. Thos. B. Stevenson, of the *Eagle*, 1850-53, and previously of the Franklin *Farmer*, Frankfort *Commonwealth*, Cincinnati *Atlas*, and Cincinnati *Chronicle*, and for several other papers (a speaker and writer of singular fluency, vigor, and power, was president of the Maysville and Big Sandy railroad company, 1852-54, and appointed by President Buchanan U. S. associate judge for the territory of New Mexico, March, 1858, but declined; died in 1863, aged 60); Richard Henry Lee, of the *Eagle*, 1828-30, and leading editor of the Cincinnati *Daily Commercial*, 1855-57, up to the time of his death (representative in Kentucky legislature, 1832, and for several years mayor of the city of Maysville); Henry B. Brown, of the *Eagle*, May, 1842-45 (afterward representative in the Ohio legislature from Cincinnati, and prosecuting attorney of that city); Walter N. Haldeman, of the Louisville *Dime*, *Morning Courier*, and *Courier-Journal* (the most enterprising and successful of all Kentucky publishers—see biographical sketch under Jefferson county); Chas. D. Kirk, of the *Post Boy*, reporter and war correspondent for the Louisville *Courier* and other papers, and editor of the Louisville *Daily Sun*, for several years, up to his sudden death on the street in that city, Feb., 1870; Jos. Sprigg Chambers, founder of the *Herald*, 1847-50; Thos. M. Green, of the Frankfort *Commonwealth*, 1857-60, and *Eagle*, 1860-73 (an able speaker and writer, elector for Seymour and Blair, 1868, and unsuccessful candidate for congress, 1866); Maj. Henry T. Stanton, of the *Express*, 1857-58, and *Bulletin*, 1868-70 (author of "The Moneyless Man," "Fallen," and other beautiful poems, published in one volume, at Baltimore, 1870); Dr. Thos. E. Pickett, for the *Eagle*, 1870, of the Evansville (Indiana) *Courier*, 1871, and Lexington *Observer and Reporter*, 1871-72.

But the list is too formidable to enumerate them so much in detail, or repeat any names already mentioned. Of ministers of the Gospel, former residents of Mason county, who have been editors, are—Rev. John T. Edgar, D.D., of the *American Presbyterian*, Nashville, 1842-48; Rev. Wm. L. Breckinridge, D.D., of the Louisville *Presbyterian Herald*, 1838-45; Bishop Hubbard H. Kavanaugh, of a Temperance paper at Maysville, 1841-43; Elder Jos. D. Pickett, of two papers, 1844; and Rev. Henry M. Souder, for the

*Eagle*, 1854. Of physicians, besides Dr. Pickett, Dr. Daniel Drake and Dr. Leonidas M. Lawson, of medical magazines, Dr. Richard G. Dobyns, for the *Eagle*, Dr. Wm. H. McGranaghan, of a Virginia paper, and Dr. Samuel L. Marshall, of the *Express*. Of lawyers, who have been writers for a campaign or editors for less than three years—Judge Geo. Collings, of the *Typetown Banner*, 1840; ex-Lieut. Gov. John F. Fisk, of the *Henry Clay Bugle*, 1844; Jas. P. Metcalfe, of the Frankfort *Yeoman*, 1850; John L. Scott, of the Washington (Ohio) *Era*, 1848-49; Sam. J. Rea, for several Maysville papers, and of the Philadelphia *Daily Times*, 1855-57; L. A. Welch, of the *Bulletin* and other papers, 1869-71. To these are to be added:—Amos and Samuel L. Corwine, of the Yazoo (Miss.) *Banner*, 1838-42, and Cincinnati *Chronicle*, 1842-49; Wm. Glenn, of the Flemingsburg *Messenger*, 1849-51, and Petersburg (Ill.) *Bugle*, 1852-56; Col. Thos. C. Hunt, of the Natchitoches (La.) *Chronicle*, 1843-56 (member of the Louisiana legislature); Robert McKee, of the *Express*, 1856, Louisville *Democrat*, 1856-60, and Selma (Ala.) *Times*; Wm. T. Tillinghast, of the *Express*, 1853, and the Cincinnati *Insurance Chronicle*, 1869-73; Capt. Lewis Gordon Jenkins, of the Ripley *Bee*, 1848-55; Col. Samuel J. Hill, of the *Express*, *Watchman*, *Daily Ledger*, and Carlisle *Ledger*, 1852-60; Wm. H. McKinnie, of a Flemingsburg paper, 1844, and Uniontown *Gazette*, 1869-73; Col. John B. Herndon, Frankfort correspondent of Louisville *Courier*, 1855, and corresponding editor of *Eagle*, 1858-59; Wm. H. Purnell, on Louisville *Journal* staff, 1857-59; Geo. Forrester, of *Express*, 1860-62; Alex. Cummins, of Uniontown *Gazette*, 1867-69; Jno. Scudder, of Carlisle *Mercury*, 1870-73; Clarence L. Stanton, of *Bulletin*, 1872-73; and Wm. D. Hixson, reporter or local for *Post Boy*, *Watchman*, *Ledger*, 1850-55, *Eagle*, 1855-56 (author of "History of Maysville and Mason County," to be published in fall of 1873).

Of all these, Col. Samuel Pike is the veteran; has been at once the busiest and most enterprising, and the least permanent; has seldom been out of the editorial harness since 1832, now 41 years, and has published scarcely less than 40 different papers—in the states of Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois, and last at Huntington, West Virginia; is a partisan writer of remarkable vigor, not much elegance, but a model of industry and labor. Wm. Tanner, editor in 1827 of the Harrodsburg *Central Watchtower*, of several other papers, of the Maysville *Monitor*, 1830-39, and Frankfort *Yeoman*, 1841-51, while a decided partisan editor, was a man of remarkable gentleness and quiet. His old friend Amos Kendall employed his versatile powers in connection with telegraph extension, which he found far more profitable and congenial than the harassments and hard knocks of editorial life.

*Harmar's Expedition*.—At the request of Brig. Gen. James Wilkinson, in letter of April 7, 1790, Brig. Gen. Josiah Harmar, on the 18th of that month, at the head of 100 regular troops and about 230 Kentucky volunteers under command of Gen. (afterwards governor) Charles Scott, marched from Limestone (Maysville), by a circuitous route, to the Scioto river, some miles above its mouth, then down to the Ohio—hoping to enclose and crush out a band of villainous Indians, who had been systematically and successfully harassing every passing emigrant boat, sometimes capturing or killing the entire crew. The attacking party was too large to move as secretly and rapidly as was necessary, and the savages escaped from the trap. Only four were discovered, pursued, and killed, and their *scalps* brought into Limestone, by a small detachment of the militia.\*

*Daniel Boone*, the great pioneer, was a resident of Maysville in Sept., 1788, as early as 1787, and probably in the summer of 1786. A deed, still partly legible, among the burnt records of Fayette county, shows that he and his wife were in (now West) Virginia, near the mouth of the Big Kanawha, on April 28, 1786. How late he remained at Maysville is not known. Depositions show that he was in northern Kentucky in 1795; and Rev. Thos. S. Hinde saw him, in Oct., 1797, on pack-horses, take up his journey for Missouri, then Upper Louisiana.† In 1782, he and Levi Davis, Robert Forbes, John Gray, and John Angus McDonald were together at May's Lick. In

\* Dillon's History of Indiana, pages 240-2. † American Pioneer, vol. i, page 227.

Oct. or Nov., 1782, he was at Limestone (Maysville), in company with Wm. Hoy, Flanders Callaway (his son-in-law), Wm. Cradlebaugh, Peter Harget, and others, and then examined the land around, and talked of settling there. That company went to Lawrence creek, and then to Bracken creek, where Boone showed them his name carved in 1776, on a tree near its banks. Simon Kenton was with Daniel Boone, Ignatius Mitchell, and Mr. Hunter, on Lawrence creek in 1776; and again in 1778, with Boone, Alex. Barnett and 16 others.\*

In Oct., 1780, immediately after Edward Boone (Daniel's brother) was killed by Indians on Grassy lick, in the N. E. part of Bourbon county, a party of 60 men from five stations, under Capt. Chas. Gatliffe, with James Ray, second in command, went in pursuit—among them Daniel Boone himself, his son Israel Boone, Jacob Stucker, Peter Sholl, Ismel Grant, James McIntire, and —. Strode, passed through the eastern portion of Mason county, until the advance traced the Indians across the Ohio river, just below the mouth of Cabin creek. They returned by way of Mayslick, and at the Lower Blue Licks scattered to their several stations.

*The First Surveying* in Mason county, in 1773, 1775, and 1776, did not require protection from the Indians, for they were not upon the war-path in those years. But in 1780 to 1784 they were more or less troublesome, and the surveying was done in a military manner. The hunters went in advance as spies; the surveyors, chain-carriers, and marker-men followed in line, while the man who cooked for the company, preceded by the pack-horse, brought up the rear, and acted as rear-guard. Every man carried his own baggage, and his arms—consisting of a rifle, tomahawk, and scalping-knife. They seldom carried provisions, their rifles generally affording them an abundant supply of game.

*Mayslick* has a history; but still more of it is unwritten than of Washington or Maysville. Gen. Levi Todd, of Lexington, deposed in 1804 that "from 1779 to that day, Mays' Lick has been a place of much note; it was for some years oftener called *May's Spring*, after the large spring between 50 and 100 yards from the town, near the road side. Robert McMillin deposed, Oct. 15, 1804, that "*Mays' Lick* or *May's Spring* was, in early day, one of the finest places on the north side of Licking, and as such much talked of; it lay on the buffalo road leading out from Limestone to the Lower Blue Licks and was much noted as a *camping* ground, and also noted as *being troubled with Indians*."

The first definite mention of Mayslick by name, so as certainly to identify the spot, is in a deposition of Col. Robert Patterson (one of the founders of Lexington), taken Oct. 19, 1818. He says that in Nov., 1775, he and David Perry, Wm. McConnell, and Stephen Lowry, on their way from Pennsylvania to Leestown, on the Kentucky river, one mile below Frankfort, entered Kentucky at the mouth of Salt Lick creek in now Lewis county, followed up that stream and its west fork, then across Cabin creek, to the Stone Lick where Orangeburg now is, thence to Mayslick where they struck the buffalo trace leading from Limestone to the Lower Blue Licks, etc. It is probable that Simon Kenton, Thos. Williams, John Smith, James Harrod, and other old hunters had previously been to *May's Spring*; but they do not mention it definitely in any depositions the author has seen, although they traveled from either the mouth of Cabin creek or Limestone to the Lower Blue Licks. They were certainly there, not long afterward; as were Daniel Boone and others in 1776, and the 30 men who went after the powder in Jan., 1777 (see description and names under Lewis county).

Just when it took the name of *May's Lick* or *Spring* is not known. John May, one of the original owners by patent of the land at Maysville (who was killed by Indians on a boat descending the Ohio, March 20, 1790,†) was the original owner. His agent and attorney, the celebrated Judge Harry Innes, of Frankfort, in the *Kentucky Gazette* of March 22, 1788, advertised "for sale,

\* Depositions of Levi Davis; Peter Harget, April 30, 1814, and Simon Kenton, Aug. 15, 1814.

† Charles Johnston's Narrative of his own Capture, p. 15. Also, this work, p. 570.

a tract of land containing 1,400 acres on the waters of the North Fork of Licking, lying on the road from Limestone to the Lower Blue Licks—being May's settlement and pre-emption, and includes May's Lick; I will warrant the title." The purchasers of this land were the first settlers of Mayslick, and gave it its name. They were three brothers, Abraham, Cornelius, and Isaac Drake (sons of Nathaniel Drake, of Plainfield, Essex county, New Jersey), David Morris, and John Shotwell, with their families. David Morris' wife was a sister of Shotwell, and Isaac Drake's wife and her grown sister, Miss Lydia, their cousins (daughters of Benj. Shotwell). Isaac Drake had two children, Daniel (afterwards the celebrated Dr. Daniel Drake) then 2½ years old, and Elizabeth, a babe in arms (afterwards Mrs. Glenn). They came together by boat, landing, June 10, 1788, at "The Point" (Maysville), which consisted of a few cabins only, where they remained a few days; thence to Washington, which was "something of a village of log cabins;" thence, in the fall, to their new purchase and future home. The Drakes built three cabins on the north side of the little brook which crossed the road, and the land was so divided that every subdivision had an angle or corner in the salt lick. Before winter the five cabins were finished, each one story high, with port-holes and a strong bar across the door, clapboard roof, puncheon floor, and a wooden chimney.\*

In the spring of 1790, a body of travelers, sitting around their camp-fire, a mile north of Mayslick, were fired upon by Indians, and one man killed. The presence of mind of a woman saved the party; with an axe, she broke open a chest in one of the wagons, got out the ammunition and distributed it to the men, calling on them to put out the camp-fires and fight. This they did with a will, excepting one young married man, who, in his fright, ran off to the village and left his wife behind him. The Indians soon retreated.†

In 1791, Miss Lydia Shotwell was married (the first marriage in Mayslick)—a number of friends from Washington and others coming to the wedding armed. During the wedding, an alarm was given—of an Indian attack on a wagon, 5 miles out on the road to Lexington. The armed men mounted their horses and galloped off rapidly to the scene. It proved to be a false alarm—the first wedding "sell" in Mason county, and rather serious to be appreciated.

*The First School in Mayslick* was taught by a Scotchman named McQuilty, in 1789 or 1790; who was succeeded by another Scotchman, named Wallace, in 1791–92; and he by a Baptist preacher, Rev. Hiram Miram Curry, in 1792–94. Dilworth's spelling-book, an old English production, was the first book in each.

Mayslick and neighborhood increased rapidly in population—the families of Lawson (father of Dr. Leonidas M. Lawson), Johnson, Waller, Dougherty, Threlkeld, Bassett, Mitchell, Glover, McLean (father of Justice John McLean, of the U. S. Supreme court), Desha (afterwards governor), Dye, Hixson, Caldwell, and others, moving in. The Shotwells, Shreves, and other old and influential families of Louisville, emigrated there from Mayslick. As the first settlers were all Baptists, the first church was built by that denomination, but their first place of worship was Deacon David Morris' barn.

*The First Merchant* of Mayslick was Cornelius Drake, who also had the first still-house in that region. The first tavern-keepers were two others of the first five settlers—David Morris and John Shotwell.

*The First Teacher* at Washington whose name has been preserved, was John Winn, in 1792–93.

*Edmund Phillips*, in Feb., 1785, came to Maysville, where and at Waring's station he lived, that summer.‡ He brought out to Kentucky his father, Moses Phillips, with his wife (a daughter of Francis McDermid), their sons, John, Gabriel, and Moses, and sons-in-law, Peter and Wm. Byram, and Clement Theobalds, their wives, and a family of negroes; after living awhile at Bryan's station, they settled at Lee's station. In the summer of 1787, the three brothers, with three of the negroes, engaged at work in the field, were fired upon by Indians, concealed in the tall corn; Moses was killed, John

\* Letters of Dr. Daniel Drake to his Children, pp. 3–15.

† Same, page 23.

‡ Deposition, Aug., 1820.



badly wounded, and the negroes captured. In a few hours, a party of whites pursued them across the Ohio at Logan's gap, 6 miles below Maysville, and came up with the young negro man Bob, weltering in his blood—tomahawked because of his resistance. Further pursuit was fruitless. Some years after, the other negroes, Isaac and Sarah, were recovered from captivity.

*The Last Survivor of the First Settlement* of Mason county was Mrs. Elizabeth Ellis, widow of Esq. James Ellis, of Washington, who died of cholera, June 6, 1833. She was the daughter of Abner Overfield, born March 30, 1784, in Northampton co., Pa., and brought to Simon Kenton's station in Nov., 1784, when 7 months old.\* After living there 1½ years, her father removed his family to John Kenton's station, two miles distant, and lived there over a year; then, in the spring of 1787, built a large-sized log-house, with a loft, with heavy shutter to the only window, of 6 lights of 6x8 inch glass, on the Best farm about 1 mile west, where some of his descendants still live. His was the *second family* which settled in Mason county. A few years later he built a stone house, which was torn down in 1870 by Robert Downing, who (in 1873) owns the land; it was probably the first stone dwelling built north of the Licking river. A few weeks before her death (Oct. 3, 1871, aged 87), Mrs. Ellis described John Kenton's station to the artist who sketched it as given, on page 555.

*The First Settler* with his family near Maysville and outside of the block-house, was George Mefford, in a cabin on the farm where his son John lived until his death, April 11, 1872, 2 miles due s. of Maysville. One night, when he was absent, an attempt was made by Indians to steal his horses. An old horse that had a distaste for Indians and whose scent of them was wonderfully acute, gave the alarm by loud snorting—which Mrs. Mefford, who was alone with her small children, instantly understood. She had the presence of mind to build a roaring fire, which, shining through the crevices of the cabin, convinced the Indians that the house was full of men, and they scampered off immediately for fear of discovery and pursuit. The Indians continued so troublesome that they moved back to Maysville awhile; then, with several other families, went out and built Mefford's station.

*Lot Masters and Hezekiah Wood*, one Sunday morning about 1790, went out from Mefford's station, to catch the horses to ride to church. The horses had been belled, and turned out to graze on the cane. The Indians caught them, removed the bells—by ringing which, they decoyed the men away from the station, intercepted, killed, and scalped them. Being in warm weather, their bodies were found by the vultures circling about them, and buried on the spot—Wood on Lawrence creek, opposite where Young's old mill stands (1 mile w. of the Lexington turnpike), and Masters a quarter of a mile below, up a small ravine. Masters' grave is still marked by a stone, but Wood's was washed into the creek, many years ago.

*The First Teacher* in Maysville was Israel Donalson, who, when 23 years old, reached Limestone on the evening of the 1st of June, 1790, on an emigrant boat—one of a fleet of 19, of which Maj. Parker, of Lexington, was admiral and pilot. The arrivals filled the public house to such an extent, that some of the new comers "could not get either food, fire, or bed, or any other nourishment but *whiskey!*" "A number of men spent the night sitting in the room, which was a grand one for those days." During the summer of 1790, and probably during the ensuing winter, Mr. Donalson taught school in Maysville.† In the spring of 1791, he removed to Massie's fort or block-house, 12 miles above Limestone, where Manchester, Ohio, now stands. When out surveying, a few miles above there, he was captured by Indians, in May, 1791, adopted by them, and dressed in their uniform—bare-headed, his hair cut close, except the scalp and foretop, which they had put up in a piece of tin, with a bunch of turkey feathers which he could not undo; they had also stripped off the feathers of two turkeys, and hung them to the hair of the scalp. He made his escape, barefoot, and reached Cincinnati, exhausted and foot-sore. When he arrived at Limestone, two months after his capture, he

\* Depositions of Abner Overfield, Oct. 9, 1797, and March 14, 1805.

† American Pioneer, i, 426.

had a hearty greeting from every man, woman, and child, and especially from his late scholars. He settled at Manchester, and died there in 1860, aged 93—having lived an honored and useful life; he was one of the first common pleas judges, held many public offices, and was a member of the convention which formed the first constitution of Ohio in 1802—and the *last survivor of that body!*

*The First Frame House* in Maysville was built by Charles Gallagher, on the s. e. corner of Market and Front streets (where Dr. Wm. R. Wood's drug store was for forty years). He also kept the first store in Maysville.

*The First Brick House* built in Mason county was by Simon Kenton, near his old station, and still stands—being part of the residence now owned by Dr. Alex. K. Marshall, and for many years owned by Thos. Wood Forman. The second was the large 2½ story on w. side of Main st., Washington, owned and occupied for many years by David V. Rannels, and taken down about 1852. The next three—and there is some doubt which was prior in time—were: 1. The elegant mansion of Capt. Thos. Marshall, in Washington, now residence of his son-in-law, Martin P. Marshall; 2. The residence of Col. A. D. Orr, in Charlestown bottom, which was afterwards the residence of Judge Wm. McClung, and since of John A. Keith—burnt down about 1854, but rebuilt upon the same substantial walls; and 3. The store-house and residence of John Armstrong on Front street, in Maysville, burnt down several years afterward, but rebuilt—the same occupied as Lee & Rees' store, 1835–45, and as the *Eagle* office, 1850–54. These are the oldest brick houses north of Lexington, and all built about 1793–96.

*The First Ferry at Maysville*, authorized by law of the Mason county court, was in 1794, to Benjamin Sutton, the owner of two lots on the north or outside of the present Front or Water street, just above the foot of the street named after him; it was re-granted in 1801. The same court granted a ferry in 1797 to Edmund Martin (which was still operated in 1803 and later); another, in 1808, to Jacob Boone; another, in 1818, to J. K. Ficklin, and another, in 1823, to Benj. Bayless (the last two were discontinued about 1826). Sutton sold his lots and ferry to Armstrong. Power and Campbell, who attended to the ferries granted to Boone and Martin, lived in Aberdeen, Ohio. In 1829, the court of appeals decided that the town of Maysville owned the river front, and was entitled to the ferry right.\* Edmund Martin, before 1797, purchased of John May's estate all unsold lots in Maysville, and the balance of land in May's 800 acre patent, and held the ferry until 1829.

*The First White Children* born in Mason county, were:

1. Col. Joseph Logan, son of John Logan, in McKinley's Block-house.....Sept. 27, 1785
2. Mrs. Ezekiel Forman, *nee* Dolly Wood, in Washington.....Dec. 14, 1788
3. John Mefford, son of Geo. Mefford, in Maysville.....Dec. 4, 1787
4. Mrs. Joseph Morris, *nee* Mary Overfield, in Kenton's station.....Sept. 6, 1788
5. Mrs. Emily (Milly) Hancock, daughter of Jacob Boone, in Maysville.....Dec. 6, 1788
6. Isaac Thomas, born in Mefford's station.....Nov. 8, 1789

Between these latter four, several were born whose ages the author has not ascertained. Isaac Thomas is still living (July, 1873), nearly 84 years old, and his wife nearly 85 years old. On May 25, 1873, they celebrated the 64th anniversary of their wedding-day. Samuel Mefford, son of Geo. Mefford, was born May 21, 1785, but probably not in Mason county.

*Henry Clay on the Violin.*—It is well known that a number of the most prominent and popular of the public men of Kentucky, in the early part of this century and up to 1840—among them Gov. Robert P. Letcher, Gov. John Pope, and others—owed not a little of their great personal popularity to the fact that they were skillful players on the fiddle, and seldom refused the call of the assembled crowd, on any occasion when they were candidates for any designated popular tune. Just as "a little nonsense, now and then, is relished by the best of men;" so good instrumental music, especially that of the fiddle, comes home to the heart of the common people, and is listened to with strange eagerness and fascination. Jacob Gault, of Bainbridge, Ross county, Ohio, an emigrant from Virginia to Ohio in 1790, and a soldier of the war of 1812, had the pride and the pleasure

\* Trustees of Maysville vs. Boone's Heirs, 2 J. J. Marshall, 224.

(for it was both to him) to drive "the carriage that conveyed Henry Clay from Bainbridge, through Maysville, to his home at Ashland, near Lexington, Ky.—when the great statesman and patriot was on his return from the Treaty of Ghent, in Sept., 1815. Mr. Clay's wife and daughter, and a gentleman named Brown, were in the carriage with them. Mr. Gault says Mr. Clay was a fine violin player, and they had quite a pleasant trip."

*The Last Indian IncurSION into Kentucky, McDonald describes thus:*

"In the course of this summer (1793), the spies who had been down the Ohio, below Limestone, discovered where a party of about twenty Indians had crossed the Ohio, and sunk their canoes in the mouth of Holt's creek. The sinking of their canoes, and concealing them, was evidence of the intention of the Indians to re-cross the Ohio at the same place. When Kenton received this intelligence, he dispatched a messenger to Bourbon county, to apprise them that the Indians had crossed the Ohio, and had taken that direction; whilst he forthwith collected a small party of choice spirits, whom he could depend upon in cases of emergency. Among them was Cornelius Washburn, who had the cunning of a fox, for ambuscading, and the daring of a lion for encountering. With this party, Kenton crossed the Ohio, at Limestone, and proceeded down to opposite the mouth of Holt's creek, where the Indian canoes lay concealed. Here his party lay concealed four days, before they saw or heard anything of the Indians. On the fourth day of their ambuscade, they observed three Indians come down the bank, and drive six horses into the river. The horses swam over. The Indians then raised one of their canoes they had sunk, and crossed over. When the Indians came near the shore, Kenton discovered, that of the three men in the canoe, one was a white man. As he thought the white man was probably a prisoner, he ordered his men to fire alone at the Indians, and save the white man. His men fired; the two Indians fell. The headway which the canoe had, ran it upon the shore; the white man in the canoe picked up his gun, and as Kenton ran down to the water's edge, to receive the man, he snapped his gun at the whites. Kenton then ordered his men to kill him. He was immediately shot. About three or four hours afterwards, on the same day, two more Indians, and another white man, came to the river, and drove in five horses. The horses swam over; and the Indians raised another of their sunk canoes, and followed the horses across the Ohio. As soon as the canoe touched the shore with the Indians, Kenton's party fired upon them and killed them all. The white man, who was with this party of Indians, had his ears cut, his nose bored, and all the marks which distinguish the Indians. Kenton and his men still kept up the ambuscade, knowing there were still more Indians, and one canoe behind. Some time in the night, the main body of the Indians came to the place where their canoes were sunk, and hooted like owls; but not receiving any answer, they began to think all was not right. The Indians were as vigilant as weasels. The two parties who had been killed, the main body expected to find encamped on the other side of the Ohio; and as no answer was given to their hooting, which was doubtless agreed upon as a countersign, one of the Indians must have swum the river to reconnoitre, and discover what had become of their friends. The Indian who swam the river, must have discovered the ambuscade. He went upon a high hill, or knob, which was immediately in Kenton's rear, and gave three long and loud yells; after which he informed his friends that they must immediately make their escape, as there was a party of whites waylaying them. Kenton had several men who understood the Indian language. Not many minutes after the Indian on the hill had warned his companions of their danger, the Bourbon militia came up. It being dark, the Indians broke and run, leaving about thirty horses, which they had stolen from about Bourbon. The next morning, some attempts were made to pursue the Indians; but they had scattered and straggled off in such small parties, that the pursuit was abandoned, and Kenton and his party returned home, without the affair making any more noise or eclat than would have taken place on the return of a party from a common hunting tour. Although Kenton and his party did not succeed as well as they could wish, or their friends expected, yet the Indians were completely foiled and defeated in their object; six of them were killed, and all the horses they had stolen were retaken, and the remainder of the Indians scattered, to return home in small squads. This was the last inroad the Indians made in Kentucky; from henceforward they lived free from all alarms."

The early settlement of Mason county was, like that of many other sections of the state, attended with great hardship, danger and suffering; and being a border county, and one through which the daring and bloody incursions of the Indians of the north were made, the adventurous pioneers who settled it were necessarily exposed to constant and peculiar hazards. And it is to be regretted that so few authentic accounts of the romantic and thrilling adventures of those hardy heroes of the west have been preserved to us by legend or tradition.

As early as 1785, many families came down the Ohio river in boats, landed at Maysville, and continued their route to such parts of the country as pleased them. Among them, Colonel Thomas Marshall, formerly commander of the third Virginia regiment on continental establishment, subsequently colonel of the regiment of Virginia artillery, embarked with a numerous family on board a flat boat, and descended the Ohio without any incident of note until he passed the mouth of the Kenawha. Here about ten o'clock at night, he was hailed from the northern shore by a man who announced himself as James Girty, the brother of the notorious Simon Girty. The boat dropped slowly down within one hundred and fifty yards of the shore, and Girty making a corresponding movement on the beach, the conference was kept up for several minutes. He began by mentioning his name, and enquiring that of the master of the boat.

Having been satisfied upon this head, he assured him that he knew him well, respected him highly, &c., &c., and concluded with some rather extraordinary remarks: "He had been posted there," he said, "by the order of his brother Simon, to warn all boats of the danger of permitting themselves to be decoyed

ashore. The Indians had become jealous of him, and he had lost that influence which he formerly held amongst them. He deeply regretted the injury which he had inflicted upon his countrymen, and wished to be restored to their society. In order to convince them of the sincerity of his regard, he had directed him to ware all boats of the snares spread for them. Every effort would be made to draw passengers ashore. White men would appear upon the bank; and children would be heard to supplicate for mercy. But," continued he, "do you keep the middle of the river, and steel your heart against every mournful application you may receive." The colonel thanked him for his intelligence, and continued his course. He arrived safely at Maysville, and settled in that part of the then county of Fayette which afterwards became the county of Mason. Colonel Marshall was a gentleman of high standing in Virginia. He had been a member of the general assembly in 1774, and was one of the band of patriots, who with Washington and Henry, resolved to resist the assumptions of the British government at the hazard of all that was dear to men. He attached himself in 1775 to the army, and in the capacity of major was conspicuous for his gallantry in the battle of the Great Bridge on the 9th of December, 1775. He also distinguished himself as colonel in the battles of Brandywine and Germantown.

About the same time, Captain JAMES WARD, lately a highly respectable citizen of Mason county, Kentucky, was descending the Ohio, under circumstances which rendered a rencounter with the Indians peculiarly to be dreaded. He, together with half a dozen others, one of them his nephew, embarked in a crazy boat, about forty-five feet long and eight feet wide, with no other bulwark than a single pine plank, above each gunnel. The boat was much encumbered with baggage, and seven horses were on board. Having seen no enemy for several days, they had become secure and careless, and permitted the boat to drift within fifty yards of the Ohio shore. Suddenly, several hundred Indians showed themselves on the bank, and running down boldly to the water's edge, opened a heavy fire upon the boat. The astonishment of the crew may be conceived.

Captain Ward and his nephew were at the oars when the enemy appeared, and the captain knowing that their safety depended on their ability to regain the middle of the river, kept his seat firmly, and exerted his utmost powers at the oar, but his nephew started up at sight of the enemy, seized his rifle, and was in the act of leveling it, when he received a ball in the breast, and fell dead in the bottom of the boat. Unfortunately, his oar fell into the river, and the captain, having no one to pull against him, rather urged the boat nearer to the hostile shore than otherwise. He seized a plank, however, and giving his own oar to another of the crew, he took the station which his nephew had held, and unhurt by the shower of bullets that flew around him, continued to exert himself, until the boat had reached a more respectable distance. He then, for the first time, looked around him in order to observe the condition of the crew.

His nephew lay in his blood, perfectly lifeless; the horses had been all killed or mortally wounded. Some had fallen overboard; others were struggling violently, and causing their frail bark to dip water so abundantly, as to excite the most serious apprehensions. But the crew presented the most singular spectacle. A captain, who had served with reputation in the continental army, seemed now totally bereft of his faculties. He lay upon his back in the bottom of the boat, with hands uplifted and a countenance in which terror was personified, exclaiming in a tone of despair, "Oh Lord! Oh Lord!" A Dutchman, whose weight might amount to about three hundred pounds, was anxiously engaged in endeavoring to find shelter for his bulky person, which, from the lowness of the gunnels, was a very difficult undertaking. In spite of his utmost efforts, a portion of his posterial luxuriance appeared above the gunnel, and afforded a mark to the enemy, which brought a constant shower of balls around it.

In vain he shifted his position. The hump still appeared, and the balls still flew around it, until the Dutchman, losing all patience, raised his head above the gunnel, and in a tone of querulous remonstrance, called out, "oh now! quit tat tammed nonsense, tere, will you!" Not a shot was fired from the boat. At one time, after they had partly regained the current, Captain Ward attempted to bring his rifle to bear upon them, but so violent was the agitation of the boat, from the furious struggles of the horses, that he could not steady his piece within

twenty yards of the enemy, and quickly laying it aside, returned to the oar. The Indians followed them down the river for more than an hour, but having no canoes, they did not attempt to board; and as the boat was at length transferred to the opposite side of the river, they at length abandoned the pursuit and disappeared. None of the crew, save the young man already mentioned, were hurt, although the Dutchman's seat of honor served as a target for the space of an hour, and the continental captain was deeply mortified at the sudden, and, as he said, "unaccountable" panic which had seized him. Captain Ward himself was protected by a post, which had been fastened to the gunnel, and behind which he sat while rowing.

In the early part of 1790, JOHN MAY, from whom the city of Maysville derived its name, and who had frequently before visited Kentucky, embarked at Kelly's station, on the Kanawha river, for Maysville, in company with his clerk, Mr. Charles Johnston, and Mr. Jacob Skiles, also a gentleman of Virginia, who had with him a stock of dry goods for Lexington. They arrived without accident at Point Pleasant, where they were joined by a man named Flinn, and two sisters named Fleming, natives of Pittsburg. After leaving Point Pleasant, when near the mouth of the Scioto, they were awakened at daylight on the morning of the 20th of March, by Flinn, whose turn it was to watch, and informed that danger was at hand. All instantly sprung to their feet, and hastened upon deck without removing their night caps or completing their dress. The cause of Flinn's alarm was quickly evident. Far down the river a smoke was seen, ascending in thick wreaths above the trees, and floating in thinner masses over the bed of the river. All instantly perceived that it could only proceed from a large fire; and who was there to kindle a fire in the wilderness which surrounded them? No one doubted that Indians were in front, and the only question to be decided was, upon which shore they lay, for the winding of the river, and their distance from the smoke, rendered it impossible at first to ascertain this point. As the boat drifted on, however, it became evident that the fire was upon the Ohio shore, and it was instantly determined to put over to the opposite side of the river. Before this could be done, however, two white men ran down upon the beach, and clasping their hands in the most earnest manner, implored the crew to take them on board.

They declared that they had been taken by a party of Indians in Kennedy's bottom, a few days before; had been conducted across the Ohio, and had just effected their escape. They added, that the enemy was in close pursuit of them, and that their death was certain, unless admitted on board. Resolute in their purpose, on no account to leave the middle of the stream, and strongly suspecting the supplicants of treachery, the party paid no attention to their entreaties, but steadily pursued their course down the river, and were soon considerably ahead of them. The two white men ran down the bank, in a line parallel with the course of the boat, and their entreaties were changed into the most piercing cries and lamentations upon perceiving the obstinacy with which their request was disregarded. Instantly the obduracy of the crew began to relax. Flinn and the two females, accustomed from their youth to undervalue danger from the Indians, earnestly insisted upon going ashore and relieving the white men, and even the incredulity of May began to yield to the persevering importunity of the supplicants. A parley took place. May called to them from the deck of the boat, where he stood in his nightcap and drawers, and demanded the cause of the large fire, the smoke of which had caused so much alarm. The white men positively denied that there was any fire near them. This falsehood was so palpable, that May's former suspicions returned with additional force, and he positively insisted upon continuing their course without paying the slightest attention to the request of the men. This resolution was firmly seconded by Johnston and Skiles, and as vehemently opposed by Flinn and the Miss Flemings, for, contrary to all established rules of policy, the females were allowed an equal vote with the males on board of the boat.

Flinn urged that the men gave every evidence of real distress which could be required, and recounted too many particular circumstances attending their capture and escape, to give color to the suspicion that their story was invented for the occasion, and added, that it would be a burning shame to them and theirs forever,

if they should permit two countrymen to fall a sacrifice to the savages, when so slight a risk on their part would suffice to relieve them. He acknowledged that they had lied in relation to the fire, but declared himself satisfied that it was only because they were fearful of acknowledging the truth, lest the crew should suspect that Indians were concealed in the vicinity. The controversy became warm, and, during its progress, the boat drifted so far below the men, that they appeared to relinquish their pursuit in despair.

At this time, Flinn made a second proposal, which, according to his method of reasoning, could be carried into effect, without the slightest risk to any one but himself. They were now more than a mile below the pursuers. He proposed that May should only touch the hostile shore long enough to permit him to jump out. That it was impossible for Indians (even admitting that they were at hand) to arrive in time to arrest the boat, and even should any appear, they could immediately put off from shore and abandon him to his fate. That he was confident of being able to outrun the red devils, if they saw him first, and was equally confident of being able to see them as soon as they could see him. May remonstrated upon so unnecessary an exposure; but Flinn was inflexible, and in an evil hour the boat was directed to the shore.

They quickly discovered, what ought to have been known before, that they could not float as swiftly after leaving the current as while borne along by it, and they were nearly double the time in making the shore, that they had calculated upon. When within reach, Flinn leaped fearlessly upon the hostile bank, and the boat grated upon the sand. At that moment, five or six savages ran up out of breath, from the adjoining wood, and instantly seizing Flinn, began to fire upon the boat's crew. Johnston and Skiles sprang to their arms, in order to return the fire, while May, seizing an oar, attempted to regain the current. Fresh Indians arrived, however, in such rapid succession, that the beach was quickly crowded by them, and May called out to his companions to cease firing and come to the oars. This was instantly done, but it was too late.

Seeing it impossible to extricate themselves, they all lay down upon their faces, in such parts of the boat as would best protect them from the horses, and awaited, in passive helplessness, the approach of the conquerors. The enemy, however, still declined boarding, and contented themselves with pouring in an incessant fire, by which all the horses were killed, and which at length began to grow fatal to the crew. One of the females received a ball in her mouth, which had passed immediately over Johnston's head, and almost instantly expired. Skiles, immediately afterwards, was severely wounded in both shoulders, the ball striking the right shoulder blade, and ranging transversely along his back. The fire seemed to grow hotter every moment, when, at length May arose and waved his night-cap above his head as a signal of surrender. He instantly received a ball in the middle of the forehead, and fell perfectly dead by the side of Johnston, covering him with his blood.

Now, at last, the enemy ventured to board. Throwing themselves into the water, with their tomahawks in their hands, a dozen or twenty swam to the boat, and began to climb the sides. Johnston stood ready to do the honors of the boat, and presenting his hand to each Indian in succession, he helped them over the side to the number of twenty. Nothing could appear more cordial than the meeting. Each Indian shook him by the hand, with the usual salutation of "how de do," in passable English, while Johnston encountered every visitor with an affectionate squeeze, and a forced smile, in which terror struggled with civility. The Indians then passed on to Skiles and the surviving Miss Fleming, where the demonstrations of mutual joy were not quite so lively. Skiles was writhing under a painful wound, and the girl was sitting by the dead body of her sister.

Having shaken hands with all of their captives, the Indians proceeded to scalp the dead, which was done with great coolness, and the reeking scalps were stretched and prepared upon hoops for the usual process of drying, immediately before the eyes of the survivors. The boat was then drawn ashore, and its contents examined with great greediness. Poor Skiles, in addition to the pain of his wounds, was compelled to witness the total destruction of his property, by the hands of these greedy spoilers, who tossed his silks, cambric, and broadcloth into the dirt with the most reckless indifference. At length they stumbled upon a keg of whisky. The prize was eagerly seized, and every thing else abandoned.

The Indian who had found it, instantly carried it ashore, and was followed by the rest with tumultuous delight. A large fire nearly fifty feet long was quickly kindled, and victors and vanquished indiscriminately huddled around it.

On the next morning the Indians arose early and prepared for another encounter, expecting as usual that boats would be passing. It happened that Captain THOMAS MARSHALL, of the Virginia artillery, afterwards a citizen of Mason, and son of Colonel Marshall, in company with several other gentlemen, was descending the Ohio, having embarked only one day later than May. About twelve o'clock on the second day after May's disaster, the little flotilla appeared about a mile above the point where the Indians stood. Instantly all was bustle and activity. The additional oars were fixed to the boat, the savages instantly sprung on board, and the prisoners were compelled to station themselves at the oars, and were threatened with instant death unless they used their utmost exertions to bring them along side of the enemy. The three boats came down very rapidly, and were soon immediately opposite their enemy's. The Indians opened a heavy fire upon them, and stimulated their rowers to their utmost efforts.

The boats became quickly aware of their danger, and a warm contest of skill and strength took place. There was an interval of one hundred yards between each of the three boats in view. The hindmost was for a time in great danger. Having but one pair of oars, and being weakly manned, she was unable to compete with the Indian boat, which greatly outnumbered her both in oars and men. The Indians soon came within rifle shot, and swept the deck with an incessant fire, which rendered it extremely dangerous for any of the crew to show themselves. Captain Marshall was on board of the hindmost boat, and maintained his position at the steering oar in defiance of the shower of balls which flew around him. He stood in his shirt sleeves with a red silk handkerchief bound around his head, which afforded a fair mark to the enemy, and steered the boat with equal steadiness and skill, while the crew below relieved each other at the oars.

The enemy lost ground from two circumstances. In their eagerness to overtake the whites, they left the current, and attempted to cut across the river from point to point, in order to shorten the distance. In doing so, however, they lost the force of the current, and soon found themselves dropping astern. In addition to this, the whites conducted themselves with equal coolness and dexterity. The second boat waited for the hindmost, and received her crew on board, abandoning the goods and horses, without scruple, to the enemy. Being now more strongly manned, she shot rapidly ahead, and quickly overtook the foremost boat, which, in like manner, received the crew on board, abandoning the cargo as before, and having six pair of oars, and being powerfully manned, she was soon beyond the reach of the enemy's shot. The chase lasted more than an hour. For the first half hour, the fate of the foremost boat hung in mournful suspense, and Johnston, with agony, looked forward to the probability of its capture. The prisoners were compelled to labor hard at the oars, but they took care never to pull together, and by every means in their power endeavored to favor the escape of their friends.

At length the Indians abandoned the pursuit, and turned their whole attention to the boats which had been deserted. The booty surpassed their most sanguine expectations. Several fine horses were on board, and flour, sugar, and chocolate in profusion. Another keg of whisky was found, and excited the same immoderate joy as at first.

Flinn was subsequently burnt by his fiendish captors at the stake, with all the aggravated tortures that savage cruelty could devise. Skiles, after running the gauntlet, and having been condemned to death, made his escape and reached the white settlements in safety. The remaining Miss Fleming was rescued by an Indian chief, at the very time when her captors had bound her to a stake and were making preparations to burn her alive, and conducted safely to Pittsburg. Johnston was ransomed by a Frenchman at Sandusky, at the price of six hundred silver brooches, and returned in safety to his family.

In April, 1791, Colonel TIMOTHY DOWNING, a citizen of Mason county, returning from Lexington, where he had been on a trading expedition with two horses, riding one and leading the other, which was laden with cotton goods, was captured near the Blue Licks by a party of Shawanee Indians. They crossed with him into Ohio at Logan's Gap, where he was given in charge to two of the party,

an old Indian and his son. After two day's traveling, the Indians with Downing encamped for the night. He had been treated very kindly by them during their march, and before supper the old Indian came up to him—"tie to-night, after to-night, no more tie;" Downing replied—"no tie 'till after supper." This was assented to. The old Indian then directed him to hand a drink of water; and Downing, whilst getting the water, picked up a tomahawk, which he concealed. It had been raining during the day, and the young Indian was busy before the fire, drying a shirt, which had been taken from Downing; and whilst the old Indian, not suspecting any thing, was drinking the water he had handed him, Downing cleft his skull with the tomahawk and pitched him into the fire. It was necessary to kill the old Indian; but as they had been kind to him, he did not wish to hurt the young Indian. His object was to take him prisoner. But the instant he struck his father, the young Indian sprung upon his back with the most horrible yells, and confined him so that it was difficult to extricate himself from his grasp. It was not more than four or five miles to the main camp, and as soon as Downing was released from his struggles, he made for his horses, and the young Indian, who was badly wounded in the encounter, for the camp. He caught one of his horses and mounted him, and struck off into the woods, hoping that the other horse would follow. But the night was very dark, and he never saw any thing of his second horse. He was a bad woodsman, and before he got far from the scene of his exploits, he heard the eager yells of Indians in hot pursuit of him. But the darkness of the night favored his escape, and he succeeded in eluding his pursuers. A day or two afterwards Kenton, at the head of a party in pursuit of the Indians, came upon the camp whence Downing had escaped, discovered the old Indian, who had been buried with twenty-five yards of the cloth wrapped around him, and found also Downing's shirt, with blood on it. No Indians were to be seen, and the party returned. Kenton took the shirt to Mrs. Downing, who recognized it at once as her husband's, whom she concluded to have been murdered by the Indians. Downing, in the meantime, after traveling all night after his escape, found himself on a creek, which he followed to its junction with the Scioto river, and finally struck the Ohio below the mouth of the Scioto, just as a flat boat was passing down. He immediately hailed it, but the boat very prudently made for the Kentucky shore, evidently suspecting an Indian decoy. He followed it two miles before he could prevail on the owners of it to send a boat to his relief. He finally succeeded; a man came in a canoe, with his rifle, and told him as he approached that if he saw an Indian, he would shoot him (Downing) dead in his tracks. He was taken on board, landed at Maysville, and rejoiced his family, who were mourning him as dead, by his sudden return. He resided then where Mr. Robert Downing, of Mason county, now lives, and after reaching an advanced age, died about 1831.

In the month of April, 1792, a number of horses belonging to Captain Luther Calvin of Mason county, were stolen by the Indians; and, as usual, a strong party volunteered to go in pursuit of the enemy and recover the property. The party consisted of thirty-seven men, commanded by Captains Calvin and Kenton, and was composed chiefly of young farmers, most of whom had never yet met an enemy. Captain Charles Ward, late deputy sheriff of Mason county, was one of the volunteers, and was at that time a mere lad, totally unacquainted with Indian warfare. They rendezvoused upon the Kentucky shore, immediately opposite Ripley, and crossing the river in a small ferry boat, pursued the trail for five or six miles with great energy. Here, however, a specimen of the usual caprice and uncertainty attending the motions of militia, was given.

One of the party, whose voice had been loud and resolute while on the Kentucky shore, all at once managed to discover that the enterprise was rash, ill advised, and if prosecuted, would certainly prove disastrous. A keen debate ensued, in which young Spencer Calvin, then a lad of eighteen, openly accused the gentleman alluded to of cowardice, and even threatened to take the measure of his shoulders with a ramrod, on the spot. By the prompt interference of Kenton and the elder Calvin, the young man's wrath was appeased for the time, and all those who preferred safety to honor, were invited instantly to return. The permission was promptly accepted, and no less than fifteen men, headed by the recreant al-



ready mentioned, turned their horses' heads and re-crossed the river. The remainder, consisting chiefly of experienced warriors, continued the pursuit.

The trail led them down on the Miami, and about noon on the second day, they heard a bell in front, apparently from a horse grazing. Cautiously approaching it, they beheld a solitary Indian, mounted on horseback, and leisurely advancing towards them. A few of their best marksmen fired upon him and brought him to the ground. After a short consultation, it was then determined to follow his back trail, and ascertain whether there were more in the neighborhood. A small, active, resolute woodsman, named McIntyre, accompanied by three others, was pushed on in advance, in order to give them early notice of the enemy's appearance, while the main body followed at a more leisurely pace. Within an hour, McIntyre returned, and reported that they were then within a short distance of a large party of Indians, supposed to be greatly superior to their own. That they were encamped in a bottom upon the borders of a creek, and were amusing themselves, apparently awaiting the arrival of the Indian whom they had just killed, as they would occasionally halloo loudly, and then laugh immoderately, supposing, probably, that their comrade had lost his way.

This intelligence fell like a shower bath upon the spirits of the party, who, thinking it more prudent to put a greater interval between themselves and the enemy, set spurs to their horses, and galloped back in the direction from which they had come. Such was the panic, that one of the footmen, a huge hulking fellow, six feet high, in his zeal for his own safety, sprang up behind Capt. Calvin, (who was then mounted upon Capt. Ward's horse, the captain having dismounted in order to accommodate him), and nothing short of a threat to blow his brains out, could induce him to dismount. In this orderly manner they scampered through the woods for several miles, when, in obedience to the orders of Kenton and Calvin, they halted, and prepared for resistance in case (as was probable) the enemy had discovered them, and were engaged in the pursuit. Kenton and Calvin were engaged apart in earnest consultation. It was proposed that a number of saplings should be cut down and a temporary breastwork erected, and while the propriety of these measures was under discussion, the men were left to themselves.

Finding themselves not pursued by the enemy, as they had expected, it was determined that they should remain in their present position until night, when a rapid attack was to be made, in two divisions, upon the Indian camp, under the impression that the darkness of the night, and the surprise of the enemy, might give them an advantage, which they could scarcely hope for in daylight. Accordingly, every thing remaining quiet at dusk, they again mounted and advanced rapidly, but in profound silence, upon the Indian camp. It was ascertained that the horses which the enemy had stolen were grazing in a rich bottom below their camp. As they were advancing to the attack, therefore, Calvin detached his son with several halters, which he had borrowed from the men, to regain their own horses, and be prepared to carry them off in case the enemy should overpower them. The attack was then made in two divisions.

Calvin conducted the upper and Kenton the lower party. The wood was thick, at the moon shone out clearly, and enabled them to distinguish objects with sufficient precision. Calvin's party came first in contact with the enemy. They had advanced within thirty yards of a large fire in front of a number of tents, without having seen a single Indian, when a dog, which had been watching them for several minutes, sprang forward to meet them, baying loudly. Presently an Indian appeared approaching cautiously towards them, and occasionally speaking to the dog in the Indian tongue. This sight was too tempting to be borne, and Calvin heard the tick of a dozen rifles in rapid succession, as his party cocked them in order to fire. The Indian was too close to permit him to speak, but turning to his men he earnestly waved his hand as a warning to be quiet. Then cautiously raising his own rifle, he fired with a steady aim, just as the Indian had reached the fire, and stood fairly exposed to its light.

The report of the rifle instantly broke the stillness of the night, and their ears were soon deafened by the yells of the enemy. The Indian at whom Calvin had fired, fell forward into the burning pile of faggots, and, by his struggles to extricate himself, scattered the brands so much, as almost to extinguish the light. Several dusky forms glanced rapidly before them for a moment, which drew a

volley from his men, but with what effect could not be ascertained. Calvin, having discharged his piece, turned so rapidly as to strike the end of his ramrod against a tree behind him, and drive it into its sheath with such violence, that he was unable to extricate it for several minutes, and finally fractured two of his teeth in the effort.

A heavy fire now commenced from the Indian camp, which was returned with equal spirit by the whites, but without much effect on either side. Trees were barked very plentifully, dogs bayed, the Indians yelled, the whites shouted, the squaws screamed, and a prodigious uproar was maintained for about fifteen minutes, when it was reported to Calvin that Kenton's party had been overpowered, and was in full retreat. It was not necessary to give orders for a similar movement. No sooner had the intelligence been received, than the Kentuckians of the upper division broke their ranks, and every man attempted to save himself as he best could. They soon overtook the lower division, and a hot scramble took place for horses. One called upon another to wait for him until he could catch his horse, which had broken his bridle, but no attention was paid to the request. Some fled upon their own horses, others mounted those of their friends. "First come, first served," seemed to be the order of the night, and a sad confusion of property took place, in consequence of which, to their great terror, a few were compelled to return on foot. The flight was originally caused by the panic of an individual. As the lower division moved up to the attack, most of the men appeared to advance with alacrity. The action quickly commenced, and at the first fire from the Indians, Barr, a young Kentuckian, was shot by ———'s side. This circumstance completely overthrew the courage of this one of the party, who had been the most boisterous and blustering when the chase commenced, but whose courage had visibly declined since the first encounter of the morning: and, elevating his voice to its shrillest notes, he shouted, "boys! it won't do for us to be here; Barr is killed, and the Indians are crossing the creek!" Bonaparte has said, that there is a critical period in every battle, when the bravest men will eagerly seize an excuse to run away. The remark is doubly true with regard to militia.

No sooner had this speech been uttered by one who had never yet been charged with cowardice, than the rout instantly took place, and all order was disregarded. Fortunately, the enemy were equally frightened, and probably would have fled themselves, had the whites given them time. No pursuit took place for several hours, nor did they then pursue the trail of the main body of fugitives. McIntyre, however, who had turned off from the main route, was pursued by the Indians, overtaken, tomahawked and scalped.

It is somewhat remarkable, that a brother of Capt. Ward's was in the Indian camp at the moment when it was attacked. He had been taken by the Indians in 1758, being at that time only three years old, had been adopted as a member of the Shawanee tribe, and had married an Indian woman by whom he had several children, all of whom, together with their mother, were then in camp. Capt. Ward has informed the writer of this narrative, that, a few seconds before the firing began, while he stood within rifle shot of the encampment, an Indian girl, apparently fifteen years of age, attracted his attention. She stood for an instant in an attitude of alarm, in front of one of the tents, and gazed intently upon the spot where he then stood. Not immediately perceiving that it was a female, he raised his gun, and was upon the point of firing, when her open bosom announced her sex, and her peculiarly light complexion caused him to doubt for a moment whether she could be an Indian by birth. He afterwards ascertained that she was his brother's child.

The celebrated Tecumseh commanded the Indians. His cautious yet fearless intrepidity made him a host wherever he went. In military tactics night attacks are not allowable, except in cases like this, when the assailing party are far inferior in numbers. Sometimes, in such attacks, panics and confusion are created in the attacked party, which may render them a prey to inferior numbers. Kenton trusted to this on the present occasion, but Tecumseh's presence and influence over the minds of his followers infused such confidence that superior numbers only could prevail over them.

Some time in the spring of 1793, Tecumseh and a few of his followers, while hunting in the Scioto valley, on the waters of Paint creek, were unexpectedly attacked by a party of white men from Mason county, Kentucky. The circumstances which led to this skirmish were the following: Early that spring, as

express reached the settlement in Mason, that some stations had been attacked and captured on Slate creek, in Bath county, Kentucky, and that the Indians were returning with their prisoners to Ohio. A party of thirty-three men was immediately raised to cut off their retreat. They were divided into three companies of ten men each; Simon Kenton commanding one, — Baker another, and Captain James Ward the third. The whole party crossed the Ohio at Limestone, and aimed to strike the Scioto above Paint creek. After crossing this creek near where the great road from Maysville to Chillicothe now crosses it, evening came on, and they halted for the night. In a short time they heard a noise, and a little examination disclosed to them that they were in the immediate vicinity of an Indian encampment. Their horses were promptly taken back some distance and tied, to prevent an alarm. A council was held, and Captain Baker offered to go and reconnoitre, which being agreed to, he took one of his company and made the examination. He found the Indians encamped on the bank of the creek, their horses being between them and the camp of the whites. After Baker's report was made, the party determined to remain where they were until near daylight the next morning. Captain Baker and his men were to march round and take a position on the bank of the stream in front of the Indian camp; Captain Ward was to occupy the ground in the rear; and Captain Kenton one side, while the river presented a barrier on the fourth, thus guarding against a retreat of the Indians. It was further agreed that the attack was not to commence until there was light enough to shoot with accuracy. Before Kenton and Ward had reached the positions they were respectively to occupy, the bark of a dog in the Indian camp was heard, and then the report of a gun. Upon this alarm, Baker's men instantly fired, and Captains Kenton and Ward, with their companies, raising the battle cry, rushed towards the camp. To their surprise, they found Baker and his men in the rear, instead of the front of the Indians, thus deranging the plan of attack, whether from design or accident is unknown. The Indians sent back the battle cry, retreated a few paces and treed. It was still too dark to fire with precision, but random shots were made, and a terrible shouting kept up by the Indians. While the parties were thus at bay, Tecumseh had the address to send a part of his men to the rear of the Kentuckians for their horses; and when they had been taken to the front, which was accomplished without discovery, the Indians mounted and effected their escape, carrying with them John Ward, the brother of Captain James Ward, the only one of their party who was shot. He died of his wound a few days after the engagement. One Kentuckian only, Jacob Jones, was killed, a member of Baker's detachment. No pursuit of the Indians was made, nor did they prove to be the same party who had attacked the Slate creek station.

After the fatal disaster which befel our troops at the river Raisin, during the late war, Captain Isaac Baker, a son of the late Colonel Baker, of Mason county, attempted to make good his retreat with the remnant of his company, some fifteen or twenty in number. They were pursued by a much larger party of Indians on horseback. When they came in sight, Captain Baker told his men that as they were on foot there was no possibility of escape, and that it only remained for them as brave men to sell their lives as dearly as possible. He ordered every man to *tree* and await the approach of the enemy. The order was promptly obeyed. The Indians approached within good rifle distance and then dismounted. As they did so, Captain Baker's little Spartan band poured in simultaneously a destructive fire, which brought the Indian force nearly to an equality with his own party. The Indians immediately *treed*, and the action continued in the true Indian manner of fighting, neither party firing except when there was a fair prospect of its taking effect. Unfortunately Captain Baker's men, at the commencement of the action, had but five rounds each. The fight was continued until the last load of ammunition was expended. Captain Baker then hoisted his handkerchief as the signal of surrender. The Indians approached, received the arms of the prisoners, counted the loss sustained on each side, and finding that theirs was the greater, began to make preparations to sacrifice as many as would bring the loss on each side to an equality. The first selected as a victim was the son of George Shinglebower, of Lexington, who was a red haired man, and as such an object of peculiar aversion to the Indians. A warrior approached him, tomahawk in hand, and took off his hat, the better to exe-

cute his dire purpose. Shinglebower, being a stout man, at the very moment the Indian was removing his hat, seized his tomahawk and sunk it into his head. The Indians, aroused to the utmost pitch of rage by this daring deed, now rushed upon the prisoners with their tomahawks, determined to massacre the whole party. At this moment, an aged chief stepped forward and took two of the prisoners, one in each hand, and led them aside, claiming them as his, and protecting them from the enraged savages. These two men were Captain Baker, since deceased, and Captain McCarty, now a citizen of Pendleton county. They were purchased from the Indian chief at the restoration of peace; the residue of Captain Baker's brave little band were all tomahawked on the spot where they surrendered.

Gen. HENRY LEE, a native of Virginia, was one of the earliest pioneers who settled in the county of Mason. He was a man of considerable intelligence and remarkably strong natural powers of mind. He was a member of the Virginia legislature from the district of Kentucky, and also of the convention which adopted the federal constitution. He served in the convention at Danville which met in 1787, and was one of the commissioners who located the seat of government at Frankfort. He was county lieutenant for all the territory north of Licking river, and was appointed judge of the quarter sessions court, and associate judge of the circuit court for Mason county, and was president of the Washington Branch of the old Bank of Kentucky. He came to Kentucky originally as a surveyor, and acted in that capacity for many years. He was a very sagacious man, of fine business habits, and by his position and great application, amassed a very large fortune. He was tall and powerfully made, very erect, and a man of remarkably fine and imposing personal appearance. He died on the 24th Oct., 1845, in the eighty-ninth year of his age.

Judge WILLIAM MCCLUNG settled in Mason at an early period, and was a very prominent and influential citizen, and took an active part in advancing the interests of the new settlements. He was judge for many years of the district and circuit courts of the county, and was distinguished for his high attainments as a lawyer, but most eminently for his great unswerving and unapproachable integrity as a judge. He died while filling that office, about 1815. He had represented Nelson county in the legislature in 1793, and in the senate, 1796-1800. His widow, a sister of U. S. chief justice John Marshall, survived him to 1858, aged 84; and two sons, John A. and Col. Alex. K., to 1859 and 1855.

ALEXANDER K. MARSHALL, Esq. a son of Colonel Thomas Marshall, and brother of the chief justice, was a pioneer lawyer of Mason county, and one of the very ablest of his day. In 1818 he was appointed reporter to the court of appeals, and during the period he held the office, published three volumes of reports.

Captain THOMAS MARSHALL, another son of Colonel Thomas Marshall, was the first clerk of the Mason county court. He was remarkable for his strong sense, benevolence and kind feelings, and was very generally beloved. He was a member of the convention that formed the second constitution of Kentucky.

Colonel ALEXANDER D. ORR, came to Kentucky from Virginia at an early period and settled in Mason on the farm (1834) occupied by John A. McClung, Esq. on the Ohio river, and built the first brick house ever erected in the county. He was elected to Congress in 1792 (after having been elected the same year to the state legislature), upon the admission of Kentucky into the Union, and took his seat at the session of 1792-3, in conjunction with his colleagues John Brown and John Edwards. He continued a member of Congress until 1797. He was a man of commanding personal appearance, and a polished gentleman of the old school. He died in Paris about 1841.

Doctor BASIL DUKE was born in Calvert county, Maryland. He obtained a classical education in the school of a Scotchman of eminent scholarship. He studied medicine in the city of Baltimore. After practicing his profession a short time in his native county, he emigrated to Kentucky, and settled in Lexington in the year 1791, then about twenty-five years of age. During his residence at Lexington, his professional ability secured him a large practice. In '94 he married Charlotte, the daughter of Colonel Thomas Marshall, then of Woodford, and in 1798 removed to Mason county. At the head of his profession in that part of

Kentucky, his practice for the greater part of his life was large and laborious, extending over Mason and the adjoining counties. His kind and benevolent character endeared him to the people, to whom his medical services rendered him greatly useful. He died in the town of Washington in 1828.

Colonel DEVALL PAYNE was born on the 1st of January, 1764, in the county of Fairfax, Virginia, within seven miles of the city of Alexandria. He was the son of William Payne, whose paternal ancestor accompanied Lord Fairfax from England when he came over to colonize his grant in Virginia. At the time Gen. Washington was stationed in Alexandria as a colonel of a British regiment, before the war of the revolution, an altercation took place in the court-house yard, between him and William Payne, in which Payne knocked Washington down. Great excitement prevailed, as Payne was known to be firm, and stood high, and Washington was beloved by all. A night's reflection, however, satisfied Washington that he was the aggressor and in the wrong, and in the morning he, like a true and magnanimous hero, sought an interview with Payne, which resulted in an apology from Washington, and a warm and lasting friendship between the two, founded on mutual esteem. During the revolutionary war, whilst Washington was on a visit to his family, Mr. Payne, with his son Devall, went to pay his respects to the great American chief. Washington met him some distance from the house, took him by the hand, and led him into the presence of Mrs. Washington, to whom he introduced Mr. Payne as follows: "My dear, here is the little man, whom you have so frequently heard me speak of, who once had the courage to knock me down in the court-house yard in Alexandria, *big as I am*."

Devall Payne was married to Hannah, youngest daughter of Major Hugh Brent, of Loudon county, Virginia, December 1st, 1785. In 1789 he removed to Kentucky and settled near Lexington. Shortly afterwards he joined Captain Kenneth M'Coy's troop of cavalry, and served under Governor Charles Scott in his campaign against the Weaw Indians on the Wabash. He was with Captain M'Coy when he was wounded, and assisted him from the battle field. During the engagement, as his horse leaped a log in the charge, he encountered an Indian chief who was laying beside it. Payne instantly dismounted and grappled with the Indian, determined, if possible, to take him prisoner. The Indian was armed with gun, tomahawk and butcher knife, and resisted furiously. Payne pressed him so closely, and was so active and athletic, that the Indian could not use his weapons. The contest was very severe, and lasted for several minutes, exciting the interest and admiration of half a dozen soldiers, who had collected around to witness the struggle. Payne finally conquered, having thrown the Indian down three times before he would surrender.

In 1792, he removed to Mason county, and settled on his farm, on Mill creek, where he resided till his death. He was twice shot at by the Indians, near his own house, and had his horses stolen out of his stable. He was an active and resolute woodsman, and was one of almost every party in pursuit of the enemy. He was a scientific and practical surveyor, and for many years a member of the bench of magistrates for the county. His tastes, however, were decidedly military; and, as an officer of the militia, he took great pride in their drill and discipline. In 1813, when Col. R. M. Johnson raised his regiment of mounted riflemen for service in the north-west, he received the appointment of major commanding the first battalion; and, on the 10th of October of that year, at the battle of the Thames, he, at the head of his battalion, charged through the British line, and, after the surrender, by special order from the general-in-chief, led in pursuit of Proctor. Mounted on a splendid charger, with Capt. Charles S. Todd, Maj. Wood, and John Chambers, Esq., one of Gen. Harrison's volunteer aids, close behind him, he dashed off with the battalion at his heels,—which, however, was soon left far in their rear,—and did not rein up till they had gone ten miles beyond the battle-field. The pursuit was so hot, that Gen. Proctor was forced to abandon his carriage and take refuge in the swamp, leaving all his baggage and his papers, public and private, which fell into the hands of the victors. In the report of this battle, it is stated that "Maj. Devall Payne, of the first battalion, inspired confidence wherever he appeared."

After this campaign, Col. Payne retired to private life. He was extremely popular in his county—was, for a long series of years, a member of the lower house, and, for eight years, in the senate, of the Kentucky legislature, where he was distinguished for his strong common sense and practical view of legislation; and was **always elected**, when he would consent to serve. He was a member of every electoral college from the time of Jefferson till his death, except the one which cast its vote for Jackson. A democrat of the Jeffersonian school, he was associated with Hughes, George Nicholas, John Breckinridge, Judge Coburn, Gen. Bodley, and other leading men of the olden time in Kentucky; and, in his political course, was firm and inflexible in his own principles, yet tolerant of the opinions of those opposed to him.

Affectionate, tender and assiduous as a husband and father, he was benevolent and gentle in all his social relations. He was bold, resolute, and perfectly honorable in his purposes; fearless and ready in the discharge of all his duties. Tall and erect, with fine symmetry of form, a lofty brow, dark and piercing eyes, and a Roman contour of face, his personal appearance was very commanding.

He died on the 25th of June, 1830, having been a member of the Baptist church for about two years before his death.

Judge JOHN COSURN was a native of Philadelphia, where he received an excellent education, and was bred to the bar. In 1784, under the advice of the distinguished Luther Martin, Esq., of Baltimore, who cherished a deep interest for him, young Coburn emigrated to Kentucky. Abandoning the profession to which he had been reared, however, he located himself in Lexington, and commenced the mercantile business, which was at that time very lucrative. In August, 1786, he married Miss Mary Moss, of Fayette county. He seems to have been successful in mercantile operations, and remained in Lexington till about the year 1794, when he removed to Mason county; and, in partnership with Dr. Basil Duke, continued his mercantile pursuits. Shortly afterwards, he was appointed judge of the district court of Mason; and, upon the reorganization of the courts, became a judge of the circuit court, which office he held till the year 1805.

He was appointed, by Mr. Jefferson, judge of the territory of Michigan, which office he declined, and was subsequently appointed to the judgeship of the territory of Orleans, and held his courts in St. Louis. This office he resigned in 1809, and was afterwards appointed, by Mr. Madison, during the late war, collector of the revenue for the fourth district of Kentucky. This office, which he held for several years, was his last public employment.

Judge Coburn was a man of most decided political principles, and stood high in the confidence of the democratic party. As early as 1785,—a few months after his arrival in the State,—he was elected a member of the convention, called at Danville in that year, to take preliminary steps to procure the admission of Kentucky into the Union, and for other purposes. In 1796, he was appointed a commissioner, in conjunction with Robert Johnson, to run and settle the boundary line between Virginia and Kentucky, upon which subject he made a very able report. Upon its being intimated to the citizens of St. Louis that Judge Coburn intended to resign his office as judge of the Orleans territory, they addressed him a petition complimentary of his "talents, industry, and conciliating manners," and urging him to relinquish the idea of resigning his office.

In 1813, Governor Shelby wrote him an urgent invitation to accompany him and become a member of his military family, which was accepted by the judge, although he held that post for only a short period.

To the able and indefatigable efforts of Judge Coburn is to be attributed, in a great degree, the act of Congress appropriating one thousand acres of land to Col. Daniel Boone. The judge was an ardent friend of the old pioneer, and addressed to Congress some powerful appeals in his behalf.

Judge Coburn never practised law, although he took out license in 1788. He was one of the most indefatigable, efficient and accomplished political writers of his day, and was in close correspondence and intimate relationship with the leading democratic statesmen of Kentucky. So high an estimate was placed upon his ability, that, as early as 1800, he was spoken of in connection with the ex-

alted station of senator in the congress of the United States; but he declined his pretensions to that office in favor of his friend, the distinguished John Breckinridge, who was elected to the senate at the succeeding session of the legislature. Judge Coburn died in February, 1823, aged about sixty years.

AARON H. CORWINE, a portrait painter of much character, was born on the 31st day of August, 1802, at his father's farm, on what is called Jersey Ridge, in Mason county, Kentucky. His father, Amos Corwine, emigrated to Kentucky from Huntington county, New Jersey, at a very early day, and settled in Mason county, where he resided until the period of his death. About the same time, the father of Thomas Corwin, late governor of Ohio, and also a member of the United States' senate from that State, removed with his family from the same State, and settled in Mason county, near Mayslick. Preferring, however, to go further into the interior of Kentucky, he moved with his family to Bourbon county, where Thomas Corwin was born. Aaron H. Corwine was the youngest son, and early evinced a genius in drawing and sketching. It is said that in his tenth year, so fond was he of drawing, he marked and scored his father's board fences and barn with grotesque figures of men, beasts and fowls. So faithful and striking were some of these figures as likenesses, they attracted his father's attention, and induced him to inquire which one of his boys had drawn them. Before then, young Aaron was a ploughboy, for which he never showed much taste, and had scarcely been off of the farm. His father determined to give him an opportunity to pursue the inclination of his mind; and, after bestowing upon him as good an education as could be acquired, at that early day, in Kentucky, in a country school, he placed him with a portrait painter then located in Maysville, whose name was Turner. But he did not remain with him long. He soon mastered all that Mr. Turner knew, and, by the advice of that good man, he was induced to seek other sources of instruction, and a wider field in which to pursue his profession. Cincinnati was then the largest town in the west, and even at that early day was famed for the fostering care her wealthier citizens extended to young artists. Whilst he was yet in his *teens*, young Corwine sought a home in the Queen City. Like the majority of the children of genius, he had but a scanty proportion of this world's goods, when he reached his new home; no knowledge, whatever, of men; and no friends whose wealth and influence could bring him business, or make him known to those who would encourage him by giving employment to his yet immature pencil. Nothing daunted at this gloomy prospect, young Corwine applied himself assiduously to such business as was thrown in his way, until his glowing and life-like pictures attracted the attention and won the admiration of those citizens of Cincinnati who were able and willing to contribute their means, and loan their influence, to lift the young artist into notoriety and business. Amongst these was Nathan Guilford, Esq., who was the first friend of the young artist in that city. These early friends never deserted him; and as he rose, step by step, in his profession, they stood by him—cheering him with their smiles, and strengthening him with their counsel, in the devious and slippery pathway to fame. By their advice, he sought the instruction of that master in his profession, Thomas Sully, then residing in Philadelphia. After a few years spent in the studio of Mr. Sully, young Corwine returned to Cincinnati, where he continued to apply himself to his profession until the year 1828. About this time it was found that his close application to his easel for many years, had seriously impaired his health. For the twofold purpose of improving his health and studying the masters in the old country, he departed for Europe. When he reached London, he deposited all his means with a banker of reputed wealth, who soon after failed, leaving Corwine in a strange city, without means and wholly destitute of friends, to struggle for the necessaries of life. His courage and his genius rose with the occasion. He visited all the galleries in London, that were accessible to one so poor and friendless. He caught the spirit of the mighty masters, and soon his own canvass was made to glow with the genius and taste of Italy and England's mighty dead. The high-born and the noble of England sought his rooms, and the faithful likenesses, the accurate delineations, and the animated and life-like coloring of the young American, were appreciated, and he was rewarded by numerous orders for the most costly pictures. But the close application consequent upon this state of the affairs of Mr. Corwine, was too much for his already en

feebled constitution, and his friends were pained to see him gradually wasting away under the influence of disease. He turned his face towards his native land, to die amongst his friends and in the arms of his kindred. But, alas! this last and dearest hope he was destined never to realize. When he reached Philadelphia, he was borne from the vessel to his lodgings, and, after a few days' struggling, died in that city, on the 4th day of July, 1830, in the twenty-eighth year of his age.

Many of the early productions of Mr. Corwine adorn the parlors of his Cincinnati patrons. Had he lived a few years longer, Mr. Corwine would have stood at the head of his profession.

Dr. DANIEL DRAKE, distinguished as physician, professor, and author, was born at Plainfield, New Jersey, Oct. 20, 1785, and died at Cincinnati, Ohio, Nov. 5, 1852, aged 67 years. Brought to Mason co., Ky., June 10, 1788, before he was three years old, he grew up with that spirit and self-reliance which marked his whole life, receiving all the education the little village of Mayslick and surroundings could give him, theoretical and practical. In Dec., 1800, aged 15, he went to the village of Cincinnati with its population of 750 (now the "Queen City" of the Ohio valley, with over 300,000) inhabitants, and became its first medical student—so faithful that, in after life, no medical man was more useful or reflected upon that city more varied renown. In May, 1804, aged 19, he began the practice of medicine in Cincinnati; spent the winter of 1805-06 as a student in the Pennsylvania University, at Philadelphia, and the succeeding year in practice at his old home in Mayslick. Returning to Cincinnati in 1807, he made it his home for life, although much of his time was spent as a professor in Kentucky. In 1817, became professor of materia medica and medical botany in Transylvania University, Lexington, Ky.; Nov., 1820, founded and established the Medical College of Ohio, at Cincinnati, from which, after a bitter controversy, his connection was suddenly sundered, May, 1822; resumed his professorship at Lexington, 1823-27; declined the professorship of medicine in the University of Virginia, 1830; was professor in Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, Nov., 1830-31; again in the Medical College of Ohio, 1831-32; founded a new medical school, as a department of Cincinnati College, June, 1835-39; was professor in the Louisville Medical Institute, afterwards known as the University of Louisville, 1839-49; when he resigned, and accepted a chair in the Medical College of Ohio, 1849-50. In 1827, he became editor of the *Western Medical and Physical Journal*, through which he continued to write for many years. His "Notices concerning Cincinnati," published 1810, enlarged as "The Picture of Cincinnati," 1815, were remarkable works. The great literary event of his life was his "Treatise on the Principal Diseases of the Interior Valley of North America," published 1850, an original work, a wonderful monument to American medical science. Quite a number of his medical lectures, and historical or scientific addresses, have been published.

WILLIAM NELSON, major general of volunteers in the U. S. army in the late civil war, was born in Mason co., Ky., in 1825, and killed in Louisville, Sept. 29, 1862, aged 37. Educated at the Maysville Seminary until 15, he was then appointed to a cadetship in the naval academy, Annapolis; and, upon graduating, midshipman in the U. S. navy. His first service was on the sloop-of-war *Yorktown*, in the Pacific commission. He was attached to the frigate *Raritan* as passed midshipman, 1846; acting master of the war-steamer *Scourge*, under Com. Perry, 1847; won distinction by his courage and skill in the command of a naval battery at Vera Cruz, in the war with Mexico, March 22, 1847; was acting master of the war-steamer *Mississippi*, when dispatched by the U. S. government, in accordance with the resolution of the senate, to convey to America as the nation's guest, the great Hungarian ex-governor and agitator, Louis Kossuth, 1851; received him on board, at a port of Turkey in Asia, where he had sought refuge, Sept. 1, 1851, and reached New York Dec. 5, 1851—touching *en route* at the ports of Smyrna, Spezzia in Italy, Marseilles in France, and Southampton in England. During this voyage, Nelson became an intimate acquaintance and friend of the eloquent Magyar, and participated in the enthusiastic receptions awarded him abroad,



and in several of the earliest in the United States, at New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington city, and Annapolis. He was promoted to the rank of master, 1854, and ordered to the frigate Independence, and four years after to the Niagara.

At the beginning of the civil war, he was on ordnance duty in Washington city, and was detailed to command the fleet of gun-boats on the Ohio river; but was soon transferred to the army, for the purpose of securing volunteers in his native state. He was the chief instrument (assisted by Hon. Garret Davis, Rev. Robert J. Breckinridge, D. D., and others) in introducing arms into the state for the "Home Guards"—an organization which was used in many instances to oppress and outrage their neighbors who entertained different political views. In August, 1861, he established "Camp Dick Robinson," in Garrard county, Ky., which became a rendezvous for Union troops (see Collins' *Annals of Kentucky*, pages 92, 97, 101, and 110, vol. i); was appointed brigadier general, Sept., 1861; Nov. 8th, fought the small battle of Ivy Mountain, in Pike co., Ky., one of the first of the war; was the first high officer to enter Nashville, as the Confederates retired southward, Feb., 1862. Was the commanding officer in the advance of Gen. Buell's army, April 7, 1862, which pressed forward to the battle-field of Shiloh or Pittsburgh Landing, just in time to retrieve the terrible defeat of Gen. Grant's troops, the day before. Indeed, to Gen. Nelson, acting under the advice of his able and indefatigable engineer, Gen. Jacob Ammen (formerly professor in Georgetown college, Ky.), there is strong reason to believe—from conversations with persons present, and from the circumstantial history of the battle—is due, more than to any other man, the glory of having saved the Federal army, and converted a humiliating defeat into a victory of tremendous importance. He was promoted major general, July 17, 1862.

August 30, 1862, the Confederate general E. Kirby Smith defeated the Federal troops in the battle of Richmond, Ky., which was brought on contrary to Nelson's orders. It was one of the most remarkable victories of the war. Gen. Munson's troops, in the advance (mostly raw, while the Confederates were trained,) were quickly beaten, and fled panic-stricken from the field. Several of the bravest officers were killed, while still struggling to rally their flying forces, and Nelson himself was badly wounded (see page 110, vol. i.) He retreated with his troops to Louisville, and was in command of the state, fortified that city in the rear, and, expecting a desperate battle, on Sept. 22, ordered the women and children to be sent out of the city; but the attack on the city was prevented by the sluggish movements of the Confederate general Bragg, and the rapid march of his opponent, Gen. Don Carlos Buell. A few days later, Sept. 29th, Gen. Nelson was shot and killed, in the Galt House, in Louisville, by the Federal Brig. Gen. Jefferson C. Davis (of Indiana), in sudden resentment for a gross indignity offered him by Nelson, who insulted him with words and slapped him in the face. Davis was never indicted nor tried by the civil authorities.

Gen. Nelson was a man of culture and literary attainment, a naval officer of great skill and high standing, and as a military officer, strict, brave, and able. By nature rough and high tempered, the rigid discipline of the navy had made him harsh, exacting, and overbearing. While this made some of his officers (whom he too often did not spare) fear and hate him, he protected and was kind to his soldiers, and they loved him. Not a few of them, afterward when Gen. Davis was riding by the brigades of Nelson's late command, resented his death, so far as they dare without exposure, by growling between their teeth, "Nelson's murderer, Nelson's murderer!"

Judge ELLJAH C. PHISTER was born in Maysville, Ky., Oct. 8, 1822; a student of the Maysville Seminary; graduated at Augusta College, Aug., 1840; studied law at Philadelphia, with Hon. John Sergeant, one of the ablest jurists and purest public men in the United States, and with Payne & Waller, leading practitioners of the Mason bar, and began the practice, June, 1844; was elected mayor of his native city, Jan., 1847, and re-elected Jan., 1848; circuit judge, 1856-62; representative in the Kentucky legislature, 1867-69, and re-elected, 1869-71, in which body he took a distinguished

part; appointed by Gov. Leslie one of the commissioners to revise the statutes, 1872, but declined.

His profession, the idol of his early love, Judge Phister has followed with an inflexibility of purpose which seldom fails to be awarded the very highest positions in the judiciary. For a place in the engraving of eminent Kentucky judges, opposite page 000, he was suggested by gentlemen prominent in the profession as one of the ablest, firmest, and purest of *living* judges. Thousands of admiring friends are looking to his promotion at an early day to the court of appeals bench, as one who would adorn it by his clear, comprehensive, and profound appreciation of legal rights and responsibilities. He has little of the ambition characteristic of the politicians and statesmen of the day. Of somewhat stern but withal commanding presence, he is popular and successful as an advocate and public speaker, always earnest and eloquent, frequently brilliant and sparkling—quick to catch, and powerful to present, the strong points of his case. As a writer he is terse, yet perspicuous, vigorous, and logical; in 1849, wrote occasionally for the press; but since, has confined himself to the demands of his profession. Now (1873) in his 51st year, he is just in his prime.

Col. WM. HENRY WADSWORTH—the fifth, in direct line, from Gen. Joseph Wadsworth, of Charter Oak memory—was born in Maysville, Ky., July 4, 1821; was a fellow-student at the Maysville Seminary, with Ulysses S. Grant, now president of the United States; graduated and took the degree of A. B. at Augusta College, 1842; studied law with Payne & Waller, and began the practice at the Maysville bar, 1844; was elected to the senate of Kentucky from Mason and Lewis counties, 1853, for 4 years; elected to the 37th congress, June 20, 1861, taking his seat at the extra session; was aid to Gen. Nelson, with rank of colonel, at the battle of Ivy Mountain, Nov. 8, 1861; elected, Aug., 1863, to the 38th congress; retired March 4, 1865, according to a purpose announced at re-election; elector for the state at large on the Grant and Colfax ticket, but defeated, Nov. 1868; appointed, April 23, 1869, commissioner under the U. S. treaty of July 4, 1868, with Mexico, which office he still holds, and has filled with distinguished ability and great acceptance. (See portrait among eminent Kentucky judges, opposite page 000.) *On dit*, that President Grant had previously tendered him the mission to Vienna, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary to Austria, but which he positively declined.

The most enthusiastic ovation ever tendered to any public man in Kentucky, north of Lexington, was that spontaneously offered to Col. Wadsworth in June, 1861, as he returned to his Maysville home from the brilliant canvass for congress—his vote being 12,230, to 3,720 cast for the hero of Cerro Gordo, Maj. John S. Williams; a majority of 8,510, the largest ever given in the state for any candidate for congress. It was an outspoken and generous tribute to the Union as it was, and to the Constitution with its guaranties unimpaired and its faith unbroken—before the war of the rebellion became a war for the destruction of slavery, and the humiliation and subjugation of the white race of the South. No voice rang out more clear for the Union, in the valleys and the mountains, than Col. Wadsworth's; and on the floor of congress, no new member so startled with unwonted eloquence and so deeply waked responsive echoes, as he, in behalf of the old Union. He soon found the true friends of the Union borne down by the maddening sway of unreasoning force. He ranged himself with the friends of moderation, order, and conservatism; and as nothing could stay the whirlwind of passion that ruled the hour, announced his intention and withdrew to private life. It was with great pain that many fond friends, even though differing with him in numerous of his public acts, saw him in 1868, after twice declining the nomination as elector, accept the situation, and become the leader of the administration party in northern Kentucky. He is, beyond question, the strongest man in their ranks in the state; a wary politician, a capable leader, an able and learned lawyer, a vigorous and racy writer; remarkably plausible, persuasive, and effective as a public speaker, whether at the bar, in the senate, or on the stump; and, withal, courageous as a lion.

The following biographical sketch of Judge LEWIS COLLINS, the author and compiler of the first edition of this work, in 1847, was written by Henry Waller, Esq., of Chicago.

LEWIS COLLINS, third son of Richard Collins, a soldier of the Virginia army of the Revolutionary war, was born on Christmas day, 1797, near *Grant's Station*, several miles northeast of *Bryan's Station*, in Fayette county, Ky. Left an orphan when quite a youth, he took his first lessons at practical printing under Joel R. Lyle, of the *Paris Citizen*, during the year 1813; and in 1814 accompanied his old friend and teacher, David V. Rannels, to Washington, in Mason county, and assisted him first in the publication, and afterwards in the editorial management of the *Washington Union*, until the fall of 1820.

On the 1st of November of that year he became proprietor and editor of the *Maysville Eagle*, a newspaper founded in 1814 by Richard and Joab Corwine, who sold it in 1817 to Aaron Crookshanks, from whom Mr. Collins purchased in 1820. During the succeeding twenty-seven years, to Nov. 1, 1847, he remained the owner and editor of that paper—conducting it, in conjunction with the book business, with much tact, ability, energy, and judgment. It was not only a financial success, but the *Eagle* exerted a wide influence for good over the whole community. It was a pure, truthful, elevated paper, conservative in its political views, and filled with sound and valuable instruction, adapted to the intellectual, material, and moral wants of the people.

On the 1st of April, 1823, he was married to Mary Eleanor Peers, daughter of Maj. Valentine Peers (an officer of the Virginia army of the Revolution, who was with Gen. Washington at Valley Forge) and sister of Rev. Benjamin O. Peers. She became a true helpmate, a devoted, tender wife and mother; and still survives him (1877), an example and blessing to all around her, one of the noblest of her sex, a true "mother in Israel."

In the same year he retired from the *Eagle*, he edited and published "Collins' Historical Sketches of Kentucky"—a work of rare research, and a most authentic and comprehensive history of the state.

He possessed in a remarkable degree the confidence and the good wishes of all who knew him. The public confidence in his purity and integrity was absolute; and his financial skill and administrative ability were highly valued. Hence, although diffident, modest, and unambitious, positions of public trust were constantly pressed upon him. He was through many years president of one of the turnpike companies, secretary and treasurer of several others, treasurer of the sinking fund of the county—a very important office—school commissioner for nearly twenty years, and the *first* presiding judge of the Mason County Court, 1851-54.

Judge Collins was a most genial, engaging, attractive companion; a friend faithful and steadfast, devoted and tender, but above all he was an "Israelite without guile," a meek and humble follower of the Lord Jesus, abounding in the Christian graces—for he was kind, hospitable, gentle, and good, and full of the spirit of charity, long suffering, and patience. He was for 13 years a deacon, and for 35 years an elder in the Presbyterian church, and often a representative in its various courts—the Session, the Presbytery, the Synod, the General Assembly—trusted, influential, beloved in all. For nearly 50 years he was a teacher and superintendent of the Sabbath School. This was the grand field for the consecrated energies of his life. It was to him, indeed, a labor of love. He had ever in his heart, as exhibited by his works, the precious words of the Saviour—"Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of Heaven."

He died at Lexington, Ky., on the 29th of January, 1870, aged 72 years. The legislature of Kentucky, then in session, unanimously adopted the following resolution in relation to his death, and Gov. Stevenson approved it, March 21, 1870:

*Resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.*—That we have heard with deep regret of the death of Judge LEWIS COLLINS, of Maysville, Kentucky, which has occurred since the meeting of this General Assembly. He was a native Kentuckian, of great purity of character and enlarged public spirit; associated for a

half century with the press of the state, which he adorned with his patriotism, his elevated morals, and his enlightened judgment. He was the author of a *HISTORY OF KENTUCKY*, evidencing extended research; and which embodies in a permanent form the history of each county in the state, and the lives of its distinguished citizens; and is an invaluable contribution to the literature and historical knowledge of the state. His name being thus perpetually identified with that of his native state, this General Assembly, from a sense of duty and regard to his memory, expresses this testimonial of its appreciation of his irreproachable character and valued services.

Rev. JOHN ALEXANDER McCLUNG, D. D., a distinguished scholar, orator, and divine, was born near Washington, in Mason county, Ky., on the 25th of September, 1804. He was the son of Judge Wm. McClung, and grandson of Col. Thos. Marshall; both of whom had emigrated from Virginia at an early day. Left at a tender age, by his father's death, to the care of a gifted and pious mother, he was, a few years after, sent to the academy of her brother, Dr. Louis Marshall, in Woodford county, Ky. There he exhibited unusual thirst for knowledge, and made great progress in his studies. In 1820, he became a member of the Pisgah Presbyterian church in Woodford. In his 18th year he was entered as a student in the Theological Seminary at Princeton. In 1825, he married a lady of great piety and refinement, Miss Eliza Johnston, sister of Hon. Josiah Stoddard Johnston, and Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston.

He was licensed to preach in 1828, and soon became one of the most popular young preachers of the West; but in a brief period, his religious convictions were disturbed, and he voluntarily withdrew from the ministry.

In 1830, he wrote and published "*Camden*," a tale of the South during the Revolution, and in 1832, "*Sketches of Western Adventure*"—both works of decided merit, the former published in Philadelphia, the latter by Judge Lewis Collins, senior author of this work.

He commenced the practice of law in 1835, and soon ranked with the foremost in the profession, for learning, eloquence, logical power, and exalted integrity. During the years 1838 and 1839, he was a member of the Kentucky legislature, and acquired high reputation as a debater—particularly for his masterly argument in opposition to the South Carolina Railroad and Bank bill.

After years of patient inquiry his religious difficulties disappeared; in 1849 he was reunited to the church, and shortly thereafter resumed his long abandoned ministerial labors. For some months in the summer of 1851 he preached to crowded congregations in the First Presbyterian church, Louisville; afterwards, for several months to the Seventh Presbyterian church, Cincinnati; then had charge, for over four years, of the First Presbyterian church in Indianapolis; and in June, 1857, became pastor of the Presbyterian church in Maysville, Ky. During these last years, he received urgent calls from Augusta, Ga., Cincinnati, New Orleans, and other places; and was unanimously elected President of South Hanover College, Indiana—all which he declined. In the early part of 1859, his health became very much impaired, and on the 6th day of August of that year, during a tour of recreation, he was drowned whilst bathing in the Niagara river.

In no aspect was he an ordinary man. Nature and education had fitted him for high trusts, and he filled them worthily. His literary labors in early life evinced rare scholarship and taste. His career in the law and in legislation displayed the highest qualities of the jurist and statesman; and in the closing years of his eminent life, he was a mighty man in the Scriptures, a preacher of almost apostolic simplicity and power, who wrought out a great work of good to man and glory to God.

Rev. and Judge LORIN ANDREWS, a native of East Windsor (now Vernon), Connecticut, was born April 29, 1795; at the age of 10, became a resident of Portage co., Ohio; took his arts course at Jefferson college, Pa., and his theological course at Princeton, N. J. When quite young, came to Maysville, Ky., and worked a portion of his time for several years in the Maysville *Eagle* printing office of his friend, the late Judge Lewis Collins, author of *Collins' History of Kentucky*; he was at the same time a popular teacher in Mays-

ville, and afterwards in Washington. Aug. 15, 1827, he married Mary Ann Wilson, daughter of Rev. Robert Wilson, then deceased, but for years pastor of the Presbyterian church in Washington, and one of the most faithful, earnest, and popular ministers of that region.

Shortly after, he was ordained, by the presbytery of Ebenezer, a minister and missionary of the Gospel to the heathen in the Sandwich or Hawaiian Islands; and on Saturday, Nov. 17, 1827, with his wife and several other missionaries and their families—under the auspices of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (which connection was subsequently dissolved)—set sail from Boston, in the ship Parthian, direct for those islands, reaching Honolulu, their capital, on March 30, 1828; thus occupying 4½ months in a voyage which is now made, by railroad to San Francisco, and steam thence, in half a month. He preached and taught there for many years.

In 1845, King Kamehameha III. appointed him judge—an office worthily filled for many years, and with great advantage to the country. In 1852, the king gave to his subjects the homesteads upon which they lived. Before that, the land was held by the king and his chiefs, and occupied by the tenants as feudal servants. Under that munificent act, all conflicting claims were determined by a commission of which Judge Andrews was a leading member.

For many years and up to the time of his death, he held the office of secretary of the king's privy council. He was a member of the privy council of Kamehameha III., and an honorary member of the privy councils of Kamehameha IV. and Kamehameha V.

Judge Andrews devoted much of his time to Hawaiian literature, and perhaps did more than any other man for that language. He was the author and publisher of a number of school-books, translations of parts of the Bible, etc.; and edited and published the first Hawaiian newspaper at Lahainaluna. He taught the pupils in the seminary to engrave, and much of his authorship was connected with plates, maps, and chronological charts. He was the author of the standard grammar and dictionary of the country. At the time of his death, he was preparing a history of the Life and Times of Kamehameha I., which would have been a complete history of the islands. He was, also, about to translate and publish the historical poems of the people. These he had procured by great and laborious effort, and was the only white man who understood the dialect in which the poems were repeated by the old minstrels. They were unwritten, and could of course only be obtained in that way. The manuscripts of these works have been secured by the Hawaiian government, and it is hoped they may be properly edited and published.

Judge Andrews died Sept. 29, 1868, aged 73, at Honolulu, where he had resided for many years. He left, him surviving, his widow and several children and grandchildren. For about the first twenty years of his residence in the Sandwich Islands, he was one of the most laborious and efficient preachers of the Gospel. He preached for many years at Lahaina, Maui; then, in connection with teaching the Boys' High School, at Lahainaluna, which school he helped to found in 1832, and which subsequently became the Hawaii University. Afterwards he preached as seamen's chaplain at Lahaina; and still later, at the Fort street church in Honolulu. He continued to preach the Gospel to the last, and feared not to say and do the right. He left his impress wherever he appeared. Such of the kings and others in authority as were themselves worthy of confidence—as did all the people—held Judge Andrews in the highest esteem as a man, and especially as a true and faithful herald of the Saviour of men.

Major General THOMAS S. JESUP, the distinguished soldier, passed his early years amid the peaceful and picturesque uplands of Mason county, and within three miles of the village, Washington, which gave birth to the famous Confederate leader, Albert Sidney Johnston. The name Jesup (or Jessup, as other families spell it) is said to be a corruption of the Italian, *Giuseppi*; but the family from which the general sprang is believed to have been of Scotch-Irish descent. They came from Pennsylvania, in the early part of

the present century, and settled near Washington, on the place of Col. John Pickett, building a cabin and cultivating a small tract of land. The house in which they lived has long since disappeared, and nothing marks the spot except a small heap of stones which formed the "jams" and back wall of the wooden chimney. The Jesups are distinctly remembered by the old people of the vicinage, who speak of them in terms of high respect. The family had a very limited abundance of worldly goods, and, unassisted by slave-labor, toiled for years to but little purpose on rented land; but they were proud, intelligent, and self-respecting, and stood high in the esteem of all who knew them. The general seemed to have derived the more conspicuous traits of his character from his mother—towards whom, throughout his entire career, he manifested the most tender and respectful devotion, frequently deserting the brilliant circles of Washington city to visit the proud old lady in the home which, as soon as he was able, he had spared nothing to render comfortable and happy. The distinguished visitor is still remembered in the neighborhood for the dignity and simplicity of his manners; a plain, silent, and unassuming gentleman, dressed in citizen's clothes—usually a blue frock coat with velvet collar and "gimlet handle" buttons, blue-gray pantaloons, buff cassimere vest with brass buttons, a black stock supporting a neatly turned shirt collar, and a high crowned black hat with a narrow rim. To the neighbors this simple gentleman was the general; but to the proud old mother, he was still—"Tommy Jesup." His achievement of distinction had not surprised her. He had been a studious plodding youth, working when others idled, and reading when others slept. Not the old mother only, but all the neighbors anticipated a splendid future for a boy who chopped and carried the wood which lighted his "study" fires. Tommy Jesup, as he lay stretched before the blazing logs which cast their ruddy glare upon the cabin floor, was preparing himself for something—he knew not what. His adoption of the military profession was purely accidental. He began life as a clerk or assistant in a store at Maysville; and with his happy faculty for administration, might have pursued a mercantile career with distinguished success. But while the capacity of Jesup was fully equal to all the proper requirements of commercial life, his sensitive conscience exacted too high a standard of commercial morality for the purposes of his employer; and so, after a decisive difference of opinion in reference to a certain transaction, they parted company.

Entering the army as 2d lieutenant of infantry, in 1808, Gen. Jesup passed rapidly through intermediate grades—receiving brevets "for distinguished and meritorious conduct in the battle of Chippewa," and for "gallant conduct and distinguished skill in the battle of Niagara," where he was severely wounded. May 8, 1818, he was appointed quartermaster general, with the rank of brigadier general; and was actively engaged in its responsible duties until three days before his decease—except for two years, "when he was intrusted with an important military command, which he discharged with credit and fidelity," bringing order and success out of the dire confusion of the Florida war. He died June 10, 1860, aged about 75 years. In general orders No. 16, issued the next day from the U. S. war department, the highest honors of war were directed to be paid to his memory—as that of "one of the few veterans remaining in the regular army of that gallant band who served in the war of 1812, a man long known, respected and beloved alike for his varied and distinguished public services, his sterling integrity, untiring devotion to business, constancy in friendships, and genial social qualities."

Gen. Jesup was an intimate and trusted friend of Henry Clay, and acted as his second in the remarkable duel with John Randolph—who, in 1825, shortly after Mr. Clay had become U. S. secretary of state in the cabinet of John Quincy Adams, outrageously insulted him in a speech on the floor of congress. Mr. Clay promptly challenged him. When the parties had taken their positions, Randolph's pistol was accidentally discharged before the word was given. The moment this took place, Gen. Jesup called out that he would instantly leave the ground with his friend, if that occurred again. Mr. Clay at once exclaimed, it was entirely an accident, and begged that the gentleman might be allowed to go on. On the word being given, Mr. Clay fired,

without effect, Mr. Randolph discharging his pistol in the air. "The moment Mr. Clay saw that Mr. Randolph had thrown away his fire, with a gush of sensibility he instantly approached Randolph, and said—with an emotion which (adds the interested writer) I can never forget—'I trust in God, my dear sir, you are untouched; after what has occurred, I would not have harmed you for a thousand worlds.'" Mr. Randolph had communicated to his second, Gen. James Hamilton, of South Carolina—the authority for this account—his intention "not to return Mr. Clay's fire; nothing shall induce me to harm a hair of his head. I will not make his wife a widow, nor his children orphans. Their tears would be shed over his grave; but when the sod of Virginia rests on my bosom, there is not, in this wide world, one individual to pay this tribute upon mine."

Col. JAMES C. PICKETT, son of Col. John Pickett, was born in Fauquier co., Va., Feb. 6, 1793, and brought when three years old to Mason co., Ky., to a home which is still in possession of the family. Enjoying the advantage of a superior education, young Pickett was at early age fitted for public service. In the war of 1812, he was an officer of U. S. artillery, and won deserved reputation for ability and patriotism; served, also, in the U. S. army, 1818-21; resigned, and returning to Mason county, entered upon the practice of the law; was editor of the Maysville *Eagle*, for a year, about 1815; representative in the legislature of Kentucky, 1822; secretary of state of Kentucky, 1825-28, during a very stormy period in her history; appointed, by President Jackson, secretary to the U. S. legation to Colombia, 1829-33, and, part of the time, acting *chargé d'affaires*; commissioner of the U. S. patent office, 1835; fourth auditor of the U. S. treasury, 1835-38; commissioned plenipotentiary to Ecuador, 1838; *chargé d'affaires* to Peru, 1838-45—when he retired to private life, leaving it for a few years to become editor of the *Congressional Globe* at Washington city.

Col. Pickett's natural abilities were of the first order. While his scholarship was varied and profound, he was distinguished as a linguist. Indeed, he seemed to have attained excellence in every branch of study; and has left numerous proofs of his extensive acquirements. In matters pertaining to the diplomatic history of our country, he was justly esteemed an oracle. As a writer on science, he established a high reputation—one admirably sustained in his papers addressed to the National Institute. His literary essays were numerous and able; as a reviewer, he excelled. In selecting and marshaling his facts and arguments, his power was peculiar; his style was remarkable for clearness, strength, and elegance. A unique illustration of his cheerful intellectual vigor, was the volume of poems, published in his 75th year, and all written within eighteen months of publication. His friendships were choice and strong, lasting through life. The firm and unvarying friendship of 58 years between Col. Pickett and the late Judge Lewis Collins, makes this brief tribute of regard from the son of the latter a labor of love.

Singularly observant, of vast and varied attainments, of unwearied industry, and unimpeachable integrity, of cultivated taste, and pure and fervent patriotism, Col. Pickett won high distinction in the service of his state and country. After a long, honored, and useful life, he died near the scene of some of his sweetest and greatest triumphs—in Washington city, July 10, 1872, in the 80th year of his age; and was buried beside his wife, a daughter of the late Gov. Joseph Desha, of Kentucky. Two sons survived him—JOSKPH DESHA PICKETT, a minister of the Christian church, professor in Bethany College (West) Virginia, chaplain in the Confederate army, and, since 1866, professor of English literature and sacred history in Kentucky University, Lexington, Ky.; and Col. JOHN T. PICKETT, U. S. consul to Vera Cruz, 1853-57, and again, 1858-61, and Confederate States special envoy extraordinary to Mexico, 1865.

Gen. RICHARD COLLINS, son of Rev. John Collins, one of the most distinguished and eloquent of the pioneer ministers of the Methodist E. church in southern Ohio, was born in New Jersey, June 3, 1797; was liberally educated;

studied law, and practiced with great success at Hillsborough, Ohio, 1818-32; represented Highland county successively in both branches of the Ohio legislature, 1820-25; was defeated for congress, Oct., 1826, by a division of the Adams vote among three candidates, but led that ticket; removed to Maysville, and became a dry goods merchant, 1832-52; represented Mason county in the Kentucky legislature three times, 1834, 1844, and 1847; refused a re-election each time, and more than once refused to make the race for congress; was president of the Maysville city council for over 12 years; first president of the Maysville and Lexington railroad, 1850-53 (see engraving of Railroad Presidents); removed to the old family homestead, near Bantam, Clermont co., Ohio, 1853, and engaged in farming until his death, May 12, 1855, aged 58 years. He was one of the most intelligent agriculturists in Ohio.

Gen. Collins was, indeed, a remarkable man. Had his ambition equaled his ability as a lawyer, public speaker, and legislator in two states, no position short of the presidential chair but he might have reached. He was the intimate personal friend and peer of Thomas Ewing and Thomas Corwin, side by side with whom his professional and political career in Ohio ran for years, until he abandoned the excitement of law and politics for the more quiet and congenial life of a merchant. His adopted state, Kentucky, tendered him position and fame, but he had no taste for it and declined. His intellect, of a high order naturally, was cultivated and refined by education; his judgment was clear, prompt, discriminating; his manners fascinating, his taste exquisite, his bearing dignified, his appearance imposing; his style of elocution was brilliant and captivating to an extraordinary degree; unswayed by party or prejudice, few could resist his logic, while he conciliated and persuaded; if he indulged in sarcasm, that most dangerous of weapons, it was keener than a Damascus blade, never rough nor jagged; his wit was sparkling and irresistible; in every line of life in which he chose to move he was distinguished. His last audible words, uttered in full view of immediate death, but in full assurance of a blissful immortality, were among the most characteristic and sublime that have signalized the dying moments of the heroic great. They were—"This, my daughter, is the greatest day of all my life."

Gen. Collins was married in 1823 to Mary Ann Armstrong, eldest daughter of John Armstrong, one of the pioneer merchants of Maysville, whom he survived 18 years. (For sketch of their son JOHN A., see below.)

JOHN ARMSTRONG COLLINS, eldest son of Gen. Richard Collins above named, and grandson of John Armstrong, one of the earliest and most successful merchants of Maysville, was born in Hillsborough, Ohio, April 13, 1824, and died in New Orleans, June 10, 1850, aged 26 years. He was raised and educated in Maysville until 1839; graduated in 1841 at Miami University, Ohio, with high honors; studied law with Gov. Thos. Corwin, settled in practice at Cincinnati and immediately took rank with the ablest members of that bar; removed in 1849 to Lake Providence, Louisiana, and entered upon a lucrative practice, which he was spared but fourteen months to increase and enjoy. Sergeant S. Prentiss, himself one of the noblest, most gifted, and distinguished sons of the South, said of him: "No man possessed in a higher degree the qualities we most love and admire; his heart was as simple and ingenuous as that of a child, yet stuffed full of kind sentiments, generous impulses, high aspirations, and noble resolves; his head was worthy of his heart—it was the abode of genius, the temple of wit, the chosen home of a family of brilliant, sparkling, and varied talents." Among all the brilliant young men of Kentucky, called home while yet upon the threshold of life's earnest work, not one more quickly won nor more surely possessed the high consideration of the gifted, the cultivated, and the great. His judgment and taste were standards in literature and every elegant art. The eloquence of his pen, even more than his lips, was singularly fascinating and effective—alike in richness and profundity, in brilliancy and strength. Sought out and courted by the rare and highly gifted, he was often the most accomplished and gifted of them all.



Gov. JOHN CHAMBERS, one of the most solid of the public men of Mason county, was born in New Jersey, Oct. 6, 1780, and died at Paris, Ky., Sept. 21, 1852, aged nearly 72. He was brought to Washington, in 1794; educated partly at Transylvania Seminary, Lexington; deputy clerk of the district court, 1797-1800, during which time he studied law, and began a successful practice, 1800; was a soldier in the war of 1812, and at the battle of the Thames aid to Gen. Harrison, with rank of major; representative from Mason county in the legislature, 1812, '15, '30, and '31 (his elder brother James was representative in 1808, '09, and '11, and senator, 1815-19); representative in congress, 1828-29, and 1835-39, five years; was tendered by Gov. Metcalfe a seat on the court of appeals bench, 1832, but declined; Feb. 23, 1835, was nominated by Gov. James T. Morehead to the same position, and unanimously confirmed, but, March 21st, resigned on account of ill health; was commonwealth's attorney for several years, between 1815 and 1828; governor of the territory of Iowa, 1841-45, during which time, and also in 1849, he negotiated successful treaties with the Sac and Fox, and Sioux, Indians for the purchase of lands.

Judge WALKER REID settled at Washington, Mason co., early in this century, and soon attained a successful practice at the bar; was representative in the Kentucky legislature, 1810, '11, '13, '17; was appointed judge of the circuit court, about 1832, under the "life tenure" system, but legislated out of office under the third constitution of the state, 1851. Knowing that the prejudice against that system had mainly contributed to the change of constitution, he for some time persistently declined all invitations to become a candidate for election to the judgeship—but yielded at last, and was elected for six years by a tremendous majority, the two counties of his former district, Mason and Bracken, regardless of politics, giving him very large majorities; he served as an elected judge about one year, and died of cholera, June 21, 1852, while absent from home, holding court at Alexandria, in Campbell county; his age was about 67. His widow survived to nearly 80, which great age did not save her from repeated indignities and imprisonment in Missouri, because of her devotion to the cause of the South, in whose army her only surviving son, JOHN, was a colonel. Their oldest son, WALKER, lost his life as a captain in the war for Texan independence. Their other children all died before middle age; the two sons, JOSEPH B. and WM. TEBBS, were lawyers, and the three daughters married lawyers.

Judge ADAM BEATTY was born in Hagerstown, Md., May 10, 1777, and died on his farm near Washington, Mason co., Ky., in 1858, aged 81 years. His father dying before he was grown, young Beatty's means of education were limited but well improved. He immigrated to Lexington, in 1800; studied law in the office of James Brown, afterwards U. S. minister to France (see sketch under Franklin county), and was a member of the debating club immortalized by Geo. D. Prentice in his life of Henry Clay; he then formed an intimacy with "the great Commoner," which lasted for life, over fifty years. In 1802, he settled at Washington in the practice of law; was commissioned by Gov. Chas. Scott a circuit judge in July, 1811, when 34 years old—resigning after 15 years, and removing to his farm, which then became his home and his chief occupation for 32 years. He represented Mason county in the legislature—in the house in 1809, '27, and '28, and in the senate, 1837-39; was twice defeated for congress—in 1829, by Nicholas D. Coleman (still living, Dec., 1873, in Louisiana), by less than 20 votes, owing to the division caused by a third candidate, and in 1831, by the late chief-justice Thos. A. Marshall; was a presidential elector in 1840, casting the vote of Kentucky for Harrison and Tyler. Judge B. was active with his pen; wrote much for the county newspapers, especially in every local controversy, and for agricultural, historical, and religious periodicals elsewhere; he always wrote sensibly and well, although sometimes tedious. His work on Agriculture, 12mo., 1844, is full of able and practical essays—an exceedingly valuable record of rich agricultural experience and scientific observation.

ALBERT SIDNEY JOHNSTON was born February 2, 1802, in Washington, Mason county, Kentucky. His father, Dr. John Johnston, moved to that town from Salisbury, Connecticut, in 1785; and is remembered by the old inhabitants as the favorite physician of his neighborhood—a man of talents, acquirements, and integrity. His eldest son, Josiah Stoddard Johnston, an infant when he was brought to Kentucky, graduated at Transylvania University, studied law, removed, in 1805, to Alexandria, Louisiana, became distinguished as a lawyer, a leading man in the Legislature, judge of the United States District Court, represented the State in Congress from 1821 to 1823, and in the U. S. Senate from 1824 until his death, May 19, 1833, caused by the explosion of gunpowder on board the steamboat *Lioness*, on Red river. Another son, Harris (father of the talented Col. J. Stoddard Johnston, editor of the *Frankfort Freeman*) was one of the most intelligent and influential planters of Louisiana. His other sons were all prominent and useful men. Of his daughters, Eliza was married to Rev. John A. McClung, D.D., a writer, lawyer, and clergyman of great power and genius—most widely known as the author of "Sketches of Western Adventure" (see his portrait in the frontispiece of this work); another daughter was married to Col. James Byers, a highly intelligent and practical farmer, who represented Mason county in both branches of the Kentucky Legislature, and was the writer of some sketches of thrilling interest.

Albert Sidney was the youngest son. In boyhood he was noted for courage, enterprise, and generosity, and was liked by old and young. While a student at Transylvania University, a school-mate says "he was conspicuous for always knowing his lesson." In 1822 he was appointed a cadet at West Point by his brother, Josiah Stoddard Johnston, then a Member of Congress, as above mentioned. He graduated, in 1826, seventh in his class, though standing second in mathematics. Declining a tempting position on the staff of Maj.-Gen. Winfield Scott, he selected the infantry, and the frontier as his field of service, his ambition being to win his way by deeds. It is noteworthy that he did not again visit Washington City for a quarter of a century.

He first joined the 2d Infantry, but was soon transferred to the 6th Reg't, of which he became adjutant—in which capacity he served through the Black Hawk war, in 1832, and was complimented for his conduct at the battle of the Bad Axe. He also received from the Governor of Illinois a commission as colonel of the Illinois State Line. Jefferson Davis and Abraham Lincoln were both engaged in this campaign.

In 1828, Lieut. Johnston married Henrietta Preston, eldest daughter of Maj. William Preston, of Louisville, Kentucky. His wife's declining health induced him to resign his army commission in 1835. Her death, in 1836, releasing him from family ties, his sympathies and his services were enlisted for Texas in her struggle for independence. Entering her army as a private, in February, 1837, he rose, in less than a year, to the chief command. During his eventful life he filled every grade of military rank known in America, except Lieutenant-Colonel. This rapid promotion involved him in a duel, in which he was dangerously wounded by Gen. Felix Huston, who, however, regretted his own action, and became the friend of Gen. Johnston—speaking of him freely as the bravest man he ever knew. In 1839, Pres't Lamar appointed Gen. Johnston Secretary of War of the Republic of Texas. In this position, and as general-in-chief, his prudence, foresight, and vigor averted Mexican invasion, and crushed in battle the Cherokee Indians, who had been stirred up by Mexico to attack Texas. He was present in person at the battle of the Neches, which closed the war; and Gen. Burleson, the gallant commander, freely acknowledged his obligations to his official chief.

Gen. Johnston was a strenuous supporter of Annexation to the United States. Having, about this time, married Miss Eliza Griffin, who survives him, and having greatly impaired his fortune in his service of the Republic, Gen. Johnston undertook to plant cotton in Brazoria county, with a few hands. At the breaking out of hostilities between the United States and Mexico, by invitation of Gen. Taylor, he hurried to the front, and was elected colonel of the 1st Texas Infantry. This regiment was disbanded at the end of three months, and Gen. Taylor assigned him as inspector-general of Butler's division. At the battle of **Monterey**, when Mitchell's Ohio regiment, on account of the loss of its field

officers, fell into confusion, Gen Johnston rallied and re-formed its line, and thus repulsed a charge of Mexican lancers. Conspicuous on horseback, he passed unharmed where seven deadly cross-fires mowed down hundreds of gallant soldiers. Generals Thomas L. Hamer, William O. Butler, and Zachary Taylor all recommended his promotion to the rank of brigadier-general. But political influences prevented his further employment, and disappointed but uncomplaining, he retired to his plantation to listen in solitude to the echoes of the glory won by American valor.

In 1849, President Taylor appointed him a paymaster in the army, which office he filled for five years on the frontier of Texas. In 1854, President Pierce appointed him colonel of the 2d cavalry, then first organized, of which Robert E. Lee (afterward general) was made lieutenant-colonel. He commanded the department of Texas, until he was selected to lead the expedition to Utah. By forced marches he reached the United States troops in time to rescue them from threatening disasters, wintered at Fort Bridger, and, before spring, the moral and physical superiority of his position brought the Mormons to terms. His conduct won the approval of the government and people.

He was then assigned to the command of the department of California, during which service, the secession of the Southern States occurred. Gen. Johnston was not a secessionist, but he felt it his paramount duty to stand with his State and his people. When Texas seceded, he sent his resignation to the Government at Washington City—keeping his action concealed from his most intimate friends, lest some daring spirit, misinterpreting his purpose, might be prompted to make a revolutionary attempt in his department. He determined to restore unimpaired his trust to the hands from which he had received it. He was relieved by Col. Sumner, and his resignation accepted. He then passed by a perilous route through Arizona, on horseback to Texas. He found the sections at war; and reaching Richmond in September, 1861, learned for the first time the duty expected of him.

To Gen. Johnston was assigned the command of all the territory west of the Atlantic States—a region imperial in resources and extent, but unorganized and unprepared for the storm about to burst upon it. An army had already been levied, and immense preparations made for an onward movement by the United States. An apathy, as fatal as it was incomprehensible, had succeeded in the South to the first triumph at Manassas; and Gen. Johnston's utmost endeavors assembled an army that at no time exceeded 22,000 effective men, to defend the line from Cumberland Gap to the Mississippi river. His main object was delay; to this end he impressed the enemy with the belief that he led a powerful army. But he did not receive the support he had a right to; and the winter and high water proved efficient allies of the North.

The disaster at Fishing Creek, and the victory at Belmont, were followed by the loss of Forts Henry and Donelson, and the skillful retreat through Tennessee of the remnant of the Confederate army.

Against the retreating general, the wrath and indignation of a people left open to the invader, was poured out, and an unparalleled clamor arose; President Davis, however, nobly supported him, and from the people an unavailing but generous regret followed, when the truth was learned after his death. Unshaken by the tumult, he made his rapid circuitous movement, and concentrated all the available troops of his department at Corinth, Mississippi. He formed his plans with confidence in their ultimate success, intending to follow them up by aggressive warfare. He reorganized his troops, inspired them with his own enthusiasm, and on the sixth of April, 1862, attacked the Federal army under Gen. Grant, at Shiloh. The outposts were surprised. Fierce and rapid were the Confederate assaults. The gallant troops of the North-west stubbornly resisted, but were steadily pressed back. The larger army learned to its cost what it was to be constantly outnumbered at each point of attack. The Confederates were successful in every conflict. The broken Federals were crowded back to the bank of the Tennessee river. At 1½ o'clock, at a critical point and moment, the Confederate line faltered. It became necessary for Gen. Johnston to lead the charge. He fell at the head of his men, in the moment of victory, on the afternoon of the first day's fight. But for his death, Shiloh would have continued a decisive victory for the Confederates.

Gen. Johnston, though sixty years old at the time, still preserved the robust form, the kindling eye, and the martial bearing of mature manhood. He had some of the highest qualities of a general: he was wary and sagacious in council, enterprising in the field, tenacious and composed in disaster, impetuous in assault, and unrelenting in pursuit. His military training was excellent, and his experience large; yet not these, but his genius for war, gave him his pre-eminence. His manners were frank, kindly, and winning. His features were somewhat stern, and his presence striking and soldierly; but love and confidence naturally followed him. Simple in his tastes and habits, respectful and subordinate to his superiors, he was generous to his subordinates, and magnanimous to his enemies. To women and children, to the weak, the unfortunate, and the vanquished, he was gentle, sympathizing, and liberal. In all relations loyal, faithful, and unselfish, he was the soul of truth and honor—a man of heroic mold.

The inscription on his tomb, at New Orleans, is as follows:

Behind this stone is laid,  
For a season,  
ALBERT SIDNEY JOHNSTON,  
A General in the army of the Confederate States,  
Who fell at Shiloh, Tennessee,  
On the 6th day of April, A. D. 1862:  
A man tried in many high offices  
And critical enterprises,  
And found faithful in all.  
His life was one long sacrifice of interest to conscience;  
And even that life, on a woful Sabbath,  
Did he yield as a holocaust at his country's need.  
Not wholly understood was he while he lived;  
But, in his death, his greatness stands  
Confessed in a people's tears.  
Resolute, moderate, clear of envy, yet not  
Wanting in that finer ambition which makes  
Men great and pure.  
In his honor—impregnable;  
In his simplicity—sublime;  
No country e'er had a truer son—no cause a nobler champion—  
No people a bolder defender—no principle a purer victim—  
Than the dead soldier  
Who sleeps here.  
The cause for which he perished is lost—  
The people for whom he fought are crushed—  
The hopes in which he trusted are shattered—  
The Flag which he loved guides no more  
The charging lines;  
But his fame, consigned to keeping of that time which,  
Happily, is not so much the tomb of Virtue as its shrine,  
Shall, in the years to come, fire modest worth to noble ends.  
In honor, now, our great Captain rests—  
A bereaved people mourn him;  
Three Commonwealths proudly claim him—  
Among those choicer spirits, who, holding their conscience unmixed with blame,  
Have been, in all conjectures, true to themselves, their country, and their God.

GEORGE MASON, the distinguished statesman of Virginia, after whom Mason county was named, was born in now Fairfax co., Va., in 1726; died at his seat, Gunston hall, on the Potomac, in 1792, aged 66. In 1769, before he became a member, he drew up the non-importation resolutions which were presented by George Washington in the assembly of Virginia and unanimously adopted; they included one not to import or purchase any imported slaves after Nov. 1st, 1769. In 1775, the Virginia convention desired to elect him

a delegate to congress; but the recent death of his wife, leaving a large family of children, made him decline. He drafted, in 1776, the declaration of rights and the constitution of Virginia, which were adopted by a unanimous vote. He was the author of the act legalizing all modes of worship, and releasing dissenters from taxation to support the established church (of England); was elected to the continental congress, 1777; and to the Federal convention to frame the constitution of the United States, in which he took a leading part as a democratic member. He failed in engrafting on it several of his favorite ideas—among them, one to make the president elective by the people only once, and for 7 years. Afterward, in the Virginia convention which ratified the U. S. constitution, 1788, he and Patrick Henry led the opposition, insisting at least on its ratification subject to certain amendments. Even then, it would have failed but for the support of the 14 members from the seven new counties, in the district (now the state) of Kentucky. Several of his proposed amendments were afterwards adopted. He was elected the first U. S. senator from Virginia, but declined to accept. President Madison pronounced him the ablest man in debate that he had ever seen; and President Jefferson said of him: "He was a man of the first order of wisdom, of expansive mind, profound judgment, cogent in argument, learned in the lore of our former constitution, and earnest for the republican change on democratic principles." His statue stands with those of Jefferson, Henry, and other illustrious Virginians, at the base of Crawford's colossal statue of Washington, in front of the capitol at Richmond.

## MCCRACKEN COUNTY.

MCCRACKEN county—in the extreme w. part of the state, one of the earliest counties of the territory known as Jackson's Purchase (see Volume I)—was established out of part of Hickman county in 1824, and named in honor of Capt. Virgil McCracken. It was the 78th formed in the state, was organized Jan. 17, 1825, and contains 237 square miles. It is bounded n. by the Ohio river, n. e. by the Tennessee river, which separates it from Livingston county, s. e. by Marshall for 8 miles, s. by Graves for 18 miles, and w. by Ballard county. Besides the rivers named, it is watered by Clark's river and Island creek, tributaries of the Tennessee, Mayfield creek, of the Mississippi, and Massac, Willow, Newton's, and Perkins' creeks, and Spring Bayou, which empty into the Ohio. The country is level, and with but little of any thing like stone; the soil of medium quality, except the river bottoms which are very productive. Tobacco is the great staple.

*Towns.*—*Paducah*, the county seat, is the 5th city in the state in population and importance; is situated on the Ohio, immediately below the mouth of the Tennessee river, in latitude 37° 05' and longitude 11° 35'; is 47 miles above Cairo, at the mouth of the Ohio, 12 miles below Smithland, 137 below Evansville, 322 below Louisville, and 454 below Cincinnati; contains 12 churches (3 Methodist, 2 Baptist, Presbyterian, Cumberland Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, Episcopal, Reformed or Christian, and Lutheran, and a Jewish synagogue), a large court house, with two court rooms and offices, a city court house, a male college, a female seminary, many private and public schools, 1 newspaper and 3