

---

*The* JESS M. THOMPSON  
PIKE COUNTY  
HISTORY

*As printed in installments in  
The Pike County Republican,  
Pittsfield, Illinois, 1935 - 1939*



a friend at court in case further action by the legislature is needed. For the purpose of immediate defense at the March term of court, Hansen and Leonard Ross are put at the head of the Atlas forces.

John M. Smith, Daniel Moore, Daniel Shin and Garret VanDusen, four of the commissioners named by the third legislature to fix the permanent county-seat, meet again in the log courtroom in Atlas. There they prepare an additional and supplementary report, confirming their former findings with reference to the county-seat and setting forth additional reasons for their determination in favor of Atlas. This supplementary report of the county-seat commissioners is entrusted to Nicholas Hansen and Leonard Ross, to be used by them to fortify their arguments before the unfriendly court at the March term.

On March 1, 1824, Ebenezer Smith and James Nixon convened the commissioners' court in regular term at Atlas. William Metz, the other commissioner, was not present the first day of the session. The courtroom was crowded with the clans of the contenders.

The first act of the commissioners was a body blow at the Atlas party. The commissioners seized the county treasury from the Atlas party by ousting Nathaniel Hinckley, then treasurer and an Atlas partisan, and appointing Nathaniel Shaw of the Shaw party. The office of county treasurer was then appointive.

The order for seizure of the treasury reads as follows: "Ordered that Nathaniel Shaw be and he is hereby appointed County Treasurer, for the year ensuing, to enter into bond with security, and in all other respects comply with the law in such cases."

Later on in the same term is another order as follows: "Ordered that the former County Treasurer, Nathaniel Hinckley, deliver over to the present Treasurer all the books and papers relating to that office."

On this opening day of the term, the Atlas party, by its appointed spokesmen, appears in Court and challenges the decision of the Court to return the county seat to Coles' Grove, introducing in support thereof the supplementary report of the county-seat commissioners. The official record is in these words:

"Nicholas Hansen and Leonard Ross presented a report of certain persons appointed by an act of the Legislature as Commissioners to locate the permanent

seat of justice for Pike county, and moved to have said report filed and recorded, which said motion for the reasons following is overruled: 1st, The authority given by the act aforesaid was a special joint authority and should have been strictly pursued; 2nd, It happens that but three out of five Commissioners acted in the location of the county-seat, when the law gave no power to a majority to act; 3rd, That said Commissioners did not return and present their report at or before the time prescribed by law for the return of said report; 4th, That the legal and qualified County Commissioners were in session at the time prescribed by law for the return of said report. And for the reasons aforesaid this Court does adjudge and decide that the proceedings of said Commissioners to locate the permanent county-seat of Pike county are void, and that the temporary seat of justice of said county still remains at Colesgrove.

"Ordered that the Clerk of this Court transmit a copy of the foregoing decision to the Judge presiding in this Circuit."

On the following day, March 2, with all three commissioners present, court was reconvened and the first action is recorded as follows:

"The proceedings of yesterday having been read over, they were concurred in by William Metz, the other commissioner."

Thus the commissioners handed down a unanimous decision against Atlas and in favor of Coles' Grove.

Further steps are then taken for the actual removal of the log court house back to Coles' Grove and at this point, when the matter of a clerk's office to be located at Coles' Grove is under consideration, the genius of John Shaw is again manifest in the following official entry by the clerk:

"John Shaw, having proposed to lease the county the building in Colesgrove, adjoining the one now occupied by Rigdon C. Fenton, for the term of one year, to be occupied as a Clerk's office, for the sum of 6¼ cents, and to be repaired by the county, under the direction of said Shaw, and to suit his convenience:

"Ordered that the proposals aforesaid be and are hereby acceded to on the part of this Court."

Whereupon it was ordered that "Court adjourn till Court in course."

## CHAPTER 8

# Pike County's "War of Roses" Fought in Campaign Territory Extending 300 Miles

EARLY PIKE COUNTY elections were exciting affairs, almost as exciting as a war. They were invariably bitter and acrimonious. No quarter was asked or given. The Honorable William A. Grimshaw, 1876 historian, speaking of these early elections, has this to say:

"The wars of the roses were almost fought over.

Towns and voters were scarce as at old Tarum in England, but votes counted; so when the Ross family and the Atlas party were candidates there was a lively time, electioneering from the mouth of the Illinois river all the way to Galena, in the present county of Jo Daviess, that being as lively a place and as populous as any in the state, and a precinct of Pike county. Think of sending to rally voters 300 miles and then to send again and almost fight to get returns of elections! Such were the trials of candidates in an early day."

"Fancy poll books," continues Grimshaw, "were made in those earlier days, with fictitious names thereon, to defeat the Ross party."

So, in the election of 1824, we find a miniature "war of the roses" raging throughout Pike county. The



slavery issue has touched off the elemental passions in men. In the eighteen months' campaign preceding the election, the smoldering embers of county-seat war are again kindled and fanned into blistering flame. Of all the elections that have taken place on Pike county soil, by far the most exciting was that of 1824, to which period we have now come in a recital of the county-seat adventures.

In the election of 1824, the campaign ground is again the great county as it was in its original vastness. From the juncture of the rivers to the Wisconsin and Indiana lines and the shores of Lake Michigan, the campaign is carried in all its relentless fury. Once more John Shaw is arrayed against Nicholas Hansen for the Pike seat in the legislature, just as in the memorable election of 1822, out of which grew the famous Shaw-Hansen contest in the legislature. Now both Pike and Fulton counties, the latter of which had been cut off from Pike in 1823, have been made a single legislative district and all this great territory is voting in the Shaw-Hansen contest for the fourth legislature which is to sit in 1824-26.

Once more in Pike county many of the old antagonists who have fought each other from the beginning of the county's history are locked in a finish fight. Hansen is against Shaw in the legislative battle, and again the permanent location of the county seat is the issue in that struggle. Leonard Ross is again pitted against his old antagonist, Rigdon C. Fenton, the Shaw candidate for sheriff. Joel Bacon is once more the Shaw candidate for coroner, and is opposed by John G. Curtiss, the Ross candidate. Ebenezer Smith and James Nixon are again on the Shaw ticket for county commissioners, and James M. Seeley, their old antagonist, is once more on the other side. Shaw has picked Thomas McKee for the third commissioner and the Atlas party has put forward two new partisans in the persons of Levi Hadley and Zepheniah Ames, along with Seeley.

Throughout the wilds of Pike and Fulton the campaign is waged fiercely for the legislature, and to every cabin settlement in Pike the battle for county offices is carried. Even to Fever River (now Galena) in the northwestern corner of the state, 300 miles by trail from Atlas, the county candidates go electioneering. The Fever River settlement occupied the northwestern corner of what is now Jo Daviess county (that portion west of the Fourth principal meridian) and was remote from the rest of Pike county, the closest Pike county point to the south being 75 miles distant, at Fort Armstrong, near the modern Rock Island.

In this election, perhaps more than in any other of record, the "fancy poll books" referred to by Grimshaw were used to defeat the Atlas party. High-handed procedure on the part of public officials prevailed to an almost unbelievable extent, and acts were perpetrated, even by election officials, and certifications made and commissions issued, that to this day are inexplicable in the light of the official abstracts of the vote. For instance, the abstracts of the official returns from Pike county in the election of 1824, on file in the office of the secretary of state at Springfield, and dug up out of the archives for the purposes of this article, show a set of officers elected, certified and commis-

sioned entirely different than those who actually served subsequent to this election. Officials at Springfield are unable to account for the discrepancy existing between the official and the actual record. The discrepancy, due apparently to an almost unbelievable act of retribution on the part of the Coles' Grove party, against the Atlas party, will be explained in due course.

In Pike county, as in all parts of the state in the campaign of 1824, the slavery issue seared the souls of men. From the backwoods pulpit, from the pioneer press, from the resounding stump, the partisans of slavery and the champions of freedom thundered their opposing views. Pike county, prior to this campaign, which began in February, 1823, and lasted for 18 months, had been prone to look upon slavery with a degree of tolerance. The early settlers were essentially anti-slave, but there had now grown up a feeling that the settlement of this region was being retarded because of so many worthy emigrants from the slave states of Virginia and Kentucky passing through the Illinois country to settle in Missouri where slavery existed.

In the courthouse yard at Atlas, in Rufus Brown's tavern, in John Shaw's store, at backwoods meetings, in the pioneer cabins, under sheds where men awaited their turn at the early grist mills, wherever men gathered, the slavery issue was the absorbing topic, and debate was bitter.

Justice John Reynolds, sitting in the Pike county courts of the period and representing clients in those courts even after he quit the bench, was in the midst of the struggle, and what he had to say years later in his history, "My Own Times," re-published by the Chicago Historical Society in 1879, is worthy of consideration here, reflecting as it does his own observations of that exciting conflict.

Says Reynolds, relative to the period in question: "The Missouri question, so called at that day, 1823, more of a political character than the public lands, agitated little Illinois to the very center. The state had then not more than fifty thousand inhabitants, but the subject of slavery was discussed in the courtyards, sometimes in the pulpits, and at all gatherings of the people, as well as in the presses and on the stump throughout the state. In the elections that year, this question was the prominent element. At that day, there was no question of Democracy or Whiggery. John McLean, the member then in Congress, voted on the Missouri side of the question, which beat him at the election. Daniel P. Cook took the other side and was elected.

"The discussion of the subject was bitter and acrimonious. The subject has always engendered bitter feelings among the people, and has a tendency to array one section against the other. The people in Illinois in 1820 were ready almost to commit violence on one another, and in fact the whole Union was so agitated that, like an earthquake, no one knew when it would subside, and all friends of the integrity of the Union were alarmed and shuddered at the fearful consequences of the agitation, and the sectional feelings produced on the occasion."

Thus, John Reynolds, writing years after this mo-



## PIKE COUNTY HISTORY

mentous struggle, reveals that even then the friends of the Union realized that the future of that Union was at stake in the terrific joining of forces in Illinois, the ultimate outcome of which had been determined to no small extent by Nicholas Hansen, the representative from Pike, sent to the legislature as a result of the county-seat contest in the new county. Nicholas Hansen's vote against the convention and slavery, in the first instance, and the furor that arose throughout the state over his unjust unseating, in the second instance, made this Pike county representative two times an important determining factor in the slavery issue.

George W. Smith, in his history, states that in the campaign of 1823-24 "the press of the south, as well as the papers of St. Louis, which had a considerable circulation in Illinois at that time, ably supported the convention (undoubtedly proposed by the slave men for the purpose of amending the 1818 constitution to permit slavery in the state)." This historian states also that Henry Biddle, Roberts Vaux and other wealthy Quakers in Philadelphia, aided the anti-conventionists principally with literature.

Into Pike county during this campaign came the greatest leaders of the day, slave and anti-slave, to address pioneer gatherings and set up organizations for and against slavery. It is proper and interesting to look back and see how some of the prominent men of that day, most closely associated with Pike county and best known among its pioneers, stood in this great crisis of state and national history. On the side of slavery were some of the most brilliant men of early times, among them the following:

Elias Kent Kane, early settler in the original county and one of the ablest men of his day, a graduate of Yale and a brilliant lawyer, a member of the first constitutional convention and first Secretary of State under the first Governor, Shadrach Bond, a United States Senator and a U. S. Territorial Judge before the state's admission, and a member of the family to which belonged the celebrated Elisha Kent Kane of Arctic renown. Kane managed and controlled the Republican Advocate, a pro-convention newspaper, during the campaign.

Thomas Reynolds, for a time Chief Justice of the Supreme bench of the state and afterwards Governor of Missouri. He occupied the bench at the first term of the circuit court at Atlas, in May, 1823. He was a strong advocate of slavery and assisted Kane in the management of the pro-slavery Republican Advocate.

Shadrach Bond, first Governor of the state, well known in Pike county but not popular with the Pike voters, receiving only 12 votes in the county in the 1824 election for Congress, as against 176 for his opponent, Daniel Pope Cook.

Chief Justice Phillips, a pro-slave candidate against Edward Coles in the 1822 election, receiving 10 votes in the certified Pike returns as against 89 for Coles.

John McLean of Shawneetown, who campaigned in Pike, a fine orator, a member of the General Assembly and a member of Congress from Illinois, and, in 1824, elected U. S. Senator to succeed Ninian Edwards.

Jesse B. Thomas, a campaigner in the county, prominent in the early Pike courts, a Territorial Judge be-

fore the state's admission, and early Illinois Senator.

John Reynolds, an early Supreme Court justice and a familiar figure in the log courtrooms at Coles' Grove and Atlas, a member of the state legislature, a member of Congress, and fourth Governor of the state.

William Kinney, a Baptist preacher, politician, an excellent public speaker and a member of the state legislature. An early writer notes his visit to Pike county in the 1823-24 campaign.

Among the foremost opponents of slavery whose influence was felt in Pike county in the memorable campaign were the following:

Edward Coles, then Governor of the state, popular in Pike county and for whom Coles' Grove had been named. Coles is not known to have visited Pike in this campaign, but his influence in the county was great.

Morris Birbeck, an intimate friend of Coles, referred to in an early writing as having visited Atlas in 1823 and it is assumed that he was there to confer with the Rosses in the anti-slavery campaign. He was an intelligent and well-educated Wiltshire Englishman whom Coles met when traveling through England and who had become interested in the Illinois country from Coles' description thereof. He brought to Illinois a colony of English settlers who established themselves at or near Albion. He was not a public speaker but was an able, controversial writer and in the Illinois Gazette assailed slavery with able and convincing arguments. He was one of the foremost champions of human freedom in the state.

Daniel Pope Cook, son-in-law of Ninian Edwards, a powerful and eloquent champion of freedom who flamed from the Pike county stump in 1824. He it was who defended the Indians, Pemesan and Shonwennekek, charged with murder at the first term of circuit court held in Pike county in October, 1821, being appointed as defense counsel by Justice John Reynolds who was then on the bench. Cook, in the Illinois Intelligencer, of which he was part owner, thundered against slavery in this campaign.

David Blackwell, who practiced at the early Pike county bar at Coles' Grove and Atlas, was a member of the state legislature, secretary of state in 1823, and during the slavery campaign, assumed charge of the Intelligencer while it was advocating the convention and made it anti-convention.

Samuel D. Lockwood of Jacksonville, a frequent practitioner in the Pike courts, attorney general of the state in 1821, and a loyal supporter of Gov. Coles and his policies, vigorously assailed slavery in the Pike county campaign. He was later on the supreme bench of the state.

John M. Peck, a Baptist clergyman along missionary lines, checkmated the Baptist preacher Kinney, being a strong anti-slavery advocate who settled at Rock Springs, near Belleville, in 1820, and who during the 1823-24 campaign, organized an anti-convention society in St. Clair county, after which similar organizations were patterned in other counties.

Hooper Warren, editor of the Spectator at Vandalia, and George Churchill, contributor of anti-slavery articles to his paper, were both bitter opponents of the convention and slavery.



Jonathan H. Pugh of Bond county, another who practiced at the early Pike county bar, was an able assailant of slavery.

William H. Brown, part owner of the *Intelligencer* during the unseating of Nicholas Hansen, wrote a critical editorial and gave a detailed account of that high-handed action in the next issue of his paper following the occurrence, whereupon the pro-slavery legislature to punish Brown, gave the contract for public printing to his partners, William Berry and Robert Blackwell, which compelled Brown to surrender his partnership to Blackwell and Berry, and Robert Blackwell made the paper pro-convention for a year, until Governor Coles and his anti-convention friends purchased it and placed David Blackwell, brother of Robert, in charge, whereupon the paper became anti-convention. The public printing was often practically the sole source of revenue for a newspaper, and it was thus held as a club over the editor's head by unscrupulous politicians.

As we have already seen, Illinois, at the time the convention resolution was being considered by the legislature in February, 1823, was strongly pro-slavery in sentiment. The legislature was nearly, if not quite, two-thirds pro-slavery, as shown by the voting in both houses on the convention resolution. Nicholas Hansen, switching his vote to the anti-slavery side on February 11, 1823, had defeated the convention resolution which required a two-thirds vote in each house. He had previously, pursuant to a county-seat compact, voted with the pro-slave crowd for Judge Jesse B. Thomas, the pro-slave candidate for the U. S. Senate. Had he voted with the pro-slave majority on the convention resolution, giving the resolution the necessary two-thirds majority, Illinois doubtless would have joined the slave states in the Union line-up. For up to that time, sentiment in Illinois was distinctly pro-slave.

Followed the diabolical ousting of Hansen and seating of his opponent, Shaw, an act so shameless that even the more even-tempered slavery advocates were shocked thereby. Immediately, the ruthless unseating of Hansen became an issue throughout the state. Pro-slavery sentiment in Illinois began to waver. The unseating of Hansen and the seating of Shaw by the slavery crowd in order to carry the convention resolution was condemned from press, pulpit and stump. The names of Hansen and Shaw echoed and re-echoed from one end of the state to the other. People were aroused by the indefensible act of the slavery majority in the General Assembly. Around the Hansen-Shaw contest, the campaign for and against slavery was fought with unstinted fury.

In Pike county, the home of both Hansen and Shaw, the contest developed a bitterness almost unbelievable. Acts almost as shocking as the Hansen-Shaw affair itself, were resorted to by the opposing factions. For years, even up to 1830, the unlawful efforts to control the Pike county election of 1824 were reflected in the criminal annals of the county. Every judge in every election precinct in Pike county became a defendant in actions brought in the name of the people. Candidates of the opposing factions for the county offices contested the election returns, public officials suffered indictment, special elections were held to decide dis-

putes that could not otherwise be adjudicated, and even then some of the accepted results of the bitter contest are beyond present understanding.

It was charged in the campaign that the pro-slave majority in the legislature had first seated Hansen in order to get his vote for Judge Thomas for the U. S. Senate, and that they unseated Hansen and seated Shaw to get the latter's vote for the convention resolution, regardless of the equities involved. Governor Thomas Ford made the following statement relative to this affair:

"Hansen would vote for Thomas, but Shaw would not; Shaw would vote for the convention, but Hansen would not. The slavery party had use for both of them and determined to use one after the other. For this purpose they decided in favor of Hansen, admitted him to a seat, and with his vote elected their United States Senator; and then toward the close of the session, by mere brute force and in the most barefaced manner, they reconsidered their former vote, turned Hansen out of his seat, and decided in favor of Shaw, and with his vote carried their resolution calling for a new convention."

The pioneer newspapers took up the fight of these great opponents and the greatest controversial writers of the day, slave and anti-slave, hurled charges and counter-charges at each other, and from stump and pulpit friends of freedom shouted anathemas against slavery. Papers in other sections of the Union took sides for and against the convention, because the issue of slavery was involved.

On February 15, 1823, three days after the unseating of Hansen, the pro-convention crowd at Vandalia had appointed a committee to prepare an address to the people, giving the reasons for a new convention, among which reasons the question of slavery was wholly ignored. A few days later, the anti-conventionists met and adopted an address in which they charged that the main object of the conventionists was to establish and retain slavery.

Governor Edward F. Dunne, commenting in his Illinois history on the situation, says:

"Before the ousting of Hansen and passage of the convention resolution, the sentiment for slavery was largely preponderant. Immediately, that sentiment began to lose ground. The high-handed, arbitrary and unfair methods pursued by the House in evicting Hansen and securing thereby a two-thirds vote for the convention, disgusted many fair-minded citizens who had been tolerant of slavery."

The slave forces never admitted during the campaign that their purpose was to amend the constitution to perpetuate slavery in the state. The masks were stripped from the conventionists, however, by the able anti-conventionists of the day, and the slave men became objects of widespread suspicion. As Governor Dunne says: "A masked movement in political life is feared as much as a masked man is dreaded in private life."

The following impassioned appeal, framed by fifteen of the eighteen legislators who voted against the convention, reverberated from the Pike county stump.

"Consider the spectacle that would be presented to



the civilized world if the people of Illinois, innocent of this great national sin, and in the full enjoyment of the blessings of free government, sitting down in solemn convention to deliberate and determine whether they should introduce among them a portion of their fellow-beings, to be cut off from those blessings, to be loaded with chains of bondage and unable to leave any other legacy to their posterity than the inheritance of their own bondage. The wise and the good of all nations would blush at our political depravity."

Thus, in 1823-24, the Pike county settlers weigh and consider all the arguments that are heard years later upon the slavery issue preceding and during the Civil war. Thus, 35 years before the Lincoln-Douglas de-

bates, we find the moral issues of the slavery question pounding at the hearts and consciences of our early citizens.

Now we have the background for the great battlefield on which the campaign of 1823-24 is fought. Meanwhile at Atlas where the pro-Shaw Commissioners' Court has held that Coles' Grove is still the temporary seat of government, the commissioners are meeting in special sessions prior to the election and adopting measures to the advantage of the Shaw party and against the Ross party, and entering into what appears to be an astounding compact to foreclose the election and insure the certification of the Shaw candidates, regardless of the election returns.

## CHAPTER 9

### Calhoun's Early Settlers; LaSalle Tells of Indian Massacre at Cap au Gris

SITTING AT ATLAS in March, 1824, the County Commissioners' Court, as we have seen in a previous chapter, overruled Nicholas Hansen and Leonard Ross, representing the Atlas party, and held by unanimous decision that the temporary Pike seat of justice was still at Coles' Grove. The subscribing commissioners were Ebenezer Smith, James Nixon and William Metz.

These three commissioners, who played so important a part in the early county seat struggle, were all early settlers in the Coles' Grove precinct. Judge Ebenezer Smith had arrived there in May, 1819, settling about five miles south of the present site of Hardin, where he operated a ferry across the Illinois river. There were only five settlements in what is now Calhoun county when he arrived. It is said that to rid his family of the menace of drunken Indians, he bought a trading post in the vicinity that was kept by a French-Canadian, and destroyed it. Captain Nixon had settled in what is now Point precinct in the lower part of Calhoun county in a very early day, and the Metz family arrived about 1822 and settled where Brussels now is.

The commissioners adjourned the March (1824) term of court after having accepted a proposition of John Shaw to rent a house owned by him in Coles' Grove, to be used as a clerk's office, for 6¼ cents a year. What happened between the March term and the ensuing June term to alter the attitude of the honorable commissioners, the records do not disclose. Apparently the Atlas party, appealing to the judge then presiding in the circuit, secured some form of injunction restraining the Coles' Grove party from carrying out its plan to remove the seat of government. At any rate, we find the commissioners, meeting at Atlas in June, 1824, rescinding their former orders relative to the county seat and adopting an entirely different procedure, designed to restore the seat of government to Coles' Grove.

On June 7, 1824, the commissioners meet in the log courtroom in Atlas but adjourn without any formal action. The following day, with Smith, Nixon and Metz all in their seats, court is reconvened and the following is the first order of the session:

"Ordered that the doings of this Court at a special term held on the 26th, 27th and 28th days of January (which doings were in part unrecorded by Clerk Whitney), and also the doings of this Court of last March term, be and the same are hereby confirmed and established:—except a contract entered into with John Shaw for the purpose of leasing a house, the rent of which was six and one fourth cents, in Colesgrove, which contract is by mutual consent released and dissolved:—and also an Order of Adjudication respecting the County-seat, which Order is revoked and rescinded."

The commissioners next proceed to erect new election precincts in preparation for the coming August election, wherein John Shaw is again contesting with Nicholas Hansen for a seat in the 1824-26 legislature. The commissioners are meeting when the bitter slavery campaign of 1824 is nearing its climax. Once more the hope of the Atlas party rests in Hansen. Once more the Coles' Grove party puts its trust in John Shaw. If Shaw wins, he is expected to have sufficient influence in the legislature to put through another county-seat bill and appoint another commission to locate the permanent seat of justice. Therefore, the Shaw commissioners, sitting at Atlas, attempt to create an election setup favoring Shaw and handicapping the Rosses.

The first move to this end was the setting up of three townships—Coles' Grove, Atlas, Franklin—at the January (1824) session. The county was then reapportioned in such way as to give Coles' Grove township nearly half of the electors then resident in the county. Now, in setting up new election precincts, Coles' Grove is favored by being provided with two polling places.

On the petition of the required number of legal voters it is ordered that the township of Franklin be erected into an election precinct for the ensuing two years, and Thomas Bristow, Lewis Allen and Garret Van Dusen are appointed judges of election in that precinct. The present sites of Pittsfield, Rock Island and Galena were in this election precinct.

The action dividing Coles' Grove township into two precincts is recorded as follows:



Willsey, July 23, 1882, and they had three children, namely: James Ray, who married Clara Belle Smith and resides in Plainview, Texas; Dora, who married Thomas Jack and resides in New Mexico; and Clarence, who married Neva Hooper and resides in Pike county. Edgar, son of Clarence, born in Wilmar, Arkansas, married Letha Browning, May 14, 1936, and resides in Pike county. Thus there are two in Pike county who

bear the name of the Woolfolks, a family associated in history with the noted Lewises of Warner Hall with the Washingtons, Fieldings and Meriwether.

And so we have seen in Harrison county in the Territory, in the early 1800s, a considerable settlement of families who were destined to play an important part in the future development of Pike county, Illinois.

## CHAPTER 78

### Benjamin Elledge Ran Stave Factory and Grist Mill Near Griggsville

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO, during the shipping seasons, one might have seen almost any day along the road leading from Griggsville hamlet to Naples Landing, a huge flat-boat shaped wagon (known then as a Conestoga or sometimes as a "Tennessee" wagon), drawn by a pair of sturdy oxen and containing a cargo of staves, barrels or kegs. If one of the oxen was a "large brindle ox with a white spot on its rump" and the other a "white ox with red spots," it would be the team of Benjamin Elledge, son of Charity Boone and grandson of Daniel Boone's brother Edward.

~~It was the custom to haul the staves from the stave factory, two and a half miles northeast of Griggsville, to the Illinois river, where the staves were ricked up on the river bank to await a down trip of Ira Kellogg's "Raccoon" from Naples to St. Louis. The "Raccoon," a keel-boat, would make a trip once in five or six weeks. Naples was long the trading point for the eastern townships and for several years the Kellogg boat was the only river transport to St. Louis.~~

Benjamin Elledge's stave factory was located on the old Pittsfield-Meredosia stage route, near the southeast corner of the southeast quarter of Section 2, Griggsville township. It was two and a half miles northeast of the new town of Griggsville. Griggsville township was not organized until many years later. The factory was on land now owned by Mary C. (Harrington) Riley, wife of Clarence Riley of Perry. Glenn Riley, who farms the old Elledge homestead, occupies a large residence which stands some distance south and west of the site of Benjamin Elledge's early log habitation. Traces of the stage route that ran that day are dimly observable across the Riley place, running diagonally from northeast to southwest through the southeast portion of the farm. A depression in the earth and a few scattered foundation stones fix the site of the first Elledge settlement of 1834, while nearby some broken gravestones mark the site of the Benjamin Elledge burying ground, long since abandoned, where, among the numerous dead, sleeps an own daughter of the Boones.

Benjamin Elledge's ox team of a century ago can still be visualized by perusing some of the early records

in the Pike county courthouse. The team was once stolen and Elledge rode horseback to Quincy and found notices printed which were posted at public places on the Military Tract; one of these notices was posted on the courthouse door in Pittsfield, containing a description of the missing oxen, which were later recovered in the Sangamo country, where they had been sold to another settler by the parties who stole them from Elledge.

This same team of oxen was also involved in an early day lawsuit between Benjamin Elledge and his neighbor to the west, William Howerton Wilson, 1825 settler, who had formerly owned the team. An old Boone Land Register notice, descriptive of the oxen at the time they had been stolen, was included in the record of the Elledge-Wilson case. In replevin papers that were issued in the course of this case the two oxen were described as above.

Benjamin Elledge came overland, with teams, wagons and pack horses, from Harrison county, Indiana, in 1834 and located on Section 2 in what is now Griggsville township. With him came his wife, Catharine Reynolds, and, in order of their ages, the following children: Adaline (with her husband, Sheldon Baldwin), Sarah (Sally), James McClain, Leonard Boone, Edward Kindred, Elizabeth Jane, Harvey Viven and Reynolds Milton. Two daughters, Mary Elledge Bewick (or Bessick, as the name is written in Benjamin Elledge's will) and Charity Elledge had died in Indiana in 1830 and had been buried in Harrison county; both were born in Kentucky and died in the same year, Mary on October 1 at the age of 21, and Charity on December 19 at the age of 19.

Benjamin was not the first Elledge in this Illinois country. Jesse Elledge, militant Baptist of early days had raised his voice in God's first temples along the Illinois, long before Benjamin's arrival. Jesse was in Scott county as early as 1825 and was carrying his ministry into Pike county as early as 1828. Edward and William Elledge, brothers of Benjamin and Scott county pioneers of 1822, had both died in this western land before Benjamin came. Benjamin's sister Charity (or Sarah) Allen, had been living in what is now Scott county since April, 1820, reputed to have been the first white woman settler in that county. Francis Elledge, a son of Boone, was in Pike county as early as 1830 and in 1831 had married Sarah Philips of the noted Philips Ferry family. James Elledge, another brother of Benjamin, had also brought his family here prior to 1834, probably as early as 1825. James himself may have been in these parts on an exploring trip as early as the beginning of the 19th century, the late Mrs.



Hannah Dalby of Griggsville, whose family was neighbor to James in the early 1830s, having so related.

Benjamin Elledge, on November 14, 1834, purchased from William Wilkinson and his wife Lydia the east 80 of the southeast 160 in Section 2, Griggsville township, two and a half miles northeast of the then infant town of Griggsville which had been laid out earlier that year. Tall prairie grass still waved where Griggsville now stands. The site of Griggsville had been known since 1825 as Bateman's Gap, Henry Bateman having arrived there in that year, where he further improved a site that had been established earlier in the same year by Abraham Scholl, who started the first log cabin on Griggsville knoll in mid-May, 1825. Prior to Scholl and Bateman, the place had been known as Sackett's Harbor, a hunter by the name of Sackett having had a rude shelter there, even before the Rosses came to Atlas.

Wilkinson was the first owner of the 80 purchased by Elledge, having had it directly from the government under a grant dated March 9, 1831. Elledge paid the Wilkinsons \$500 for the 80, the transaction being certified by Andrew Philips, then proprietor of famous Philips Ferry and also a Pike county justice of the peace. The transfer to Elledge was made in the presence of Samuel Holloway, and Benjamin Elledge's eldest son, James McClain Elledge.

On the same day, Elledge purchased from Samuel and Margaret Holloway 12 $\frac{3}{4}$  acres in the northwest of Section 1, Griggsville township, adjoining the 80 on the east, for a consideration of \$17. This transaction was in the presence of James Elledge and Sheldon Baldwin, the latter a son-in-law of Benjamin Elledge. In the deed describing the tract a sycamore tree (spelled "ickamore" in the deed) was used as a landmark. Andrew Philips was the certifying official.

The above properties, acquired by Benjamin Elledge in November, 1834, for \$517, were sold by Benjamin's son, Reynolds M. Elledge, and his wife Zerilda at the close of the Civil War, July 14, 1865, for \$4,250, the purchasers being Walker G. and John G. Sleight.

Benjamin Elledge remained "lord and master" of the foregoing property for the balance of his life. Following his death in 1853 the property, under his will, was shared by his widow Catharine and his sons. On November 25, 1856, Leonard Boone deeded to his brother Reynolds 20 acres in the southeast corner of the 80-acre tract for \$600. This improved plot laid adjacent to the stage route that then ran diagonally across the southeast corner of the 80. In this deed, the property was transferred without any encumbrance other than "the dower of Catharine Elledge, widow of the late B. Elledge deceased."

In the deed given by Reynolds Elledge to the Sleights in 1865, the grantors (Reynolds M. Elledge and his wife Zerilda) reserved one-eighth of an acre, a plot 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  rods square, for "a burying ground for the heirs of the late Benjamin Elledge deceased," the plot being described with great particularity. This burial plot was 96 rods north and 32 rods east of the southwest corner of the old Elledge 80. It lay about 100 yards from the early Elledge log house; it is today traversed by a farm driveway, along which are strewn a few frag-

ments of stones that once marked the burials of numerous descendants of the Boone line.

Walker Sleight transferred his interest in the old Elledge 80 to John G. Sleight in 1868, and in 1869 John G. and his wife deeded the property back to Reynolds M. Elledge and the latter's brother-in-law, James H. Ingalls, who had married Benjamin Elledge's daughter, Elizabeth Jane. Ingalls, in 1870, transferred his interest to Reynolds, and on March 7, 1871, the old Elledge homestead passed from the Elledge to the Harrington family, when Reynolds M. Elledge deeded the property to Abel F. Harrington. Abel F., in 1883, deeded it to Joseph C. Harrington and he, on July 3, 1901, deeded it to his daughter, Mary C. Harrington (now Mrs. Mary C. Riley), who is the present owner.

A few scattered stones and a sunken bit of earth are all that now mark the site of the first rude habitation of the Elledges. Even the old stage route that passed that way in early days is now but barely discernible. None in the neighborhood can recall the exact locations of the early cooperage and grist mill. In the nearby valley are indications that here may once have been a living spring of water. Certain it is that the Elledge stave factory and mill made the settlement a place of considerable importance in those early days.

The Elledge cabin was a large double log habitation, much superior to the customary pioneer abode of the day. Mrs. Elledge, daughter of a wealthy Virginia family, had many beautiful things, which were kept packed in chests or boxes and seldom displayed. It is said that her marriage displeased a wealthy uncle by whom she had been reared, and that the luxuries to which she once had been used were hers no longer.

Mrs. Alice Carter, 7131 Prospect Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri, a daughter of Reynolds M. Elledge and a granddaughter of Benjamin and Catharine Reynolds Elledge, writes, in a letter to her cousin, Evelyn Elledge Boone of Hibbing, Minnesota:

"Grandmother's maiden name was Katherine (she signed as Catharine) Reynolds. She was raised in Virginia or Kentucky by a rich uncle whose name was Reynolds. He was a tobacco planter, and was very wealthy. He was the owner of many slaves. Grandma had a negro girl to wait on her, her own carriage, with liveried negro to drive it, etc. Uncle Boone (Benjamin's son, Leonard Boone) wrote to me about it. Grandmother was born a great lady, but she married a poor man against her uncle's wishes, so I guess he was through with her. I remember the beautiful silks she had and many other beautiful things. I remember she did not allow me to touch a thing she had."

It is related that Catharine was very unhappy over her family's estrangement following her marriage, her unhappiness sometimes causing a crossness that led some of her grandchildren to think that she might have been a stepmother to their parents. Harvey, one of her sons, told his daughter Evelyn that his mother was very strict, but "very, very kind and good when any of them were sick."

Reynolds M. Elledge, her youngest son, also married a Reynolds, Zerilda Reynolds, in Pike county, Illinois. She, too, had come from a family with slaves to do all the work; she was disowned by her family when she



married Elledge, a "Free Stater." She and her mother-in-law, both unused to pioneer hardships, appear at one time to have shared the household work in the Benjamin Elledge home near Griggsville, but apparently were unable to manage it very well.

The first born of Benjamin and Catharine Elledge's children was the girl Adaline, born in Kentucky, probably on the "banks of Licking," January 26, 1807. Adaline bore also the name of the Marquis de Lafayette, the great French general of Revolutionary days, her name appearing in an old family record as "Adaline Delefyat Demarcus Elledge." At the age of 18, Adaline had married, in Harrison county, Indiana, Sheldon Baldwin, the marriage occurring "September the 1st in the year of our Lord 1825." She and her husband came also in the Benjamin Elledge wagon train to Griggsville in 1834.

The Baldwins were originally from Connecticut; they later tarried in Kentucky, then in Harrison county, Indiana, coming thence to Pike county, Illinois. The parents were John and Sarah Ann (Hawkins) Baldwin. Samuel G. Baldwin later in Pike county married Adaline Elledge Baldwin's sister Sarah, and Lewis H. Baldwin married Adaline's and Sarah's cousin, Maria Jane Elledge, daughter of Benjamin's brother Boone. Richard Boone Elledge, a son of Benjamin's brother William, married a Baldwin daughter, Catharine S.

Samuel Reynolds, uncle of Benjamin's wife Catharine, was a large landowner in the vicinity of the Benjamin Elledge settlement. He had traded extensively in these bounty lands on the old Military Tract and had acquired large acreages in northeast Pike county from the soldiers of the War of 1812, upon whom the lands had been bestowed by a grateful government. Many of them, however, never came to the Illinois country to claim their bounties, but disposed of their claims in the East, sometimes for a horse, a cow or a pair of shoes.

Benjamin Elledge's stave factory and grist mill became the center of activities for a noted community. A half mile north from the Elledge settlement dwelt pioneer Abel Shelley, who had been in this region when old Fort Dearborn (now Chicago) was in Pike county. He had left his native New York state in 1816, lived then four years in Kentucky, and in 1820 came to Old

Morgan county, Illinois, locating in that section that later became Scott county. He crossed the river into Pike county in 1827 and located a little over a quarter mile east of present Shelley school house. His nearest mill in very early times was at Alton, some 80 miles distant, to which he used to go down the Illinois river in a canoe with his grist.

Three-quarters of a mile west from Elledge's was the early log cabin of William Howerton and Matilda (Scholl) Wilson, settlers of 1825; south of Wilson's dwelt the Curry family, one of whom, Riley J., married Sarah D. Elledge, a daughter of Benjamin's brother William. west from Curry's was the double log house of Abraham Scholl, pioneer of 1825; west of Scholl was Banner Boone Elledge, son of James; north of Scholl's, at the summit of "Coffey Hill," was Nathan Coffey's large family, settlers there in 1829; east of Elledge's was Eliada Dickinson's and Robert Walker's settlements, also the early settlements of Robert Seaborn and Richmond Cavender; south of Benjamin Elledge's was Uriah Elledge, nephew of Benjamin and eldest son of Boone, who located on Section 13, Griggsville township, in 1830; in this neighborhood were also the early McClains (Robert, John and Isaac), a family intermarried with the Elledges and whose name was borne by one of Benjamin Elledge's sons, James McClain. It was from John McClain that Boone Elledge acquired his homestead in Section 6, Griggsville, in 1836.

Others of the early neighborhood (neighborhoods were large in those days) included David Johnston (the early county surveyor), Josias Wade (Kentuckian whose father was a soldier of General Harrison at Tippecanoe), Andrew Philips (son of the noted Nimrod), Marshall Key (relative of Francis Scott Key and descendant of the royal English House of Tudor, whose daughter Eliza in 1841 married Benjamin Elledge's son, Leonard Boone), John B. Matthews (father of Captain Benjamin L. and grandfather of Colonel Asa C. Matthews, first Comptroller of the U. S. Treasury), the William Wilkersons and the Samuel Holloways. To the northwest was Benjamin's cousin, Edward Boone Scholl, who had just laid out his town of Booneville (now Perry), and nearby were the Joseph Bentlys, parents of Boone Scholl's wife, Susannah.



## The Three Alcorn Brothers; Col. Elliott Baker Weds Descendant of Boones

IN THE OLD PRAIRIE MOUND cemetery, on Six Mile Creek, southeast of New Hartford village, are the graves of numerous forefathers of the Hartford settlement. Some of the early settlers who sleep there, most of them "to fortune and fame unknown," died as early as 1831, as revealed by inscriptions on weathered stones that mark the burials. This village of the dead is peopled largely with men and women of the Boone line, connected, either by blood or marriage, with the noted pioneer family.

Here, in this burial place of pioneers, is the grave of an old Indian fighter and soldier of the second war with Britain, a grave undesignated as that of a soldier of the Republic. This grave is that of Robert (Robin) Alcorn, a comrade of Daniel Boone in the old Indian wars, and the husband of Mary Elledge, eldest daughter of Francis Elledge and Charity Boone.

Robin Alcorn died in a cabin in the field north of the present Lawrence Wilkins home and three-quarters of a mile west and south from New Hartford, in the year 1831. He was first buried in the field near the cabin in which he died. Later, when Prairie Mound cemetery was laid out, he and one or two of his kinsmen who had been buried beside him, were removed to the newer cemetery. The stone that was set at his grave is now down, but its inscription is still clear. It affords the information that Robert Alcorn was born in 1768 and died in 1831 at the age of 63. The grave is in "Rogers Row," where lie 13 of the Rogers Alcorn line, headed by the graves of David Redmon Rogers and his wife, Fanny Alcorn.

Robert Alcorn married Mary Elledge in Kentucky at "green-up time," in 1797. Mary was the first-born of the daughters of Francis Elledge and Charity Boone. She died in Kentucky in 1824 and is buried "on the banks of Green." Robert later married Frances (last name not of record) and in 1825 came with Jesse Elledge and his wife, Elizabeth Philips, to what is now Scott county, Illinois, crossing thence into Pike county and settling near present New Hartford.

At that time, only one log cabin had been built between the Atlas settlement and the Joel Moore settlement on Bay Creek, north of present Pittsfield. This was the cabin occupied by the Jacob and Daniel Huntington families, who had come in 1823. This cabin was a quarter mile south of the present Charles Shinn residence, south of New Hartford. The stone fireplace of this early habitation still stands, a noted landmark, where the road turns east from U. S. 54 toward Prairie Mound cemetery and school house. Immediately north of this old cabin site, on land now occupied by Charles Shinn, was the early home of Squire David Redmon Rogers and his wife, Fanny Alcorn, she the daughter of Robert Alcorn and Mary Elledge.

Robert Alcorn and Mary Elledge were the parents of seven children, three sons and four daughters, namely, Cynthia, Charity, Frances (Fanny), Rachel, William, Benjamin and Jesse Alcorn. Cynthia, the eldest daughter, married Robert (Robin) Rogers in Kentucky February 26, 1824. On the same day, in a double wedding, Cynthia's younger sister, Frances (Fanny), married Robin Rogers' brother, David Redmon Rogers. Both couples later came to Illinois, Robin and Cynthia moving subsequently to the state of Iowa, where both of them died.

Of Charity and Rachel Alcorn there is no record, save for the fact that they were children of Robin Alcorn and his wife Mary. Descendants believe that Charity and Rachel died young and that they were buried in Kentucky, probably beside their mother. Charity was named for her grandmother, Charity Boone. Among the records kept by William Riley Willsey, 83-year-old descendant of the Boones and Alcorns, is a notation in his own handwriting that "Charity Alcorn was a sister of Uncle Benjamin Alcorn." Mr. Willsey is now unable to recall either Charity or Rachel or what became of them.

Fanny Alcorn, third child of Robert and Mary, was born in Kentucky August 25, 1803. Following her marriage to David R. Rogers in 1824, she and her husband made their home on the Kentucky river, near the Goose Creek Salt Works, in Clay county, and here three children were born to them, namely, Mary Ann (known also as Polly Ann), born January 4, 1825; Bartlett, November 3, 1826; and Nancy Jane, February 15, 1828. Soon after the birth of Nancy Jane, David and his wife and the three children, accompanied by his brother Robert and Robert's wife, started for Illinois, reaching the early settlement of Williamsport on the Illinois river, opposite Montezuma, late in 1828. Bartlett Rogers, Sr., father of the two Rogers brothers, had emigrated to this region and had settled in Williamsport in 1826. He died there in 1831 and is buried in the Illinois bluffs.

While they were residents at Williamsport, a fourth child was born to David R. Rogers and Fanny Alcorn, the girl Malinda, who in 1851 married James Gallett Willsey and became the mother of William Riley Willsey. Malinda was born August 14, 1830. Shortly afterward David Rogers moved his family across the Illinois river into Pike county, and settled on Dutch Church Creek near Big Spring below Stony Point, on a place later owned by James Wassell. (Note: Dutch Church Creek was so named by the early settlers from a rock bluff near its bank supposed to resemble an old Dutch church in the city of Albany, New York. The creek is now known merely as Dutch Creek.)

Later, the Rogers family removed to what is known as the old John Hoskins place, southwest of New Hartford, and there David Rogers built a small cabin. In that log home, a fifth child, William Riley Rogers, was born January 1, 1833, a few months before Pittsfield, the present county seat of Pike county, was laid out, and three years before the founding of New Hartford.

The New Hartford region at this time was wild and but sparsely settled. Wild animals were numerous, and snake dens, from which in the spring issued countless



reptiles, abounded. North of the Rogers cabin, in a little valley, was a swamp or quagmire that still exists. The Rogers children stood guard at this swamp to keep the cattle out of the bog. Wolves prowled in great numbers. The luckless cow that strayed into the swamp and became mired was soon devoured. Bears, panthers and lynxes also had abode in this wilderness region.

In an old account book of William Riley Willsey's is this reference to the early Rogers settlements at Stony Point and at the Hoskins place, written therein by Mr. Willsey:

"Wolves and bear and panthers were plenty at that time and the howling of wolves was of nightly occurrence and the scream of the panther was frequently heard. Not far from Stony Point, snake dens were plenty and the early settlers in the spring of the year would set a day and go to the dens and kill snakes."

In 1834 or 1835 David R. Rogers moved a short distance east, to the old W. D. Shinn place, now the home of Charles Shinn, a beautiful country estate located on U. S. 54 between New Hartford and Summer Hill. Here Squire Rogers, who was justice of the peace for 30 years, spent his remaining days, passing away March 21, 1871. His wife, a daughter of Mary Elledge and a granddaughter of Charity Boone, died there March 10, 1873. Both are buried in Prairie Mound, on the banks of Six Mile.

Three sons of Robin Alcorn and Mary Elledge had much to do with the early development of Pike county's Mississippi valley. They were William Riley, Benjamin Franklin and Jesse Elledge Alcorn. These three great grandsons of Daniel Boone's brother, Neddie, co-operated in the building of the first warehouse west of Rockport at Gilgal on the Mississippi river, this being one of the earliest warehouses on this part of the old Military Tract. This warehouse was long under the direct supervision of Benjamin Alcorn.

William (Willy) Alcorn was born in Kentucky February 2, 1811. He was the Daniel Boone of early Pike county. He, like his great kinsman, was a mighty hunter. Many a great turkey and many a noble stag fell before his rifle. Once, when the three brothers were warehousing at Gilgal, Willy took his gun and plunged into the bottom wilderness, bringing down on this adventure what was probably the biggest wild turkey ever killed in the county. William Riley Willsey thus recounts the story as William Riley Alcorn told it to him:

"One Friday evening we knocked off work. I took my rifle and thought to get a turkey or something. I went up the river about a mile, when I saw a turkey in the very top of a big oak. I shot it. It fell out. My brothers, about a mile away at the warehouse, heard me shoot. They heard the turkey fall, heard it hit the ground. Every bone in its body was broken. I brought it down (to the warehouse) and cleaned it and took a butcher knife and split it down the back, dividing it in half. We cooked half of it. This was the larger half, because we kept the gizzard, liver, etc. We had no way to weigh the turkey. On Sunday I came to Hartford and brought the other half and weighed it and it weighed 23 pounds. This was after it was dressed and we had cooked a little more than half. I am sure that

turkey weighed every bit of 50 pounds."

William Alcorn, on February 3, 1832, at the home of Nimrod Philips at Philips Ferry on the Illinois river with Andrew Philips, J. P., officiating, married his cousin, Miss Eliza Norris, a daughter of Nancy Elledge Norris, who, as her second husband married Nimrod Philips; Nancy being a sister of Willy Alcorn's mother.

William and Eliza Alcorn lived for a time in a little log cabin near where Prairie Mound cemetery is now located. In this one-room log house, William cut a small opening and inserted a sash with four small window panes, so that he could tell when daylight came. He had a dog named "Butch," as famous a deer hunter as was his master. Whenever his master shot at a deer and failed to bring it down or merely wounded the animal, big Butch would at once be off in full chase of the quarry. Butch seldom failed to get his deer.

One morning just at daybreak, according to a story remembered by Mr. Willsey, Willy Alcorn, looking out of the solitary little window of his cabin, saw a deer coming up the side of the knoll. Shutting Butch in the house, he stole outside and got a shot at the deer at long range, merely crippling the animal. The shot was still echoing among the hills of Six Mile, when Butch with the window sash around his neck, bounded by in pursuit of the fleeing deer. The smashed window, dearly prized by the Alcorns, was replaced with difficulty, window glass being scarce in those days.

William Alcorn, like Daniel Boone, continued to hunt in his old age. Boone pitched his hunting camp in what is now Detroit township when he was past 80; Alcorn at 88 climbed rail fences and surmounted the obstacles of the trail with the agility of a middle-aged man. At 88 he challenged William Riley Willsey to a shooting contest. At 93 he left for California to hunt bear. Mr. Willsey recalls that one of William's nephews went with him on this trip. William, in his latter years, lived at or near Winterset, in Madison county, Iowa, and died there at a very advanced age, a hunter and trapper to the last. He had a daughter, Rachel Alcorn named for his sister, Rachel. W. R. Willsey remembers that Rachel once came from Iowa and spent the winter here with her uncle, old Benny Alcorn.

Billy Alcorn and his nephew, Benjamin Rogers (son of David R. and Fanny Alcorn Rogers), operated a pioneer store at New Hartford in the days of the gold rush, 1848-49. This store of Alcorn and Rogers stood where Will Varney's service station is now located.

Benjamin Alcorn, sixth child and second son of Robin and Mary Elledge Alcorn, was born in Kentucky October 14, 1814. He came with his sister, Fanny Rogers, and her family to this western country late in 1828. His mother, Mary Elledge, having died in Kentucky in 1824, he then, at the age of 10, went to live with his sister after her marriage to David R. Rogers.

Here, in Pike county, on May 9, 1839, Benjamin Alcorn married Christena Goodwin, daughter of pioneer settlers. The Rev. William Foreman said the ceremony. To them were born four sons and one daughter: James C., Archibald, Robert, Sylvester and Frances (Fanny). Fanny was the second child.

James C. Alcorn, first-born of the children, went to the defense of the Union in the Civil War and died



in the service of his country. He is buried in the old Uriah Elledge cemetery, on what is now the Lee Newman place, east of Griggsville. This early family burial plot, far from any road, is now overgrown with briars and underbrush.

Archibald Alcorn married Minnie Thompson, a native of Pennsylvania. They lived in Oklahoma, near Vinita, and later in Arkansas. Archibald died in Arkansas and is buried near Van Buren in that state.

Robert R. Alcorn married Lucy A. Miles in Pike county, April 30, 1871. They were married by Lucien W. Shaw, a justice of the peace. A double gravestone in Prairie Mound marks the burial of two infants born to Robert and Lucy. Frederick E. Alcorn died August 2, 1875, aged one year, two months and 28 days; Effie Etta died September 13, 1876, aged eight months and 19 days. Robert R. Alcorn was a plasterer by trade. The family resided at Pleasant Hill in the latter 1870s, and there on February 26, 1878 another child was born to them. Robert later went to California and died in that state. He is buried at Oakland.

Sylvester Alcorn, on November 26, 1871, married, in Pike county, Annie Williams, with Salem H. Chappell, J. P., officiating. Sylvester later married as his second wife Mary Penney. They emigrated to Kansas and there Sylvester died. He is buried at DeSoto, Kansas, about 35 miles from Kansas City.

Fanny Alcorn, only daughter of Benjamin Alcorn and Christena Goodwin, was married in the Alcorn home at Summer Hill, January 5, 1865, to William J. Henley, with her uncle (by marriage), David R. Rogers the officiating justice. David Rogers, at the Alcorn home on this day, married three couples in a triple wedding. The other couples were Josiah G. Williams and Mary Shinn, and George Henry Shinn and Ellen Graham, the latter an aunt of Lucretia (Graham) Carlton, wife of Guy Carlton of Pittsfield. Mary Shinn, one of the brides, and George Shinn, one of the grooms, were children of Daniel D. Shinn's widow, at this time the wife of Benjamin Alcorn, whose first wife had died. Fanny Alcorn Henley, one of the brides in this triple wedding of Civil War time, died in New Mexico and is buried there, near Nogales.

Benjamin Alcorn, some time after the death of his first wife, Christena Goodwin, married as his second wife Eliza (Graham) Shinn, widow of Daniel D. Shinn. Daniel D. Shinn and Eliza Graham had been married in Pike county by Justice David R. Rogers, July 6, 1837. Eliza Graham had come to Pike county with her mother from her native Ohio, in which state her father had died. She and Charles English, father of the Pittsfield merchant, Harry English, were first cousins, her mother, Elizabeth English, being an own sister of Robert English, father of Charles.

Children of Daniel D. Shinn and Eliza Graham include: George Henry Shinn, who married Ellen Graham and whose children are Hattie (Mrs. Isaac J. Duffield) of the Summer Hill neighborhood, Otto of Newton, Illinois, and Edward of Farmington, Missouri; Elizabeth Shinn, who married George W. Turnbaugh and whose children are Frank Turnbaugh of Pittsfield, James Turnbaugh of California, Roy Turnbaugh of Portland, Oregon, Mary (Mrs. John Kramer) of Frank-

ford, Missouri, and Mrs. Sadie Pettit of Council Bluffs, Iowa; Abigail Shinn, who married Charles McClain and whose children are Daniel McClain, resident of a veterans' hospital, Ida (Mrs. Edward Speaker) of Decatur, Illinois, and Dora (Mrs. Tone England) of Oakland, California; Mary Shinn, who married Josiah G. Williams and whose children included Daniel Williams of Summer Hill (the only one now living), Helen (Mrs. Warren Deam) of Summer Hill, Effie (Mrs. William Owsley) of Summer Hill, and John Williams who died in Louisiana, Missouri; and Sarah D. Shinn, who married H. Robert Wood and whose children are George L. Wood, who lives with his aunt, Mrs. Josephine Alcorn Baker at Summer Hill; Ed Wood, with the King Milling Company in Pittsfield, and Dr. Harry Wood, who died at Batchtown, Calhoun county, July 4, 1934.

Josephine Alcorn Baker of Summer Hill is a half-sister of the above named children of David D. Shinn and Eliza Graham, they having had the same mother. Daniel D. Shinn was a son of pioneer Daniel Shinn and Mary Hackett, and the brother of Phoebe Shinn who married Thomas J. Rogers, a brother of David Redmon Rogers, Phoebe Shinn being the mother of Hannah Rogers who married Benjamin Elledge's son, Harvey V. Elledge.

Daniel D. Shinn died aboardship when returning from the California gold fields, and was buried at sea. On March 17, 1858, Benjamin Alcorn, then a widower, married Daniel D.'s widow, with Justice Thomas Billings officiating. They became the parents of one child, a daughter, Josephine Alcorn, born in January, 1861. Eliza Graham Shinn Alcorn died at Summer Hill on March 7, 1892.

Benjamin Alcorn died at New Canton January 25, 1900, aged 85; he is buried in the old Shinn cemetery where stands a clump of cedar trees in the midst of a farming area, a plot reserved out of the old William Walker (now Emmett Walker) land, a short distance northwest of Summer Hill. This early burial ground has now reverted to a semi-wild state, overgrown with thickets of sumac, other native vegetation and carpeted in places with the vivid green of the live-forever plant.

In this old cemetery stand the stones marking the graves of Daniel Shinn, the pioneer, and his wife, Mary Hackett. These stones record that Daniel died February 28, 1852, aged 70 years and three months; his wife, October 19, 1849, aged 63 years and seven months. Here also is the grave of the younger Daniel D. Shinn, brother of Merrick and W. D., born February 5, 1857, died January 31, 1879; also the graves of George W. Turnbaugh and his wife, Elizabeth Shinn, she the daughter of Benjamin Alcorn's second wife, Eliza Graham Shinn.

George Turnbaugh was otherwise related to the characters of our story, being the son of the Rev. Joseph Turnbaugh and Locha Rogers, she a sister of Robert, David Redmon and Thomas Jefferson Rogers, two of whom (Robert and David) married granddaughters of Charity Boone while the other (Thomas J.) married Phoebe Shinn and became the father of Hannah Rogers, who married Harvey Elledge. Joseph Turnbaugh



and Locha Rogers were born in Kentucky. Locha (written also Locke, Lockey and Luckey) was born October 7, 1814, and married Joseph Turnbaugh in Pike county December 25, 1831. Their son, George W., was born in Pike county December 6, 1832; his wife, Elizabeth Shinn, whom he married April 10, 1856, was born February 14, 1840. George W., a soldier on the Union side in the Civil War, died at Summer Hill October 28, 1911. His name is inscribed on the monument to the members of Major Sam Hays Post 477, G. A. R. Department of Illinois, standing in the Summer Hill park.

Elizabeth Turnbaugh's sister, Abigail McClain, and her brother, George H. Shinn, are also buried in this cemetery. Her sister, Sarah Wood, is buried in Martin Taylor cemetery, south of El Dara, and the other sister, Mary Williams, in Summer Hill cemetery.

Josephine Alcorn, on March 3, 1904, married Colonel Elliott Baker at Summer Hill, with the Rev. James J. Watson officiating, she becoming the Colonel's second wife. Colonel Baker was a veteran of the Civil War and was long a fighting leader of the Republican party in this section. He was the son of James Baker and Mary Betts, natives of Ohio, and a grandson of Joseph Baker, who removed from the Buckeye state to Illinois in 1832. James Baker and Mary Betts, following their marriage in Ross county, Ohio, rode across country on horseback to join his father here. James Baker resided on the Martinsburg farm that had been opened by his father, until his death which occurred about 1846. His wife survived him and did a pioneer mother's full part by her children, one of whom was the boy Elliott.

Elliott Baker continued upon the old farm (now the home of his son Logan) until he was about 20 years of age when, on March 14, 1862, he responded to Lincoln's call and joined Company B of the Third Mis-

souri Cavalry which was attached to the Western Army. He served for three years, participating in several major and a number of smaller engagements. On one occasion he sustained a gunshot wound in his right arm but lost no time from active service and was honorably discharged at Macon City, Missouri, March 14, 1865.

In the year after the war, on September 13, 1866, Colonel Baker married Miss Susan C. Goodin, with whom he lived upon the Martinsburg farm until March 15, 1900 when Mrs. Baker died, her remains being interred in Prairie Mound cemetery. Four children had been born to them: Sherman, born in 1867, who married Nettie Brown and resides at Williams, California; Mary F., born August 6, 1869, who married David Ruppert and resides on U. S. 54 at Summer Hill; Lilly E., born in 1871, who married Ernest Ellis (now deceased) and resides at Phoenix, Arizona; and Logan, who married Pearl Rainwater and resides on the old Baker homestead in Section 16, Martinsburg township.

Colonel Elliott Baker died July 15, 1918 and is buried in Prairie Mound. He was 76, having been born in Pike county January 2, 1842. His widow, Josephine Alcorn Baker, granddaughter of Robin Alcorn and Mary Elledge and great granddaughter of Charity Boone, has always known that she was of Boone descent. From her earliest girlhood she has been familiar with the name of Charity Boone. She recalls that some of the descendants thought that Charity was the daughter of old Dan'l Boone, but she remembers distinctly that her father, Benjamin Alcorn, always talked of Neddie Boone, who was Dan'l's brother. The present story of Edward (Neddie) Boone's Pike county descendants has brought back to her memory her father's talk of Neddie when she was a child.

## CHAPTER 85

### Boones Lived to Great Ages; Willsey, Moore, Rogers Clans Trace Back to Alcorn Line

JESSE ELLEDGE ALCORN died at Griggsville September 28, 1907, at the age of 88 years, three months and seven days. His brother, Benjamin Franklin Alcorn, had died at New Canton in 1900 at the age of 85; another brother, William Riley Alcorn, great hunter of early Pike county days, died near Winterset, Iowa, when well past 90. There is record of his having gone to California on a bear hunt when he was 93. Fanny Alcorn Rogers, sister of the three Alcorn brothers, died at New Hartford in 1873 in her 70th year. All were grandchildren of Charity Boone and great grandchildren of Neddie Boone, brother of Daniel.

The Boone family was noted for longevity. Daniel died lacking less than a month of 86; George Boone, a brother, died in Shelby county, Kentucky, in November, 1820, at the age of 83; Samuel, another brother,

died at 88; Jonathan, the brother whose daughter (Dinah Boone Allen) is buried in the French cemetery at Milton, was 86; Mrs. Sarah Wilcoxon (or Wilcox), a sister, died according to one record at 91, according to another in her 100th year; Mrs. Elizabeth Grant, another sister, died at 84; and a third sister, Mrs. Mary Bryan, died at 83. Edward (Neddie) Boone, ancestor of hundreds of Pike countians, was only 40 when he was killed by the Indians in 1780.

Probably the record for longevity in the Boone family is held by Hiram Boone of Mound City, Missouri, a grandnephew of Daniel Boone. Hiram Boone was 105 when interviewed in March, 1935, and he then predicted he would live to be 110. He at that time read without glasses, walked about his farm in good weather, cracked jokes and got a great kick out of playing with his great great great grandchildren. He told on that occasion of having made a four months' journey by ox-team at the age of 19 from the site of Monmouth, Illinois, to California in search of gold, fighting Indians on the way. He returned by ship around Cape Horn to New York and by rail and stage to Illinois. Returning to California in 1854, he fell into the hands of hostile Indians but escaped; his companions, captured with him, were scalped. He reached Monmouth



E. Guss of Barry, May 19, 1895, she a daughter of William W. Guss and Roxy J. Fletcher. They went to St. Louis, where he engaged in business, later moving to Chicago, where he died, his wife having preceded him in death. They are buried at Barry.

Minnie Varney married Charles Lambert in Chicago. She died there; her husband is still living.

Myrtle (Myrtie) Varney, born at Griggsville in 1878, married a Mr. Jewett and resides in Chicago, her husband having died there.

Phoebe Rogers Varney died on March 6, 1888, lacking four days of being 44 years old. She is buried in Prairie Mound cemetery.

Dr. F. G. Varney, following his first wife's death, on October 25, 1888, again married, his second wife being Mrs. Una (Taylor) Van Hook of Atchison, Kansas, a daughter of Thomas Taylor and Telitha Hardgrove. They were married at Barry, Dr. Varney being then a practicing dentist at Griggsville.

Two daughters, Helen and Violet Varney, born of this second marriage, died in infancy. Violet, a twin, died April 8, 1890, aged eight months; Helen died August 1, 1893, aged four months. They are interred

in Prairie Mound. Primrose Varney, another daughter, Violet's twin, married G. Montgomery Blair, Chicago dentist and native of Barry, September 20, 1908. His parents were George Montgomery Blair and Zella Long. Mrs. Blair later married a Mr. Smith and is now a resident of Quincy, Illinois, having married a third time. She was born at Griggsville.

Dr. Frederick G. Varney died at Barry, November 11, 1925, aged 79 years, five months and 16 days. He is buried in Prairie Mound cemetery.

Several of the Alcorn-Rogers line, who were buried in remote places in an early day, were later removed to the cemetery of the Boones at Prairie Mound and re-interred there. One such removal was that of Mary (Polly) Ann Hadley, first child of David R. Rogers and Fanny Alcorn, born in Kentucky, January 4, 1825, who died near New Hartford April 12, 1853, aged 28 years, and was buried in a field west of the present Charles Shinn place at New Hartford. Her body, after lying in the field for 20 years or longer, was taken up and removed to Prairie Mound and W. R. Willsey says that her coffin was as sound as when she was placed within it, and her body equally well preserved.

## CHAPTER 88

### Daughter of Uriah Elledge Was First White Girl Born in Griggsville Township

BOONE ELLEDGE, grand old pioneer of the Hinman Chapel country, headed west from Harrison county, Indiana, on Sunday, May 22, 1836. He brought his family and possessions to Pike county, Illinois, by wagon and pack horses. In homely phrase and quaint spelling, he kept a diary of the journey and the expenses incurred, day by day. His great granddaughter, Bertha Gray, wife of Lawrence Harvey of Griggsville, still has this diary indited more than a century ago.

Several of Boone Elledge's sons had come to the Illinois country ahead of him. His eldest son, Uriah, had been here since 1823. Francis (named for his grandfather who married Charity Boone), came as early as 1830, and on June 6, 1831 had married Sarah Philips, this being the second Elledge wedding in the county. Alexander and William Elledge had come in 1834, the same year in which Boone's older brother, Benjamin, and family arrived from Indiana. A letter written by Benjamin, dated at Griggsville, March 13, 1836, and directed to his brother Boone at Laconia, Indiana, advises the brother that Francis was then at Shelley's (Abel Shelley's), Alexander at Walker's (Robert Walker's) and William with Uriah (Elledge). This letter also is in possession of Mrs. Harvey of Griggsville.

Boone Elledge was born in Clark county, Kentucky, on Christmas Day, 1783, a son of Francis Elledge and Charity Boone, the eldest daughter of Edward Boone and Martha Bryan, and he a son of William Elledge

and Sarah Kindred. Edward Boone, younger brother of Daniel, was killed by the Shawnees in Kentucky October 5, 1780; Daniel, who was with him, barely escaped with his life. Boone Elledge's parents, accompanied by her father, Edward Boone, and her uncle Daniel, and Edward's and Daniel's cousin, William Scholl, with their respective families, had reached Boone's fort (Boonesborough) on the Kentucky river on Christmas Day 1779, four years before Boone Elledge's birth.

Boone Elledge's childhood was lived under savage threat. He was ten years old before Kentucky emerged from its Indian horrors, peace coming with "Mad Anthony" Wayne's victory over the tribes in 1794. Amid these perils of the wilderness he had no opportunity for schooling; what he knew, a knowledge he put to good account, was learned in the hard school of experience.

At the age of 18, early in 1802, Boone Elledge married a Kentucky girl whose identity is uncertain. There is reason to believe, from records in Kentucky, that she was Mary McClain, a daughter of John and Mary McClain of Adair county. There is record there of a Boone Elledge having taken a license to marry Mary McClain, February 1, 1802. The Kentucky McClains and the Kentucky Hinmans were neighbors in the early settlement of that region and together these families came to Pike county, Illinois, in 1829, settling on Hinman Prairie, where later arose the log Hinman Chapel. Boone Elledge, arriving on Hinman Prairie in 1836, settled on 120 acres in Section 6, northwest corner of Griggsville township, which he had bought from John and Isaac McClain in 1835, to which he added another 40 in 1836. His first wife had died in Kentucky and was buried there.

Pike county descendants of Boone Elledge do not know that he was twice married. They have always



supposed that his wife, Rebecca, who came with him to Pike county, was his first and only wife and that the Boone Elledge children were all of one mother. This, however, apparently is disproved by the records, which show that Uriah Elledge, the eldest son, was born in Kentucky in November, 1802, and that Boone Elledge and Rebecca Bell or Beall were married in Kentucky in June, 1809. The birth date of Uriah supports the belief that the Elledge-McClain wedding in Kentucky in February, 1802, was that of Pike county Boone Elledge.

Two sons, Uriah and Alexander, were born of the first marriage, both in Clark county, Kentucky. Records there show that on June 9, 1809, a license was issued to Boone Elledge to marry Rebecca Bell (Beall), who became the mother of seven Elledge sons and one daughter who were so well known in the early history of Pike county. The Kentucky record shows that Robert Alcorn was bondsman for Boone Elledge for the issuance of the license, and that Joel Tanner was witness. The Robert Alcorn here mentioned was the husband of Boone Elledge's eldest sister, Mary Elledge; he, a soldier of the War of 1812 and an old Indian fighter with Daniel Boone, died in the Six Mile country in 1831 and is buried in Prairie Mound cemetery, near New Hartford. His grandson, James C. Alcorn (eldest son of Benjamin Alcorn), is buried in the old Uriah Elledge burial ground, east of Griggsville, in what is now a wild and briar-grown patch. He died September 11, 1861, at the age of 21, while in the service of his country during the first year of the Civil War.

Shortly after his second marriage in Clark county, Kentucky, in 1809, Boone Elledge and his family crossed the Ohio river and settled about 25 miles northwest of the Falls of the Ohio (Louisville), in then Indiana Territory, of which present Illinois had lately been a county. Here, in Harrison county, in the Territory of Indiana, several of the Elledge children were born. Here also dwelt Boone's brother, Benjamin and family, and for a time at least, another brother, James and family, both of whom later settled in Pike county.

Squire Boone, Daniel and Edward's brother and an Elledge kinsman, had settled here on Buck Creek in 1804-1806, as had also the sons of Samuel Boone. This settlement in which Boone and Benjamin Elledge were so long a part, was known as Boone Settlement. Here Boone Elledge kept store from about the time of the outbreak of the second war with Britain, in 1812, until his migration to Pike county, Illinois. In his old account books, dating back to 1815, from which we will quote later, appear numerous Boone names and the names of others who then lived in the settlement and were identified with the early history of Pike county.

Uriah Elledge, prominent Pike county figure for more than 60 years, was born in Clark county, Kentucky, November 22, 1802. At the age of 20, he came to what is now Scott county, Illinois, arriving late in January, 1823, at about the time that present Scott was being taken from early Greene county and made a part of old Morgan. In this sparsely peopled region he worked for 18 months for Alexander Beall, near present Exeter. Beall had been there since the closing

days of Illinois Territory and had seen the wigwams of the Indians along Mauvaisterre. His sister, Tabitha Beall, had married William Elledge, a son of Charity Boone and an uncle of Uriah. Rebecca Bell (Boone Elledge's second wife) is believed also to have belonged to this Beall family. The name "Beall" was usually pronounced as "Bell" and is frequently so spelled in the records.

On March 26, 1825, in old Morgan county, Uriah Elledge, then 22, married Catharine Scott, daughter of pioneer John Scott, for whom Scott county was named. John Scott and his family had emigrated, along with two other families and three single men (one of them his brother James Scott), from Casey county, Kentucky in 1819, reaching present Scott county early in 1820, the women and children having been left in cabins at the forks of Wood River while the six men in the party pushed on into the northern wilderness. This was in the month of January, 1820. The weather was bitter. Frequent snow squalls swept the prairies. High winds roared in the forests. At length the high knoll, north and west of present Lynnville, was sighted. The adventurers halted and during the month of February the first human habitation, other than the wigwams of the Indians and the huts of the early French, was built in what is now Scott county. This was for the family of Thomas Allen, who had married Sarah Charity Elledge, Uriah's aunt, who in the month of April, 1820, occupied the cabin, the first white woman to settle within the present limits of Scott. John Scott's cabin home followed, being the second in Scott county. About this time Nancy Scott, Catharine's sister, was born, she who was to marry Benjamin Franklin Elledge, another son of Boone Elledge. Some authorities say that Nancy was born in the cabin on Wood River, where the family was left while the father adventured northward; others say she was the first white child born within present Scott county. She was born April 2, 1820.

Uriah Elledge related that in the early years of his settlement in Scott county he had to go to Upper Alton on Wood River, a distance of 125 miles by the old Indian trail, to mill. In 1826 John Pierson (also spelled Pearson in early records) erected a mill within about two miles of Elledge's settlement. He was of the Pierson family that later, in Pike county, intermarried with the Elledge family, James Pierson, father of Shirley Pierson of Pittsfield, having married Julia Elledge, daughter of Benjamin F. Elledge and Nancy Scott.

Uriah Elledge and Catharine Scott became the parents of eight children, seven of whom reached maturity, namely, Rebecca Eleanor, Mary Margaret, John H., Daniel Boone, William Harrison, Emily J. and Uriah Douglas.

In 1825, following their marriage at Olmstead's Mound, then the seat of government in old Morgan, Uriah Elledge and his bride settled at Sackett's Harbor (site of modern Griggsville), occupying the cabin that had been built earlier that year by the Kentucky emigrant, Abraham Scholl, who had now moved to a location north of present Griggsville, on the Griggsville-Perry road. In the fall of that year, the rank miasmas that swept up from the turned and decaying sod on Griggsville knoll convinced the Elledges that the cli-



mate was unhealthy, and discouraged with the new situation, they returned to the Morgan (now Scott) side of the Illinois river.

Five years later (in 1830), Uriah and his wife returned to the neighborhood of modern Griggsville and settled on Section 13, east of the present town. Here, on October 26, 1831, occurred the birth of an Elledge daughter, Rebecca Eleanor, the first female white child born within present Griggsville township.

Rebecca Eleanor, at the age of 20, married William A. Hodges, a native of old Morgan (Scott) county and a son of John Murphy Hodges and Polly Clanton, natives of North Carolina. Amos Hodges, a cousin, and Uriah Elledge appear from old Morgan county records to have been partners of a sort in the early history of that section. Hodges was a cooper. There is record of Adam Allinson, English settler on Allinson's Mound (formerly Olmstead's Mound), having deeded a 147-acre tract in present Scott county to Amos Hodges and Uriah Elledge for \$150 on July 23, 1828. On November 10, same year, Hodges and Elledge and their wives deeded this same tract to Robert Kenady for a consideration of \$300. The land is described as lying in the District of Springfield, where was then the land office for the Scott county region.

William Hodges and Rebecca Elledge were married at her father's home near Griggsville, November 2, 1851. Justice D. F. Coffey (of the Coffey Hill family), officiated. Mr. Hodges, who was born in the pioneer settlement at Winchester, died at Griggsville, July 2, 1908, aged 82 years, four months and six days. His wife survived until January 16, 1911, dying at the age of 79 years, two months, 21 days. Both are buried in Griggsville cemetery. John Murphy Hodges, William's father, following the death of his wife, made his home with William and Rebecca at Griggsville for about two years and died there in 1874, aged 75.

William and Rebecca Hodges were parents of five children, one of whom, a daughter, died in infancy. The others were Catherine M., Julia Frances, Uriah and John William Hodges.

Catherine M. married Romanta James Bentley, November 16, 1876, with Rev. J. B. Wade saying the ceremony. They located in Texarkana, Texas, and Catherine died there in the winter of 1936-37. They had seven children, of whom four are living, namely, Norman, Rebecca, Annie and Julia; they reside at Texarkana. Three children are dead, namely, Bertha, Fred and Frank.

Julia Frances Hodges at the age of 23 married James Hanlin of Griggsville, the wedding being at her father's house, July 31, 1881, the Rev. J. B. Wade officiating; William A. Hodges and A. M. Harrington witnessing. The groom was a son of John Hanlin and Mary Cawthon, both natives of Ohio. He was born at Griggsville, May 22, 1857 and in his latter years was sexton at the Griggsville cemetery. He died May 21, 1925, aged 67 years, 11 months and 29 days; burial was in Griggsville cemetery. His wife, born at Griggsville, January 31, 1858, died on March 29, 1930, aged 72 years, one month and 28 days. She also is buried at Griggsville.

Mr. and Mrs. Hanlin had six children: Dorothy Hodges, Eleanor Elizabeth, Earl Williams, James Ell-

wood, Cora Katherine and Ray Harvey Hanlin.

Dorothy Hanlin married Henry Rogers (Harry) George at Chillicothe, Missouri, September 7, 1912, he a son of John George, Sr., and Maria Rogers, both of English ancestry. The mother, Maria Rogers, came to the New World with her parents at the age of three. Her little sister was buried at sea, on the trip over. She was a sister of Thomas J. and George Rogers of Griggsville. Harry George, born in 1881, is the youngest in a family of eight, of whom Elizabeth (widow of the late Thomas Usherwood of Pittsfield) is the eldest; others are John Samuel (who married Martha Wade), William T., Annie (deceased), Ellen E., Alice (who married Fred Davis and resides at Hannibal), and Robert A.

Mr. and Mrs. George have no children of their own but have in their home Mrs. George's ten-year-old nephew, Billy Lee, son of Mrs. William Clostermery, who died in 1931. Mr. and Mrs. George live a short distance northeast of Griggsville, at the sign of the tall pine tree.

Eleanor Elizabeth (Nellie) Hanlin, daughter of James Hanlin and Julia Hodges, married Frank Morris of Griggsville, July 1, 1906, he a son of Jesse Morris and Catherine S. Elledge, the latter a daughter of Richard Boone Elledge and Lavina Hildreth, and a sister of Leonard Boone Elledge of Griggsville. The bride and groom were therefore both great great great grandchildren of Francis Elledge and Charity Boone. They were both 21 when married. Mr. Morris is now dead. Mrs. Morris resides in Griggsville. They had one daughter, Katherine Pauline Morris, who married Melvin G. Moore of New Salem, June 16, 1931, he a son of Abe O. Moore and Ida Johnson, and they have two children, Paul Morris and Patricia Sue.

Earl William Hanlin married Veda May Dorsey, a native of Perry and a daughter of Delbert Dorsey and Lydia Bubb, at Griggsville, April 2, 1921. They were married by the Rev. John Stretton, with Rhea and Burreba Hanlin witnessing. They had one child, Lois, who died July 2, 1922, at the age of two months and 21 days. They live in Griggsville.

James Ellwood Hanlin married Mary Helen Miller of Pleasant Hill at Griggsville, October 18, 1913. They were married by the Rev. J. D. Dabney, with Mrs. Nellie Morris and Arthur Lister witnessing. She was a native of Chestline, Illinois, a daughter of Samuel Miller and Sarah Cissle of Baylis. They have two children, Frances Eileen and Wayne. Frances married Laurel McConkey of Bloomington and they have two children, Bill and Ann. They reside at Bloomington. Wayne Hanlin is with his parents at Griggsville.

Cora Katherine (Kathryn) Hanlin married William H. Clostermery of Pittsfield March 6, 1917. The Rev. David N. Wetzel of the Pittsfield Christian church married them; Mr. and Mrs. Harry George witnessed. He was 22 and she 21. The groom, a native of New Salem, was a son of Henry Clostermery and Anna Strubinger. Mrs. Clostermery died March 8, 1931, and was buried at Griggsville. She was 35, her birth being on April 9, 1895. She left two children, Harriet Lucia and Billy Lee Clostermery. The former is in training in Methodist Hospital in Peoria; Billy Lee makes his home with



the Harry Georges at Griggsville.

Rhea Harvey Hanlin married Burreba K. Dorsey of Griggsville at Pittsfield, October 22, 1919. She was a sister of Veda May Dorsey, who later married Rhea's brother, Earl. They were married by County Judge Burr Swan, with Ray and Veda Dorsey witnessing. The bride was born at Perry. Mr. and Mrs. Hanlin reside northeast of Griggsville, on the Jeff Smith place. They have five children, namely, John William, Edna Irene, Mildred, Jimmy Ray and Vera.

Uriah Hodges, a son of William A. Hodges and Rebecca Elledge, at the age of 25 married Jennie K. Baldwin, 23, of Perry, May 17, 1885, John E. Morton, P. M., officiating at Perry. She was a daughter of John Boone Baldwin and Julia A. Reed, he a son of Lewis H. Baldwin and Maria Jane Elledge, the latter a daughter of Boone Elledge and a half-sister of Uriah Elledge. Three children were born to them, namely, Alice, Helen and Scott Adams Hodges. Alice married James Brown and resides in Banning, California; they have no children. Helen married Monta Sellards and lives in Oakland, California; no children. Scott married Ilma Durr, a daughter of John Durr, and lives in Bakersfield, California. They have three children, Lorene, Junior and Donald, all at home. Mrs. Hodges lives with her daughter, Mrs. Alice Brown, her husband having died more than 40 years ago.

John William Hodges, bachelor brother of Catherine, Julia and Uriah, resides with his niece, Mrs. Eleanor

Hanlin Morris, in Griggsville. He was born July 29, 1862, and at the age of nearly 75, reads without glasses.

Another daughter of old Uriah Elledge and Catharine Scott, and sister of Rebecca Eleanor, was Mary Margaret Elledge, who, in Pike county, on February 24, 1856, married Finis Lowery Hobbs, a descendant of the noted Hobbs family who were among the earliest settlers on the site of Elizabethtown, Kentucky, and who, with covered wagon and pack horses, emigrated to Pike county, Illinois, in 1834, settling in what is now Perry township. Mr. and Mrs. Hobbs had one daughter, Josephine, who on February 24, 1876, married Edward G. Allen, William Corey, J. P., officiating. They located in the state of Kansas.

Finis Lowery Hobbs died early in 1870 and his widow, on May 7, 1872, again married, her second husband being William H. White, member of a family whose ancestors came in the Mayflower, descendant of the branch to which belonged Perigrine White, first white child born in America. Justice Alexander Wells performed the ceremony uniting William H. White and Mary M. Hobbs. This daughter of Uriah Elledge died in the state of Kansas, where lived her daughter, Josephine Allen.

Third child of Uriah Elledge and Catharine Scott was the boy, John H. Of him there is little record. He married Maria A. Wells, in Pike county, October 31, 1875, and went to California about 60 years ago. He died in that state.

## CHAPTER 89

### Other Children of Uriah Elledge; Son Died on Trip to California Gold Fields

PIKE COUNTY was a vast domain, occupying a third of the state, when Uriah Elledge arrived in this region in the opening days of 1823. John Kinzie, dwelling near the mouth of the Chicago river, a survivor with his family of the Fort Dearborn massacre of August 15, 1812, was then a Pike county justice of the peace. A few days after Elledge's arrival, Pike county lost the little French and half-breed settlement on the shore of Lake Michigan, now Chicago. On January 28, 1823, Fulton county was erected out of Pike county and the lake shore settlement passed to the control of Fulton, in the attached portion thereof. The legislature making these changes was sitting at Vandalia.

Elledge had come up by way of Upper Alton, following the old Indian trail leading to Peoria. Over this trail, in the beginning of 1820, had come the pioneering party of John Scott, who later became Elledge's father-in-law. Over this same trail, in 1814, had swept the wild Ranger pursuit of a murdering band of Indians, who had slaughtered several whites (women and children) on Wood River, near present Alton. A monument to the victims of this massacre was erected and dedi-

cated at Wood River, September 12, 1910. It will be recalled from an earlier chapter that pioneer John Shaw (founder of Pike's first county seat at Coles' Grove) participated as a scout for the pursuing Rangers in this tumultuous chase over the prairies of Illinois. Three Indians were shot down during the pursuit, the last perishing at the edge of the Illinois river bottoms a short distance above old Philips Ferry, now Valley City, the remainder of the band escaping across the river into the wild McGee Creek country, in what is now Pike county.

Uriah Elledge saw mighty changes wrought in this western country. He saw the old wilderness disappear and a new empire arise in the great valley. Dying in 1887, he was one of the very few pioneers of that time who had known Pike county in its original vastness, when it reached to Wisconsin and Lake Michigan. Out of the great county which Elledge knew, 32 counties and six parts of counties have since been erected.

In 1849, Uriah Elledge joined in the gold rush to California, going in the first emigrant train that left this section enroute to the gold fields. He went by ox wagon, crossed the Mississippi river at Louisiana, camped on Salt Lick Creek (now Salt River) in Missouri, thence crossed Missouri by a succession of camps to St. Joe (St. Joseph), great rendezvous of the old emigrant trails to California and Oregon. With him was his son, Daniel Boone, destined never to return to the country of his birth.

At St. Joe, he joined the outfit of his kinsman, Boone Hays, and together these two descendants of the



## Boone Elledge Kept Records of Two Stores, Family Trip; Hinman Prairie Settlers

ON SUNDAY, MAY 22, 1836, Boone Elledge and his wife Rebecca, with a numerous family of children, started from the neighborhood of Laconia, Harrison county, Indiana (25 miles from Louisville, Kentucky), by wagon, enroute to Pike county, Illinois. In a rude memorandum book, Boone Elledge kept a record of the journey, accounting each day for every penny expended. The trip took 17 days. The last expense entry dated June 7, "ferige \$1.12½." This refers to the ferriage on the Illinois river at Philips Ferry. The same day the emigrants reached their destination in what is now Griggsville township.

"The whole expense in travelling from Laconia, Indiana, to Griggsville, Illinois, \$21.68¾," wrote Boone Elledge, in summing up the journey. Expenses were mostly for ferriage. Starting from Laconia on May 22, they reached the East Fork of White River on May 26. "Dr. to ferry \$1.25," reads the diary. The following day they ferried the West Fork of the White River. Ferriage at this point was \$1.00. On May 28 they reached Vincennes, ancient capital of the Illinois country. "Dr. to bread at Vincennes, 50c," reads the diary. The same day, Elledge paid \$1.25 to ferry the Wabash. Then, same day, is the entry: "Dr. to across Purgatory Swamp \$1.00." Elledge also bought a bushel of corn for which he paid 37½ cents. This was in the days of the 12½ cent piece (bit) and the 6¼ cent piece (picayune). In the evening of May 28, the party reached Lawrenceville, in Illinois.

On May 30, Elledge crossed a toll bridge, paying a toll of 56¼ cents. On June 2, there was another ferriage charge, 75 cents. This was at the Kaskaskia river. On the same day is an entry, "Dr. to corn cider .56¼." On June 3, the emigrants had reached a point near Hillsboro; on the 6th they reached Alexander and the old Philips Ferry road.

Boone Elledge brought with him an interesting record of Boone Settlement in Boone township in Harrison county, Indiana, in the form of an old account and memorandum book covering his many years as storekeeper in the settlement, beginning in the time of the 1812 war. This old record, dating back to 1815, is now in the keeping of Boone Elledge's great granddaughter, Mrs. Lawrence Harvey of Griggsville, as is also the journal of the trip to Illinois in 1836. These records are still as legible as when they were written more than a century ago.

Among Boone Elledge's customers in the settlement there were various members of the Boone family, notably John Boone, who in 1816 was a member of the convention that framed Indiana's constitution and who later was a member of the new state's legislature. For instance, in Boone Elledge's account book is this entry: "John Boon, Nov. 1, 1822, upon Wm. Elledge's acc't."

Boone's brother, Benjamin, was also a customer at the store, as was John Bell (Beall), who later settled in Pike county, being a kinsman of Boone Elledge's wife. Members of the Holaday family, intermarried with the Woolfolks, also were customers.

Prices were entered by Elledge in terms of shillings and pence. For instance, this: "Richard Tapington, churn at 4 shillings and sixpence." One Robert McIntyre (spelled Macintire in the account book) was the prize whisky customer. This customer sometimes bought by the barrel. Again, an entry reads: "Macintire 1 cag full of whisky \$2." Another liquor entry: "2 gals. whisky for Widow Gaither's sale, .75."

An interesting record is Boone Elledge's "Sault Acc't." It appears from the record that Boone loaned salt to those in need. A few items from this record: "Sault to Matthew Roberson one crock ful." "To Miss Gohn Bell one bole ful." "To Bettie Miller one tin ful." "To Gane Young two boles ful." "To Benjamin Elledge six pounds." "To Miss Calvin one bole ful." "To Miss Armstrong one bole ful."

James Bell on one occasion bought "6 doz horn butens" from Elledge; also some "spun cotten." Steven Joans was a purchaser of "potaters."

Interspersed with the "stoar accounts" are some personal jottings and commentaries. In March, 1819, Boone Elledge set an orchard in Boone Settlement. Here is the entry: "March 6, 1819, Eye set out 52 apple trese." He then names the order of setting, and the varieties, "Rainboes, old wine, Whittaker Reds, Pryor Reds, Pippins." He concludes his orchard entry thus: "Boon Elledge, his apples when they Bare."

Boone Elledge's brother, Benjamin, came to Pike county ahead of Boone, having settled on Griggsville Prairie in 1834. On March 13, 1836 (about two months before Boone started for Illinois), Benjamin Elledge addressed a letter at Griggsville to his brother Boone at Laconia, Indiana. On the same double sheet of paper Benjamin's wife, Catharine, wrote to Boone's wife, Rebecca. The more than a century old letters, written on a sheet of paper folded and addressed, without an envelope, are still legible, being now in the possession of Mrs. Harvey, the great granddaughter of Boone and Rebecca. The letter is addressed "To Boone and Rebecca Elledge," at Laconia.

In this letter, Boone tells of the sickly season that had prevailed at Griggsville in the spring of 1836. He says: "My nearest neighbor, Mr. John Cavender, died in last month. Corn and pork is plenty but heigh. Corn 30 cents and pork pickled is seven cents and wheat one dollar per bushel. There has been more government land bought in this county this winter than has in any one year since the country has ben settled."

The quaint spelling of the period is shown in Catharine's letter to Rebecca. She says: "Ecepting of the fetige of the gourney to this country and this last spe (she had previously told of a serious sickness) have en goyed better health than I have for seven years hea to four. I want you to give my best Respects of all the old Neighbours and friends and in particular to Mr. Armstrong and family. I want you to go to Wm. Lindsey's and git some garden seads. Cabbage and turnip beats and all the vegetabels and flour seads you can g



as they are scarce in this Country. Give my respects to Mariah (Mrs. Harvey's maternal grandmother) and all the children." Simple records these, but memorials of a mighty period in western history.

Among Boone Elledge's effects preserved by his great granddaughter are also some printed minutes of the meetings of Blue River Association held at Sinking Spring and Hebron meeting houses in Washington county, Indiana, in September, 1824 and 1825. Washington county joins Harrison on the north. The Boones and Elledges were members of the Goshen church in Harrison county. Messengers from the Goshen church to the Association meeting in 1824 included Moses Boone, George Boone and James W. Gaither (Gather). In 1825 the messengers were Isaiah Boone, John Cotner and Benjamin Elledge. Moses and Isaiah Boone were sons of Squire Boone, brother of Daniel and Edward, and George Boone was a son of Samuel. Moses had been appointed in 1808 as a judge of Harrison county, in Indiana Territory, by William Henry Harrison, then governor of the Territory, and later was reappointed by Governor Thomas Posey. He was one of the three commissioners directing the building of the first state house in Indiana, at Corydon, in Harrison county. One of Isaiah Boone's daughters, Adaline, married Perry Marshall Baldwin, and another, Emily, married Marshall Samuels, whose descendant, Moses Samuels, in Pike county married Malinda Jackson, daughter of Malinda Scholl, whose first husband was Edward Elledge. These two daughters of Isaiah, with their families, settled near Hannibal, Missouri, about 1850.

Coming up the river road from Philips Ferry, Boone Elledge and his family spent their first night in Pike county at the home of the son, Uriah, east of the town of Griggsville. Another son, William, was also at Uriah's at this time, having come out to the Illinois country in 1834. Francis, another son, who had come in 1830, was at Abel Shelley's near present Shelley school house. Alexander, who had married Amanda French in Indiana and who had come with William in 1834, was at Robert Walker's, in the Benjamin Elledge settlement. The sons who came with Boone were James H., Adam Douglas, Thomas P., Joel L. and Benjamin F., with their one sister, Maria Jane.

The 1830 census of Boone township in Harrison county, Indiana, shows that Boone Elledge was then the head of a family comprising "9 males and 2 females" including himself and his wife. The children then at home were eight sons and one daughter. The son Uriah since 1823 had been a resident of Illinois, and was therefore not included in the Indiana census. The census appears to have been taken before the son Francis came to the Illinois country, which was the same year Alexander also was still at home, unmarried.

Boone Elledge on October 13, 1835 had bought of his first wife's kinsmen, the McClains, 120 acres of land in the northeast of Section 6, in the northwest corner of present Griggsville township. This land had been entered from the government by Robert, John and Isaac McClain in 1833-34, each having entered a 40-acre tract. Robert later sold his 40 to John, and John in 1835 transferred his 80 and Isaac his 40 to Elledge. In these transactions Elledge's given name is recorded as "Boon,"

a spelling that was sometimes used by Daniel Boone himself.

Taking his family to this wild land, Boone Elledge erected thereon a log house and store, clearing a patch of ground in the great woodland and using the logs to form the walls of a dwelling place. From the felled oaks he and his sons, William and Alexander, split out and smoothed by hand many thousands of shingles for the early settlers.

Boone's early-day store is glimpsed in the following, set down in his account book under the heading, "A bill in the stoar." It lists "calaco, bedintick, knives and forks, tobacco, salt, nails, coffey and cotten, and lanterns."

Boone and his sons handled meats in the pioneer store, as shown by his accounts of credit. For instance, these accounts with the settlers: "P. French 37 pieces of meat." "Received of Jesse Elledge (Boone's brother) 142¼ lbs. of pork." "James Elledge (another brother) 204 lbs. pork." Other meat accounts were with Mr. Windsor and Lewis H. Baldwin (a son-in-law).

Boone's accounts show also that he and his sons did much work for neighbor settlers. In July, 1837, they made 2,600 shingles for George W. Hinman, who lived a short distance west. These shingles were for the early Hinman house, one of the oldest in the county, still standing and occupied, a short distance north of Hinman cemetery. Boone charged Hinman (whom he names as Mr. Henman in the account) \$2.25 per thousand for making the shingles. Other accounts show work done for Richard Bell (Beall), who married Jemima Elledge; Nathan Philips, Mr. Chenoweth (Jacob Van Meter Chenoweth, grandson of the noted Kentucky pioneer, Jacob Van Meter), and Abraham Scholl, for whom he worked on a "chimbly." He charged Richard Beall \$5.12½ for "5½ days work on chimbly." Another account was with "Mr. Henman" for work on a "seller."

On August 16, 1836, Boone Elledge entered the remaining 40 acres in the northeast quarter of Section 6, which gave him a farm of 160 acres. This quarter section, following Boone's death, passed to the ownership of his son, Thomas P. Elledge, by quitclaim deeds of the various heirs transferring their interests. The tract later passed from Thomas P. Elledge to his son, James S. Elledge, and on October 25, 1906, passed out of the Elledge name by a transfer from James S. Elledge and his wife, Jennie Clark, to Samuel Curfman.

Nearest neighbors of the Boone Elledges in this pioneer settlement on Hinman Prairie were the Chenoweths and Hinmans, Jacob Van Meter Chenoweth and his son, Samuel H., and George W. Hinman and his son, Asahel. These were all pioneer Kentuckians who had coped with the mighty wilderness in the days when Daniel Boone was opening a new empire to settlement. Boone Elledge's land occupied the whole of the northeast quarter of Section 6. Immediately west of him, in the south half of the northwest quarter of Section 6, lay the land of Jacob and Samuel Chenoweth, entered from the government in the name of Samuel H., in February, 1836. Just north of the Chenoweth land and west of Elledge's was the early homestead of George W. Hinman, one of the three county commissioners at the



time Pittsfield was laid out as the Pike county seat of justice in 1833. Elledge's log home and store was three-quarters of a mile east of the site of old Hinman Chapel.

These early Chenoweths on the prairies of Pike county were historic characters, descending from the noted Baltimores of Maryland and the Van Meters of Kentucky, who were among the earliest settlers of Elizabethtown. Jacob Van Meter Chenoweth was a son of Major William Chenoweth, who was a son of William Chennerworth (Chenoweth) and Ruth Calvert, the latter a daughter of the House of the Baltimores. John Chinoweth (Chenoweth), great grandfather of Jacob Van Meter Chenoweth, lived in early colonial times at Chenoweth Manor, on Gunpowder river, near Joppa, Maryland, later settling in Frederick county, Virginia. His father, John Chinoweth, was born at St. Martin's in Meneage, Cornwall county, Wales (now England) about 1682-3. This John Chinoweth married Mary Calvert, daughter of Charles Calvert, the third Lord Baltimore, about 1705, at the time of great religious strife in England. John was a Protestant and Mary a Catholic, and because of religious controversies in England the couple fled to America at about the time of her father's death in 1715.

Jacob Van Meter Chenoweth was also a grandson of the elder Jacob Van Meter, who brought his family out to Daniel Boone's new empire in a very early day, settling in the beautiful Severns Valley where now is Elizabethtown, Kentucky. Here, on the site of Elizabethtown, four 160-acre farms cornered, and on the corner of each was a log house, fortified, forming a sort of palisaded square for mutual protection against the Indians. In one of these houses dwelt Jacob Van Meter and his large family; in another the family of Samuel Haycraft, in another the family of John Vertrees, and in the fourth the family of Hinson Hobbs. Strangely enough, descendants of these four houses later settled in the same neighborhood in Pike county, Illinois.

Jacob Van Meter Chenoweth married Mary Haycraft, a descendant of the house of Haycraft mentioned above, and they settled in an early day on Hinman Prairie. John Vertrees was the father of Jacob Sneed Vertrees, who married Nancy Hobbs, daughter of Hinson Hobbs, and they too came to Illinois and settled at Perry, where they died and are buried; they were parents of the late John Eaton Vertrees (long a Pittsfield merchant) and the grandparents of former Mayor Herbert H. Vertrees and Miss Lillia Vertrees of Pittsfield. Solomon Josiah and Nicholas Hobbs, sons of Hinson Hobbs and brothers of Nancy Hobbs Vertrees, also came to Pike county and settled in the Perry neighborhood, their descendants being now numerous in the county.

Old Jacob Van Meter, maker of pioneer history in Kentucky, was the father of Mary (Van Meter) Hinton, known in the annals of Kentucky Indian warfare as the "Widow Hinton," her husband having perished by drowning on the way out to Kentucky. She and her children were at Squire Boone's Station in Kentucky at the time of the memorable Indian uprising heretofore recounted wherein Francis Elledge, husband of Charity Boone, was wounded. She later married Major

William Chenoweth and became the mother of the Pike county pioneers, Jacob Van Meter, Abraham and James Hackly Chenoweth.

Major William Chenoweth, father of the early Pike county Chenoweths, and husband of the Widow Hinton, was in many a bloody Indian affray on the dark and bloody ground of Kentucky. Born in Virginia June 10, 1760, he served in the Revolutionary War and appeared on Pottenger's Creek in Kentucky, in August or September, 1779. He entered land in Nelson county, Kentucky, under a grant for services in the Revolution, issued by Patrick Henry, governor of Virginia, by virtue of a land office treasury warrant, No. 5080, issued May 22, 1780. On March 5, 1781, in Jefferson county, Kentucky, he was appointed administrator of the estate of John Hinton, whose widow he married. She was born February 11, 1757, and died June 29, 1832. He died April 16, 1828, at his home (which is still standing) in Nelson county, Kentucky, near Dateville, and about ten miles from Bardstown, the county seat of Nelson county and the setting of Stephen Collins Foster's "My Old Kentucky Home." He is buried at Wilson Creek Baptist church, organized in 1801 and built on land he gave to the church. The graves of Major William and his wife Mary are well preserved and marked with stones. Their home, a large stone house in which the Pike county pioneer Chenoweths were born, is still standing and the spring where they kept their milk is arched over with stones and in good condition.

The old Hinman house, standing just north of Hinman cemetery, in the northwest corner of Griggsville township, is today one of the few houses yet standing in the county that date back more than a century. It was built of native logs in 1833, the year that Pittsfield was founded. In later years the logs were covered with weatherboarding. Originally covered with clapboards, the building in 1837 was roofed with handmade shingles rived from native oaks, the shingles being made by Boone Elledge and his sons. It was in this house, the home of the Hinmans, that the first church services were held in that part of Pike county.

A Methodist congregation, meeting in Hinman's home in the middle 1830s, decided to erect a church edifice. Mr. Hinman gave the ground for a church and cemetery, which were named Hinman Chapel and cemetery. Among those who worked on the church building were Boone Elledge and his sons, and Gideon Olin Ball, whose story has been told in another chapter. The chapel was built of native hewn logs, and without the use of nails. The timbers were all seasoned by fire before being assembled, Mr. Hinman himself performing this task. Mr. Hinman's great grandson, Hinman Strother of Pittsfield, has records showing that his great grandfather, while engaged in this task, got up of nights to turn the logs and replenish the fire.

When services were first held in the Hinman home, a Methodist circuit rider, William Medford, riding a wide circuit in Illinois, conducted services at stated intervals, and this kind of service continued for some time after the chapel was built.

On April 5, 1847, George W. Hinman and his wife (who was Nancy Stewart of Kentucky) deeded the land on which were chapel and cemetery to the then church



trustees, namely, George W. Hinman, William McLaughlin, John Darrah, George Yates and Amos L. Moore. The plot thus deeded measured 21 rods by 7 rods, the deed providing that it should be "for the use of the M. E. Church of the United States of America," and that the trustees should permit all ministers and preachers belonging to said church to "preach and expound God's holy word therein." The deed provides also that "in the above lot of land there is set apart 84 rods of the west part of said lot for the purpose of a graveyard."

For many years, Hinman Chapel was a leading community center. Then a rival church about two miles away, known as the Asbury church, was organized and a church built. Changes then came rapidly and both churches began to waver, then failed entirely. The Asbury church was finally sold to Mt. Sterling parties and torn down. Hinman Chapel rotted and decayed, and in 1936 the trustees of the cemetery had it completely dismantled and cleared away. So passed the earliest church building erected in that section of Pike county.

## CHAPTER 92

## Hinman Fled England to Escape Oliver Cromwell; Family of George Yates

HINMAN PRAIRIE, on which Boone Elledge settled more than a century ago, derived its name from the 1833 settlement of the Kentucky Hinmans. Here, George Whitefield Hinman, reared in the Kentucky wilds of early Indian days, settled in 1833, following his removal from his original settlement where Griggsville now is.

The name of Hinman is woven into the fabric of Pike county's early history. It was at his house on the site of present Griggsville that all the settlers from the east side of the county met for muster at the beginning of the Black Hawk War in 1832. At his house the settlers of the east side met the main company coming from Atlas. The muster at Hinman's was pursuant to an order, carried to the settlers' cabins throughout the county by the Atlas blacksmith, Benjamin Barney, issued by "W. Ross, Capt. 1st Rifles, Pike Co." The order was issued by Captain Ross immediately upon receipt of word from Governor John Reynolds, which reached Atlas on Friday, April 20, 1832. Barney, the "county blacksmith," was engaged at his forge at the time, making a plow, but he straightway "laid down his hammer and tongs, untied his leathern apron, left his fire to smolder and die, and started immediately upon his mission." Thus did Pike county's early Paul Revere carry the news of muster throughout the county.

At sunrise, on the morning of April 23 (Monday) every man (with four or five exceptions, and they lived along the Illinois river) was at Hinman's. The Hinman house stood on the southwest quarter of Section 14, now Griggsville township, in what is the northeast part of the present town. There was then no town there. It was 18 years before Griggsville township was erected. The location of Hinman's house was described in Captain Ross's order as "about four miles this side of Philips Ferry." Each man at the Hinman house that morning was equipped with "a good horse, rifle, powderhorn, half pound of powder, and one hundred balls, with three days' provisions." This equipment was pur-

suant to the Captain's order, carried by Barney. Leaving Hinman's shortly after sun-up, the company went to Beardstown, the appointed rendezvous for troops in this part of the state. Lewis Allen and Jonathan Boone Allen (grandsons of Jonathan Boone) were among these troopers.

The founder of the Hinman family in America was Sergeant Edward Hinman, reputed Sergeant-at-Arms to the first of the Stuart kings, King Charles I. He, like many others in that troubled period in English history, became an "exile to an alien shore" to escape the vengeance of Oliver Cromwell, who was firm in condemning to death the supporters of Charles Stuart. This is evidence that the English Hinmans were loyalist gentlemen held in high esteem at the English court, as from no other class would have been selected one to act as bodyguard of the king.

Sergeant Edward Hinman emigrated from his native country and settled at Stratford, Connecticut, between 1650 and 1652. Soon afterward he married Hannah, daughter of Francis and Mary Stiles of Windsor, Connecticut. Their first child was named Sarah, born at Stratford in 1652. Sergeant Hinman was an extensive farmer, engaged in the buying and selling of land, and owned and operated a mill. He died at Stratford in 1681, leaving a family of four sons and four daughters.

Edward Hinman, Jr., the youngest son, was born at Stratford in 1672. He married Hannah Jennings and they had twelve children. Jonas Hinman, the eldest son, was born at Stratford in the year 1700. As a youth he went to live at Newark, New Jersey, and there married Elizabeth Crane. They had ten children. Mary Hinman, their youngest child, married Asahel Hinman, a son of James Hinman, who was a grandson of Sergeant Edward. After the close of the Revolutionary War, Asahel Hinman and his family became pioneers in the wilds of Kentucky, locating in what is now Bullitt county.

Next to the youngest child in Asahel Hinman's family was George W. Hinman, first of the family to come to Pike county, Illinois. He was born in Bullitt county, Kentucky, in April, 1791. This was in a period of terrible Indian atrocity in Kentucky. Nearly 1500 whites are said to have perished by savage hands on Kentucky soil in two years during this period.

When George W. was eight years old, his father and family removed to what is now Ohio county, Kentucky. Here, on March 2, 1813, he married Miss Nancy Stewart, a native of Ohio county. She was born August 18,



1796. She died in Pike county, Illinois, September 12, 1853, and is buried in Hinman cemetery.

Three children were born to the Hinmans in Ohio county, Kentucky, namely, Maria, Samuel and Asahel. Maria, born May 29, 1814, married George Yates in Pike county, December 6, 1832, with Justice Andrew Philips performing the ceremony. She died in Pike county October 17, 1868. Samuel, born June 24, 1815, died when six days old. Asahel, born January 19, 1817, married Sarah McClain in Pike county, December 23, 1838. She was born in Adair county, Kentucky, in 1816, daughter of John and Mary McClain, some of whose children were early emigrants from Kentucky to Pike county, Illinois, and who were the original owners of the land on which Boone Elledge settled in 1836. Boone Elledge's first wife, who died in Kentucky, is believed to have been a sister of Sarah McClain's father. The Elledges and McClains appear to have been otherwise closely related, as we find one of Benjamin Elledge's sons bearing the name of James McClain Elledge. The Hinman family also was further intermarried with the McClains; Eliza Ann Hinman, a sister of George W.'s son Asahel, having married Daniel McClain, a brother of Asahel's wife Sarah, their wedding being the day before that of Asahel and Sarah, with Justice William H. Hooper performing both ceremonies.

In 1819, George W. Hinman and his family moved to Indiana and there they first fell in with the Boone descendants, Boone and Benjamin Elledge and their families. The family friendships there begun were destined to endure in the Illinois country, and here in the new land Boone found a final resting place in the cemetery which Hinman founded.

Three more children were born to the George W. Hinmans in Indiana, namely, Eliza Ann, Elizabeth Jane and Sarah Phoebe. Eliza Ann, born October 17, 1821, married Daniel C. McClain in Pike county, December 21, 1838. They settled in McLennan county, Texas. She died January 21, 1868. Elizabeth Jane, born September 1, 1826, died August 25, 1827. Sarah, born May 14, 1829, married Anderson Kinman in Pike county, June 30, 1847. She was an infant in arms when the family came to Illinois in the fall of 1829. She and her husband located in Knox county, Missouri. Mr. Kinman's first wife had been Anna M. Elledge, whom he had married February 2, 1843, with the Rev. Jesse Elledge officiating.

In the fall of 1829, George W. Hinman headed west with his family for the Illinois country, being another of the long line of pioneers who, migrating from Kentucky, settled first in Indiana, coming thence at a later date to Illinois. On October 14, 1829, he crossed the Illinois river by the old Philips Ferry and drove out to the foot of the mound where Griggsville now stands. There he stopped with Henry Bateman, who had come there in the latter part of 1825, giving to the knoll, formerly known as Sackett's Harbor, the name of Bateman's Gap. Bateman had laid claim to the southwest quarter of Section 14 (in now Griggsville township) and had made some improvement thereon, but had not entered the land from the government. Hinman a little later bought out Bateman and occupied the premises, which included all of that part of present Griggsville

lying north of Quincy Avenue and east of Federal (Church) Street, on which are Jones and Purkitt's and Hatch's Additions. Hinman also acquired a part of the northwest quarter of Section 23, including that section of the present town lying south of Quincy Avenue and east of Federal.

Mr. Hinman formally entered the Bateman claim from the U. S. government on October 7, 1830. He sold this 160 acres, on which a considerable portion of Griggsville now stands, on October 22, 1833, to John Preston of Boston, Massachusetts, for \$830. The deed was executed before Justice Andrew Philips and signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of John King, Benjamin Bates and Thomas T. Beatty. Hinman moved immediately to a point four and a half miles northwest, locating on Section 6 in the northwest corner of the township, where he had built a log house, the one which still stands just north of Hinman cemetery.

At Griggsville, another daughter, Mary Jane, was born to the Hinmans, September 15, 1833. She married Lucius Foote, February 4, 1851. He died within a short time and on October 24, 1855, she again married, her second husband being Jehuda A. Hammond. Mrs. Fred Smith, now 86 and living at Camarillo, California, is a daughter of Jane Hinman and Lucius Foote and was born in a log cabin south of Hinman Chapel cemetery.

On Hinman Prairie, George Benton Hinman, eighth and last child of the George W. Hinmans, was born December 18, 1839. He married Arabella Lindsey in Pike county April 9, 1863.

The first preaching on the present site of Griggsville was held in the Hinman house in the fall of 1830, by a Methodist minister named Hunter, whose circuit or mission covered all the territory south of Rushville and Warsaw, lying between the Illinois and Mississippi rivers. He went around this circuit once in four weeks, on horseback.

In September, 1832, George W. Hinman was elected a member of the Pike County Commissioners' Court, an office which he held until September, 1836. He was one of the three county commissioners in 1833, when Special Commissioners Samuel Alexander, Earl Peirce and John W. Sterne, appointed by the state legislature of 1832-33 to re-locate the seat of justice, selected the southeast quarter of Section 24 (in now Pittsfield township) "as the county-seat of the county of Pike, said county-seat to be known and designated by the name of Pittsfield."

Mr. Hinman's associate commissioners at this time were Benjamin Barney (the old "county blacksmith") and Hawkins Judd. They platted the town of Pittsfield, held sales of town lots, executed the first deeds to town sites, paid William Ross (who had been given the privilege of naming the new seat of justice after his old Massachusetts home) the \$200 they had borrowed from him to enter the 160 acres on which the town stands, and paid Alexander, Peirce and Sterne \$36 each for their services in locating the justice seat. On Tuesday, June 4, 1833, these commissioners let a contract to Israel N. Burt to build a courthouse to cost \$1,095. This building was erected on the north side of the Pittsfield public square, where the Heck store now stands.



From September, 1834 to September, 1836, Mr. Hinman's associate commissioners were Benjamin Barney and Andrew Philips, son of Nimrod and long owner and proprietor of Philips Ferry, left to him by Nimrod's will.

George W. Hinman died at his home on Hinman Prairie, December 8, 1854. His wife, Nancy Stewart, had died September 12, 1853. George W. had made his will November 18, 1854, wherein he appointed Lewis H. Baldwin (who had married Boone Elledge's daughter, Maria Jane) and his son, Asahel Hinman, as executors. Lewis H. Baldwin, however, acted as sole executor in settling the estate. The will was witnessed by John Darrah and Lemuel Parker. Bondsmen for Baldwin as executor were George Yates (a son-in-law of the deceased) and John W. Rush. Mr. and Mrs. Hinman are both buried in Hinman cemetery.

Asahel Hinman, long identified with the county's history, took up the work of his pioneer father. Marrying Sarah McClain late in 1838, in the spring of 1839 he built a hewed log cabin 18 feet square on his land on Hinman Prairie. This house still stands, immediately to the rear of the house occupied by Walter Ranft, on the Hinman Strother lands near Hinman cemetery. This house stood originally where the Ranft residence now is and was moved back to make way for the present house, being used at one time for a chicken house. It was a story-and-a-half house and contained two rooms. Here Asahel Hinman and his family lived for 28 years. Meanwhile, his holdings grew until he had around him 600 acres of fine land, highly improved. He also operated a large flouring mill at Perry, known as "Hinman's Mill," and which was carried on by his sons, George W. and Asahel Albert in company with himself. He was one of the original stockholders in organizing the Fifth National Bank of Chicago; also the Griggsville National Bank, of which he was a director. He was one of the organizers of the old Farmers' Insurance Company of Griggsville, and was chosen its president. In his later years he resided in the town of Perry.

George W. Hinman, Asahel's son and grandson of the first George W., attended Chicago Law School, graduating in 1871. He began the practice of law in Missouri, subsequently moving to Perry in Pike county, where he practiced eight years, later becoming a partner in the Hinman milling business. He died at Perry.

Asahel Albert Hinman, brother of George W., was born in Pike county in 1859, attended Wesleyan University at Bloomington, married Miss Ella Oat in 1878 and by her had two children, Asahel J. A. Hinman and Roy Hinman. The latter is now cashier in the First National Bank of Canon City, Colorado.

Katherine Hinman married Charles Bonnell and they resided at Pana, Illinois, where she died. Frances Hinman married Charles F. Capelle. They lived for some time at Joliet, Illinois. She died on the Hinman farm in Pike county. Nancy Jane Hinman died of smallpox on Hinman Prairie May 13, 1853, aged eight years old. Her aunt Mary Jane Foote's son Oliver died of the disease about the same time. Neighbors dug the graves in Hinman Chapel cemetery and their fathers, Asahel Hinman and Lucius Foote, buried them alone. John H., a brother of Jane, also died young and was buried at Hinman Chapel.

Mary (Mayme) Hinman, a daughter of Asahel and Sarah McClain Hinman, born April 25, 1861, married S. K. Strother at Perry, December 17, 1884, in a double wedding ceremony, her sister Frances becoming the bride of Charles F. Capelle at this ceremony, which was performed at the home of the brides' parents with the Rev. S. M. Wilcox officiating. Mrs. Strother died at her home in Pittsfield February 8, 1921, leaving her husband and one son, Hinman F. Strother. The death of S. K. Strother occurred at Taylorville December 24, 1934.

Asahel Hinman died at Perry August 30, 1898, leaving an estate valued at \$40,000 in real and \$16,000 in personal property. His wife, Sarah McClain, died May 11, 1903. They are buried in Hinman cemetery, not far from the spot where they began housekeeping in the spring of 1839.

Another stalwart of early Hinman Prairie was George Yates, who married George W. Hinman's daughter, Maria S. Both Kentucky born, they were married in Pike county December 6, 1832, and settled near her father's house on Hinman Prairie. He was born in Barren county, Kentucky, January 17, 1807, the second son of Samuel Yates, a native of Virginia who emigrated in an early day to Kentucky. His mother, Nancy Boyd, was also a native of Virginia. George Yates came to Illinois in 1823, spent one year in Washington county, then settled in Morgan county, near Naples, in what is now Scott county. In the spring of 1833 he crossed the river into Pike county and settled on Section 6 in Griggsville township. When 18, starting out to make his own living, he hired to one Thomas Smith at \$8 per month, one-half to be taken in trade.

Mr. and Mrs. Yates had twelve children, one of whom was the late Colonel Edward Yates of Pittsfield, who married Mary S. Sharpe. He was a prominent member of the Pike County Bar, associated at one time with the late Judge Jefferson Orr, who married his sister, Ellen M. Yates, their marriage being celebrated on November 7, 1878. Another daughter, sister of Ellen M., was Nancy Catherine, who on October 12, 1852, married Jerome W. Rush of Fairmount township, who was born in Ross county, Ohio, in 1827, a son of John W. and Sarah (Brown) Rush, the former a native of Virginia and of German descent, the latter of Maryland and of English descent. He came to Pike county in 1837 and located on Section 36 (southeast corner of present Fairmount township), adjacent to the Hinman and Elledge settlements. He engaged in stock-raising on a large scale on his 400 acres of land, all but 80 of which was prairie. He at one time kept a deer park, in which there were sometimes as many as 20 deer.

Other children of George and Maria Yates included Martha F. and Emma. The latter married J. Wesley Fisher on December 26, 1865 and they went to Chillicothe, Missouri, where he was president of the Chillicothe Savings Bank. William H. Yates and his brother Monroe owned the old Yates homestead following their father's death, which occurred at Griggsville August 13, 1878. William H. died September 16, 1902, aged 65; Monroe, May 12, 1907, aged 67. The elder Yates accumulated considerable property, owning at one time about 1,300 acres of land under a high state of cultiva-



tion. He was a trustee and pillar of the little Hinman Chapel, wherein his funeral was held, attended by a large concourse of friends, the sermon being delivered by Elder James P. Dimmitt. He was buried in Hinman cemetery beside his wife who died October 17, 1868.

In a land peopled by pioneers such as those here briefly glimpsed, Boone Elledge set up his household goods 101 years ago and amid these people he went to his enduring rest in 1841.

On October 2, 1836, less than six months after the Elledge family's arrival in the new land, the only daughter, Maria Jane, married Lewis H. Baldwin, with the bride's uncle, the Rev. Jesse Elledge, performing the ceremony. The Elledges and Baldwins had known each other in Indiana, where the Baldwin family had already intermarried with the Boones. Lewis H. had preceded Maria to Pike county, having come in 1835. In the log house of George W. Hinman, at the pioneer meetings of the little Methodist society, they renewed their Indiana acquaintance.

Maria Jane Elledge was born in Boone township, in

Harrison county, Indiana, November 14, 1815. She was 20 when her father brought her to Pike county, Illinois.

Lewis H. Baldwin was born in Connecticut, November 21, 1811, a son of John and Sarah Ann (Hawkins) Baldwin. His father was a native of Connecticut, and of English descent. In early life, Lewis H. followed blacksmithing as a trade, later turning his attention to farming. After his marriage he worked out for \$8 per month, but in time accumulated 500 acres of good land in Pike county, he and one of his sons owning about the same amount in Missouri, and an acre within the corporation of Perry. He was an old-line Whig in early days, later attaching himself to the party of Lincoln. He was a school director for 25 years, and a school trustee, these being the only public offices he would ever accept. He adhered to the Baptist faith.

Lewis H. Baldwin and Maria Jane Elledge had nine children, namely, John Boone, Charles Wesley, Rebecca (Rebeckah) Jane, Sarah Ann, James Lewis, Elizabeth Julia, Grace Abigail, Thomas Henry and David Samuel whose stories will be related in a succeeding chapter.

## CHAPTER 93

### The Nine Children of Lewis and Maria Jane Baldwin of the Hinman Settlement

THE WEDDING of Maria Jane Elledge and Lewis H. Baldwin on October 2, 1836 was the first wedding of record on what is known as Hinman Prairie. They began housekeeping in what is now Fairmount township, adjacent to the Hinman and Boone Elledge settlements. Later, Andrew Alford Elledge, who married Alexander Elledge's widow, Amanda French Elledge, settled in the same neighborhood.

Five sons and four daughters were born to the Lewis H. Baldwins. First of these was John Boone Baldwin, born April 11, 1838. He married Miss Julia A. Reed, December 2, 1859, with Judge Charles Harrington, minister of the Perry Baptist church, officiating. She was a native of Taylorville, Ohio, born May 28, 1839, a daughter of William Reed, who married Miss Keziah Clark of Pennsylvania. The parents came to Pike county early in the year 1859, in which Julia was married. William Reed died in August, 1878. The John Boone Baldwins had two children, namely, Ellsworth, who is dead, and Jennie K. Baldwin, who on May 17, 1885, at Perry, married Uriah Hodges, a son of William A. Hodges and Rebecca Eleanor Elledge, she a daughter of old Uriah Elledge and Catharine Scott. John E. Morton, P. M., performed the ceremony. She was 23 and he 25 at the time of the wedding. They had three children, namely, Alice, Helen and Scott Adams Hodges. Alice married James Brown and resides in Banning, California. They have no children. Helen married Monta Sellards and lives in Oakland California; no children. Scott married Miss Elma Durr, daughter of

Pike county John Durr, and lives in Bakersfield, California. They have three children, Lorene, Junior and Donald, all at home. Uriah Hodges died more than 40 years ago and Mrs. Hodges lives at Banning, California, with her daughter, Mrs. Alice Brown. John Boone Baldwin, usually known as "Boone" Baldwin, was in the Civil War, and was last heard of in the state of Missouri, where he is believed to have died in March, 1879. Julia (Reed) Baldwin died at Perry January 31, 1926, aged 86 years, eight months and three days.

Charles Wesley Baldwin, second of the Lewis H. Baldwin children, was born January 25, 1840 and died July 21, 1842, in his third year. He is buried in Hinman cemetery.

Rebecca Jane, third of the Baldwin children, born January 26, 1842, married Silas Reed in Pike county, February 23, 1860, the Rev. Charles Harrington officiating. He was a brother of Julia A. Reed, who had married Rebecca's brother, John Boone Baldwin, in 1859. He was born in Clermont county, Ohio, October 1, 1831. Attending the common and graded schools of Clermont county, he entered an academy, later known as Clermont College. Coming to Pike county with his parents in 1859, he was engaged as school teacher and bookkeeper for some time, later devoting himself to farming and then to a hotel business in Baylis. He and his wife had six children, namely, William Lewis, Alva, Lillian Grace, Rosetta J., Roy and Harvey B. Reed.

William Lewis Reed, who went to Colorado and was at one time a barber in Denver, was last heard of by his Pike county relatives in Seattle, Washington, being then unmarried. Alva Reed died in Perry, unmarried, about 1894. Grace Reed married David A. Schaffnit, Perry merchant, a son of Martin Schaffnit and Mary Lutz. They were married by the Rev. H. A. McKinney at Perry, December 17, 1890, with Martin Schaffnit and family witnessing. Mrs. Schaffnit died June 25, 1891, aged 19, and is buried at Perry.

Rosetta (Rose) Reed married Ed Risley of Perry, a



## Peter Scholl Married Mary, Daughter of Neddie Boone; Had 14 Children

PETER SCHOLL, WHOSE SON, Jesse Bryan Scholl, married Jesse Elledge's eldest daughter, Charity Elledge, was one of the most colorful characters in early Kentucky history. A slave-holder and a hard master, we have seen how he quarreled with his younger brother, Abraham, who upbraided him for his treatment of his slaves, the quarrel contributing to Abraham's resolve to leave Kentucky and settle in Pike county, Illinois, which he did in the spring of 1825.

Peter Scholl was a soldier of the Revolution, as was his brother, Pike county Abraham. He was with Daniel Boone in the old Indian wars and at the famous battle of the Blue Licks, on the Licking river in Kentucky, August 19, 1782, when Daniel Boone's son Israel fell in battle and 60 Kentucky women were widowed. Scholl was with General Andrew Lewis at the great battle with the tribes at Point Pleasant, West Virginia, in 1774, one of the greatest battles ever fought between the whites and the Indians. General Lewis, at the head of this expedition, was a descendant of pioneer John Lewis, a forebear of Samuel Lewis who died at Pleasant Hill in 1832. Scholl was a lieutenant under Daniel Boone with General George Rogers Clark in 1782.

John Scholl gave the following information about his father, Peter Scholl, to Dr. Lyman C. Draper, then secretary of the Wisconsin State Historical Society, in 1868:

"He (Peter Scholl) wore short breeches, long silk stockings and queued his hair; wore large knee and shoe buckles, long vest and coat. He memorialized Congress for a pension, but got none since he was in good circumstances. He was a lieutenant under Daniel Boone with George R. Clark."

Peter Scholl was a son of William Scholl and Leah Morgan. Note: Some descendants have claimed that William Scholl was twice married, that his first wife was a Van Meter who was the mother of Peter Scholl and his brother Joseph. Scholl genealogies mention only Leah Morgan as a wife of William Scholl. William Scholl was a son of Jacob Scholl and Jane Morgan, the latter a sister of Sarah Morgan who married Squire Boone and became the mother of 11, among them Daniel, Edward, Jonathan and the second Squire, who were figured prominently in this history. William Scholl, the father of Peter Scholl, was therefore a first cousin of Edward Boone, the father of Mary and Charity Boone, the former of whom became the wife of Peter. Peter Scholl was born in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia September 15, 1754. In 1779, when Peter was

The Scholl family journeyed out to Boonesborough on the Kentucky river, under the guidance of Daniel Boone. In the party traveled Edward Boone and his family with 22 pack horses, besides those the family of Abraham Lincoln, grandfather of the President,

also went out to Kentucky with this party. With Edward Boone and his wife on the journey were their six children, Charity, Jane, Mary, Sarah, George and Joseph Boone. Charity was already married, her husband, Francis Elledge, being with her on the journey. Mary Boone, Charity's sister, was then about 15. On the wild Wilderness Road, cut by Boone in 1779. Peter Scholl and young Mary Boone came to care for one another and in Boone's Station in Kentucky in 1782 they were married, the groom being then 28 and the bride 18.

Edward Boone Scholl, founder of Booneville (now Perry), a son of Peter Scholl and Mary Boone and named for his grandfather, Edward Boone, writing from Griggsville to Dr. Lyman C. Draper of Madison, Wisconsin, August 25, 1854, said of his father and mother:

"My father was Peter Scholl, who came to Kentucky with the Boone family. He married Mary Boone, Edward's daughter. He served two years in the old war (the Revolution) as a regular soldier for himself, and six months for another man. I have seen his discharge, with a \$5.00 Continental bill, receipted on the back, which he gave for a bushel of salt, which was all he ever got for his services. When the first Pension Law was passed he was the only man out of 32 who applied that could show he had been in the service but got nothing owing to the provision and died before there was any amendment. Peter Scholl died September 11, 1821, aged 67 lacking four days. My mother (Mary Boone) had 14 children.

"Peter Scholl was made lieutenant (Ky.) under Daniel Boone when he went to drive the Indians from the Miami, Ohio, and was one of the company that agreed to go there 50 years later if alive to the same place but died just 10 years before." Note: The drive against the Indians on the Miami was in 1782 and Peter Scholl therefore died 11 years before the expiration of the half-century agreed upon for a reunion.

Peter Scholl and his brother John were both in the War of Independence and John died of smallpox while stationed at Point Pleasant, West Virginia (then Virginia). He had married a Miss Morris and they had two children. Peter Scholl was with John at Point Pleasant and had the smallpox the same time. Recovering, he went home and married Mary Boone. "They had 14 children," wrote Boone Scholl, "six born on Marble Creek, west part of Fayette county, Kentucky. In 1792 they moved to the east part of said county. There they had eight more on Georges Fork of Stoner." This last settlement was on a 1400 acre tract which was shared by William Scholl's three sons, Peter, Joseph and Abraham. This tract had been settled and preempted by Daniel Boone, who later assigned it to his cousin, William Scholl. A. C. Barrow, a Scholl descendant, who owned and lived on a part of this tract, wrote in 1920: "A portion of the house Peter Scholl lived in is still standing and is just across the hill from where I live."

The William Scholl and Edward Boone families, setting out over the Wilderness Road in 1779, reached Daniel Boone's fort on the Kentucky river on Christmas Day. The Scholls were from the Shenandoah Valley in



Virginia; the Boones from the Yadkin, in North Carolina. At Boonesborough, on Christmas Day, 1779, the families ate their last bread until grain was raised in 1780. That winter was a bitter one in Kentucky, the coldest on record. In the spring, members of the two families went to Louisville, then called Clarksville, to buy bread.

Arriving at Boonesborough on Christmas Day, after eating their last bread, the Scholl and Boone families crossed the Kentucky river the same day and traveled about four miles. Then Daniel Boone killed a young buffalo cow and the party camped to cook the fine beef. Next morning the awful winter, memorable in Kentucky annals, howled around them. Snow covered the ground. For protection against the weather, the little party set to work erecting half-fitted camps made of boards and forked sticks. During that cold winter, the camp lived on buffalo, bear, deer and turkeys. After the snow went off in March, cabins were erected and the camp stockaded, with port holes for resisting Indian attack. This stockade became known as Boone's Station. Here, where the company had camped to cook the buffalo cow Daniel Boone had killed, Peter Scholl and Mary Boone were married in 1782. Here also their first child, William Scholl, was born in 1783. This first son of Mary Boone in 1806 married his first cousin, Martha Jemima Elledge, a daughter of Charity Boone.

Peter Scholl's brother, Joseph Scholl, second-born of William Scholl's children, married Daniel Boone's daughter, Levina, about 1785; they settled in the eastern part of Clark county, Kentucky. They had eight children, Jesse Boone, Septimus, Marcus, Daniel Boone, Celia, Marcia, Leah and Joseph Scholl, Jr. Jesse Boone and Septimus married Elizabeth and Sallie Miller, sisters, daughters of Joseph Miller and cousins of David (known as Gumbo) Miller, an early dweller on Sand Creek in southeast Pike county. Joseph Junior's first wife was Rebecca Van Meter, a cousin of the early Pike county Chenoweths, whose mother was Mary Van Meter. The elder Joseph Scholl died January 15, 1833, on the headwaters of Stoner, in Clark county, Kentucky. He had been born in the Shenandoah Valley, in Virginia, in January 1755. His wife, Levina Boone, born March 23, 1766, died on the waters of Stoner, in Clark county, Kentucky, April 6, 1802, aged 36 years and 15 days.

Marcus (Marquis), Joseph, Jr., Jesse Boone and Septimus Scholl, sons of Joseph Scholl and Levina Boone, settled in Callaway county, Missouri, and are buried there. Septimus at one time was living near Independence, Missouri. His account of the capture of Jemima Boone (Daniel's daughter) and two of the Callaway girls by the Indians in 1776 has been related in a previous chapter.

Peter Scholl and Mary Boone had 14 children, namely, William, Martha, John, Lydia Ann, Joseph, Dudley, Malinda, Jesse Bryan, Peter Morgan, Edward Boone, Dudley (the second), Mary, Louisa and Charity Scholl. Of these 14 children, 13 grew to maturity. The first Dudley died in infancy.

William Scholl, named for his grandfather Scholl, was born in Boone's Station, on Boone's Creek, in Kentucky, in 1783, being the first born of Peter Scholl's

and Mary Boone's children. William Scholl on May 14, 1806, in Kentucky, married his first cousin, Martha Jemima Elledge, a daughter of Francis Elledge and Charity Boone, the latter a sister of Mary Boone. The Elledge daughter is referred to as Jemima Elledge in the Elledge records and as Martha Elledge in the Scholl family records. She probably bore both names, she having signed a transfer in early Morgan county as "Martha J. Scholl."

William Scholl and Martha Elledge had 11 children, several of whom were born in what is now Scott county, where William Scholl and his wife lived in the 1820's, belonging to the early Scholl and Elledge settlement in that part of the Sangamo country. Among the sons were William Boone Scholl, Peter Scholl, Joseph Scholl and Edward A. Scholl. Among the daughters were Elizabeth (called Betsy), who married a Withers; Mary (Polly), who married Henry Woodward, becoming the mother of Catherine Woodward, who married Lieut. W. N. Shibley, early Pittsfield and Griggsville carriage maker, at one time associated in Pittsfield with the late Henry F. McKnight; Levisa, who married Clifton Beall (Beall), relative of Mrs. William Elledge and Mary Boone Elledge; and Telitha Scholl, a twin of Levisa, who died in Pike county, unmarried, and is buried in McCord cemetery at Perry. Three of the Scholl children died young.

William Boone Scholl, son of William Scholl and Martha Jemima Elledge, was born near Louisville, Kentucky, April 14, 1813. In 1834 he married Elnore Shores, a daughter of Thomas Shores and a sister of Abigail Shores, who on November 19, 1840, in Pike county, with Rev. Jesse Elledge officiating, married pioneer John McClain, a kinsman of Boone Elledge, first wife and original owner of the land on Hinman Prairie on which Boone Elledge settled in 1836. John McClain was born in Adair county, Kentucky, in 1807, and died at Griggsville December 9, 1893, aged 86. His wife, Abigail Shores, born in Kentucky September 18, 1820, died at Griggsville April 13, 1903, aged 82. John and Abigail McClain are buried at Griggsville. Many others of the McClain family were buried in the grounds adjoining old Hinman Chapel. John McClain settled near the northwest corner of Griggsville township in 1830, when there was not a fence between his place and Atlas, then the only town in the county.

William Boone Scholl and Elnore Shores, following their marriage in Kentucky, first settled in the Boone and Elledge settlement near Laconia, Indiana. Later they followed the Scholl and Elledge migration to what is now Scott county, Illinois, and still later came to Griggsville where they resided many years.

Late in life they left Griggsville, going to Salina, Kansas, where they died and are buried. While living at Griggsville, William B. Scholl owned or was in charge of a tow boat on the Illinois river, called "Peggy," with which he engaged in the river trade. Later on he apprenticed to a blacksmith in Griggsville and learned that trade. He was descended from Edward Boone on both his father's and mother's side, his father being a grandson and his mother a granddaughter of Edward.

The family of William Boone Scholl and Elnore



Shores comprised nine children, three boys and six girls. The sons died in infancy; the daughters were:

Mary M. Scholl, who married Captain Gilbert G. Lowe in Pike county, November 13, 1851; Susan A. Scholl, who married Alexander Shultz; Huldah J. Scholl who married John B. Clinton; Nancy E. Scholl, who married the Rev. Milo Powers; Tamar A. Scholl, who married Thomas H. Derrington; and Elizabeth T. Scholl, who married Cyrus S. Conrad. All of the girls except Mary M. were married after the family left Pike county in the early 1850s. Otto A. Wilmarth of Washington, D. C., who has contributed some interesting data on Scholl family history, is a grandson of Susan A. Scholl and Alexander Shultz mentioned above.

Peter Scholl, son of William Scholl and Martha Jemima Elledge, lived in what is now Scott county in the pioneer period. Scott county was then a part of old Morgan. Peter, named for his grandfather Scholl in Kentucky, was married in old Morgan county August 21, 1828, his bride being Elizabeth Cowhick, daughter of Thomas Cowhick, who had come up in this region with Alexander Beall in the closing days of the Illinois Territory. Peter Scholl owned 80 acres of land in Section 11 in T. 13 N. and R. 13 W. in what is now Scott county. He and his wife deeded this land on February 17, 1834 to William Cumley and they then migrated to Missouri. Of them there is no further record.

Joseph Scholl, another son of William Scholl and Martha Elledge, came to what is now Scott county in the 1820s and in the 1830s and early 1840s abided in what is now Pleasant Vale township in Pike county. Here it was that his aunt, Malinda Scholl Elledge, lived after marriage to Joseph Jackson in 1832. Malinda's first husband had been Edward Elledge, a brother of Joseph's mother. The records are silent as to Joseph after 1842 at which time he went to Missouri.

Edward A. Scholl, a brother of Joseph, Peter and William B., was in Scott county in 1829, being recorded in Morgan county records as having bought property at the sale of Edward Elledge's effects on October 8 that year, Edward Elledge having died. Edward Scholl also went to Missouri and there all trace of him is lost.

Mary Scholl (called also Polly), a daughter of William Scholl and Martha Elledge, married Henry Woodward in Kentucky and they came in the late 1820s to present Scott county. Both the Scholl and Elledge families intermarried with the Kentucky Woodwards, numerous of the Woodwards belonging to the history of Pike county. Isaac Woodward, a brother of Henry, in 1840 in Pike county married Adeline Elledge, daughter of Preacher Jesse Elledge; and William H. Elledge, in Pike county in 1851, married Elizabeth J. Woodward.

Henry Woodward and Mary Scholl had a daughter Catherine, born in Kentucky, who in Scott county on April 27, 1848 married William N. Shibley, a son of John Shibley and Eliza Backstone. The father was born in New York in May, 1795, a son of Hollanders who were among the early settlers of New York. The mother was a native of Fincastle, Virginia.

William N. Shibley was born in Charlottesville, Culpepper county, Virginia, February 26, 1825. In 1833 he came with his parents to St. Louis, remaining there until 1845 when the family removed to Scott county,

Illinois, the father purchasing a large tract of land there. The parents spent their latter days at Winchester.

William N. was the eldest of seven children. He was educated in the schools of St. Louis, and in 1841 became an apprentice to the wagon and carriage-making business. After learning his trade, in 1845 he made an overland trip to Mexico, in company with a number of traders. Their route lay from Independence, Missouri, to Durango, Mexico, by way of Santa Fe. In May, 1846, he returned to St. Louis and thence proceeded to Winchester where he enlisted for the Mexican War in the 1st Regiment of Illinois Volunteers, commanded by the gallant Colonel John J. Hardin. They were immediately sent to the Mexican frontier, and participated in the battle of Buena Vista. He was mustered out in June, 1847, receiving an honorable discharge. The following April he married, at Winchester, Catherine Woodward, the granddaughter of William Scholl and Martha Elledge, and they had a family of three children.

On the breaking out of the Rebellion, Mr. Shibley enlisted in the 14th Regiment of Illinois Volunteers, commanded by John M. Palmer. He was made lieutenant of Company K. He saw active service for nearly three years, participating in the battles of Pittsburgh Landing and the siege of Corinth. Receiving an honorable discharge at the termination of his service, he returned to Scott county and then located in Griggsville, in Pike county, where he became associated with the Griggsville Manufacturing Company.

Later Mr. Shibley brought his family to Pittsfield and here he was long engaged in the manufacture of wagons and carriages. He was associated with the late Henry McKnight in the manufacturing business, the shop being located where is now the residence of the late Sam Knox on East Fayette street.

Mr. Shibley in the course of his adventurous career fought many Indians on the plains of Texas and when he was a resident of Pittsfield he still had in his possession some of the scalps taken in those thrilling days of border warfare.

John S. Shibley, a son of Lieutenant Shibley and Catherine Woodward, married Mary (Mae) D. Gibbs at Pittsfield, November 16, 1871, she a daughter of Charles F. Gibbs and Elizabeth Scholl of Griggsville. (Elizabeth was the youngest daughter of pioneer Abraham Scholl, a younger brother of Kentucky Peter.) John H. Shibley was for a long time engaged in the restaurant business in Pittsfield where the Pike Cafe is. He and Elizabeth Scholl had three children, all of whom died young.

Catherine Woodward Shibley died in Pittsfield May 10, 1904, aged 74. She is buried in the West cemetery at Pittsfield, where also stands a Civil War marker to her husband, Lieutenant William N. Shibley.

William Scholl and his wife, Martha Elledge, leaving Scott county, Illinois, settled in Adair county, Missouri, and both died and are buried there. William Scholl died in August, 1846, according to one letter written by his brother, Edward Boone Scholl of Griggsville, now among the Draper Manuscripts at Madison, Wisconsin. In another letter written by Boone Scholl, the date of William's death is given as 1849.



## David Wilson's Family; the Porter, Coffey and Sitton Relationships

WOLVES, a howling hungry pack, pursued David Wilson and his bride across the Mississippi bottoms when they came from Lincoln county, Missouri, to found a home in what is now Pleasant Hill township, in Pike county, Illinois, in the early winter of 1834. Their first child, John D. Wilson, born near Pleasant Hill in 1835 and reared amid the hard conditions of the new country, related the story of his parents' coming as he had heard it from them. The bride of these experiences was Isaphena Collard, daughter of John and granddaughter of Joseph of the Revolution.

Wilson and his bride arrived on the Pike county side of the river in the midst of a great snow storm, which set in shortly after they left the older settlement in Missouri. On Christmas Day, soon after they had made their settlement, they partook of a wild turkey which the young husband brought down with his gun from his cabin doorstep.

First of the Wilson children, John D. Wilson, was born November 23, 1835. On reaching maturity, he became a farmer and located in Spring Creek township. On July 19, 1857 he married Nancy Turnbaugh, daughter of George and Nancy Turnbaugh, 1827 settlers at Stockland, whence they came from Lincoln county, Missouri. Nancy was born at Stockland February 25, 1836.

Nancy Turnbaugh's elder brother, Jacob Turnbaugh, married Abigail Collard, daughter of Joseph and cousin of Isaphena Collard. Jacob and Abigail were married July 2, 1837, and the house in Pleasant Hill, still standing, to which Jacob took his bride, was one of the first half dozen erected in the town of Fairfield (now Pleasant Hill). John N. Collard, son of Joseph, also married into the Turnbaugh family, his first wife being Rachel D. Turnbaugh.

George Turnbaugh, father of Mrs. John D. Wilson, was born in Washington county, Kentucky, in 1792; his wife in 1794. They were married there. In 1820 they emigrated to Lincoln county, Missouri, bringing with them their two sons, John and Jacob, who had been born in Kentucky, the latter on May 22, 1818. In the early spring of 1827 the family came to Illinois and located in what is now Pleasant Hill township in Pike county. Crossing the river at Clarksville, then a town of a dozen and a half log abodes, they drove their ox teams across the Mississippi bottoms to the vicinity of a wild spot known then as "Bear's Thicket," present site of Pleasant Hill. Following the crest of the bluffs a mile westward, they halted on what later became known as the Uncle Frank Donovan place, and there, with the help of Absalom McLean and Joe Gipson, two of his Missouri neighbors, George Turnbaugh began erecting a log cabin. This was in March, 1827. The Missouri emigration had begun on March 6, that year.

The Turnbaughs at the time of the Pike county settle-

ment had six children, namely, John, Jacob, Jonathan, Lenallen, Sarah Ann and Joseph. Four more were born subsequent to the settlement, namely, Margaret Ann, who married a Tadlock; James W., who married, first, Sarah M. Lisle, and second, Ellen Ann Grotz; Locha (Lockey), who married Harvey Farthing; and Nancy, who married John D. Wilson.

George Turnbaugh, father of Nancy Wilson, died in 1859; his wife, Nancy, in 1865.

John D. Wilson died at Nebo January 10, 1897. His widow later married again, her second marriage being to a Houchens. She died July 15, 1914.

Second child of David Wilson and Isaphena Collard was Washington J. Wilson, born in *Pleasant Hill township* June 10, 1838. He died July 15, 1842.

Third of the children was Nancy E. Wilson, born near Pleasant Hill, July 23, 1840. She married James D. Porter in Pike county March 18, 1858, Justice Samuel H. Galloway officiating. She died December 28, 1874.

James D. Porter, husband of Nancy, belonged to the Porter family that was so intimately associated with the Sitton, Coffey, Lewis and Wilson families of early western settlement.

The Porters and Coffeys were two of Pike county's largest families in pioneer times. Porter Hill at the eastern edge of Newburg township (a short distance southwest of the village of Detroit) and Coffey Hill, north of Griggsville, were landmarks of early days. Here were the seats of families whose descendants are still numerous in the county.

The Pike county Porters are descendants of William Porter and Mary Bowen, who were the great great grandparents of the children of the late John David Porter, among whom are Marion Porter (secretary of the Pike County Farm Bureau), Agnes (wife of Postmaster A. B. Caughlan of Pittsfield), the Reverend Reese Porter, Miss Eunice of near Detroit, and Marguerite, who married Alonzo H. Sloan.

All of the Pike county Porters descend in direct line from that John Porter, descendant of William de la Grande, who was born in 1590 at Wraxhall Abbey in Kenilworth in the shire of Warwick, England. Another of the line was John Porter, founder of Windsor, Connecticut, issued from William Le Grande, who came over with the Conqueror (Amer. Heraldica).

This John Porter's daughter, Mary Porter, married Samuel Grant, son of Matthew and Priscilla Grant, emigrants and ascendants of President Ulysses S. Grant. Samuel Grant and Mary Porter were ancestors of Eunice Grant, who married David Pomeroy, and was the grandmother of Dr. Daniel Pomeroy Porter, who married Lydia, daughter of Henry Gould of Rutland, Vermont, and his wife, Mary Hickok, who were parents of Eliza Marion Porter, who married Francis M. Gwin of the family to which belonged some of Pike county's early settlers. He was a native of Louisville, Kentucky, where he was born October 22, 1829. He served in the Mexican War under General Joseph Lane and was left as dead upon the battlefield at Monterey, but recovered and returned to the service, remaining until the end of the war. Being a minor at the time of service, a special act of Congress granted him land in Iowa (160 acres), signed by President Buchanan. Later he was appointed



postmaster under Lincoln, holding that office until his death January 6, 1861.

William Porter and Mary Bowen, immediate ancestors of the first Porters in Pike county, had the following sons: Joseph, William, David, Samuel, Stephen, John, Charles and Reese; daughters included Nancy McCutcheon, Elizabeth McCammel, Jane McClure, Mary Sharp and Lillie Wilson (Willson), the latter a sister-in-law of David Wilson.

The present Porter family in Pike county descends from David Porter, son of William Porter and Mary Bowen. David Porter was born in 1780 in Virginia, in which state his ancestors had large patent rights from the crown. He married Elizabeth Hopkins, a native of South Carolina. Following their marriage they located in Tennessee, and in Williamson county in that state their first child, James Porter, was born August 10, 1807. The mother died when James was nine days old.

David Porter, following the death of his wife, returned to the old home in Rockbridge county, Virginia. There he married again, his second wife being Nancy Culten, a native of Rockbridge county. David and his wife and young James then moved to Missouri Territory and settled on Big Creek, within the present limits of Lincoln county, Missouri. This was about the year 1810 (one record says 1809).

David Porter's son James, on reaching manhood, married Lydia K. Sitton, daughter of the Tennessee Sittons who played so large a part in the settlement of the Missouri-Illinois border in Lincoln county, Missouri, and Pike county, Illinois. Lydia was born near Nashville, Tennessee, a daughter of Lawrence B. and Rachel S. (Gibson) Sitton. Her father was born in 1785 in North Carolina; her mother in 1776 in South Carolina.

Lawrence B. Sitton and Rachel Gibson were married in Davidson county, Tennessee, and moved to Warren county, Missouri, in 1811, and to Big Creek, within present Lincoln county, in 1812. They moved later to a house a mile and three-quarters from Kennedy's Fort in Warren county, Missouri. This was during the Indian war. Mr. Sitton enlisted in Captain Callaway's company of Rangers and served 14 months. In 1816 he built a home near Auburn, Missouri, to which he moved the following year.

In Missouri, during the Indian outbreaks incident to the War of 1812, David Porter joined the Rangers and at one time was stationed at Fort Cap au Gris, opposite the present West Point Ferry landing in Richwoods Precinct, Calhoun county. Here he was a comrade of that interesting border character, John Johnson, another Tennessean, whom David Porter had known in the south and who had settled on "the Point" below St. Charles in 1805.

Johnson's father had been killed by the Indians when he was a small boy and when he grew up he gave his life to avenging his parent's murder. For five years on the Missouri frontier he dressed as an Indian and never slept in a house. Although a frequent visitor at David Porter's, he refused to occupy a bed and slept in the open, wrapped in his blanket. Once while lying out on the prairie not far from the Porter house, he intercepted a band of border thieves who had planned to run off some of David Porter's stock.

Once, during the Indian war when the Missouri border settlers were collected in the forts and stockades, Johnson and Porter shared in an Indian exploit which cost the life of one of Black Hawk's braves. Something resembling the back of a buffalo above a distant log was observed from the fort in which the Rangers were stationed. Johnson, wise in the ways of the wily Indian, called Comrade Porter's attention to it, revealed to him his suspicions. Leaving the fort by diverging trails they managed to get in the rear of the pretended buffalo. Johnson reached a vantage point first and killed the Indian who was thus masquerading in an attempt to lure someone from the fort within the range of his gun.

In 1836 David Porter brought his family to Pike county, Illinois, and located near the present village of Detroit, close to the east edge of what is now Newburg township. In 1849, the year of the California gold rush, he started across the plains, accompanied by some of the Sittons, to dig gold. At Fort Hall, Idaho, July 16, 1849, he fell dead from an apoplectic attack. He was 69 years old, born during the Revolution, in 1780. He is buried on the plains, beside the great trail.

With David Porter on the western gold rush was his son-in-law, Samuel G. Sitton, who in Lincoln county, Missouri, on February 23, 1826, married David Porter's daughter, Rebecca (spelled Rebecky on the old Missouri marriage license record). The record recites that he was of lawful age and her father was present and gave his consent. Samuel G. Sitton was a son of Philip Sitton, who was a brother of Jesse Sitton, the pioneer minister at Detroit. Samuel G. Sitton's sister, Elizabeth (Betsy) Sitton, married James Wilson, brother of David.

Samuel G. Sitton sent back the news of David Porter's death, and also according to an administrator's receipt signed by John Lyster, sent back the money David Porter had on his person when he dropped dead, some \$333. The Sittons then went on with their ox team, reaching the gold fields after a journey of five and a half months.

David Porter had six sons and four daughters. Ninth of the children and fifth of the sons was John Porter, pioneer Pike county farmer and school teacher, descendant of a long line of John Porters dating far back into English history. This John Porter was born in Lincoln county, Missouri, April 8, 1824 and was 12 years old when his parents removed to Section 24 in what is now Newburg township.

John Porter took charge of the home farm and looked after his mother when his father, David, started for the gold fields. His mother, who was Nancy Culten of Virginia, lived to the age of 82 years and nine months. She died January 8, 1867 and is buried at Blue River cemetery, south of Detroit. Her husband, David Porter, is buried far out on the gold trail to California, at old Fort Hall.

John Porter, at the time of the Mormon troubles at Nauvoo in 1845, enlisted at the call of Governor Ford and went to the scene of the trouble as an officer, serving as quartermaster through that troubled period. After the Mormon excitement had subsided he went into the mercantile business at Detroit in partnership with William H. Johnston.



constituted Bayville, which for many years was the most thriving village in Pleasant Hill township and the commercial rival of Fairfield (later Pleasant Hill), following the founding of that town in 1836. Bayville was settled on lands acquired by Thomas Barton and Dr. Hezekiah Dodge in 1826. Barton was the first settler. Dodge and his wife, Grenville, arrived from the state of Georgia later in the same year. She was the daughter of a southern planter. Dr. Dodge was the first physician and surgeon to establish his practice in that section of Pike county.

Bayville was a sort of string town, stretched out for a considerable distance up the right bank of Bay Creek from a point near where the great new steel and concrete highway bridge now spans the creek off the bluff road. The village lay along the old Pleasant Hill-Nebo road which then ran that way. All that remains of this early settlement are a half-dozen half-buried headstones, marking the graves of Dr. Hezekiah Dodge, his wife, Grenville Dodge, and four of the Dodge children, Mrs. Seba Ann Glenn, Alice, DeLeon Lamarr and Sebrid Dodge.

Other graves may be there, with headstones now sunken beneath the level of the valley. The headstones stand amid an open clump of trees, on a plot of ground somewhat elevated above the surrounding Bay Creek valley. The stones are flat slabs with rounded tops, in two rows, three stones to the row. The stones marking the graves of the old doctor and his wife are engraved at the top with an emblem of clasped hands. Three of the children's stones are engraved with an emblem of a right hand with index finger pointing upward. A quiescent lamb is engraved on the stone erected to the girl, Alice.

Some of the burials in this old cemetery of the Dodes are more than a century old. One dates back to 1845. Deleon Lamarr Dodge, who occupies one of the marked graves, died January 5, 1845. Old records disclose that he left a nuncupative (oral) will, a will

uttered on his death-bed and made by word of mouth only, in the presence of witnesses. The oral will, of record in the county's early archives, was as follows:

"I hereby give, devise and bequeath unto my mother, little sisters and brother, all my personal property of which I am now possessed, to be held, owned and enjoyed by them after my decease for their own use and benefit forever." This will was uttered on the day of the testator's death and was later proved in the probate court of Pike county by the affidavits of witnesses. James H. Ferguson and Grenville Dodge, who heard the oral declaration. Grenville Dodge, the mother, later relinquished her share under the oral will. John J. Collard, then a Bayville justice of the peace, certified the various documents necessary to prove the spoken will and became bondsman for J. H. Ferguson, executor of the nuncupative document. James H. Ferguson was the husband of Anna Eliza Dodge, a sister of Deleon.

A communication from John J. Collard to Mr. J. B. Donalson (then probate justice for Pike county), dated at Bayville March 7, 1845, reads as follows: "Mr. J. H. Ferguson wishes me to be his bondsman on his executorship of the estate of Deleon L. Dodge. The estate is but small and if you will accept me as such I will be in your place in two or three weeks to sign the bond. Yours Truly, John J. Collard."

A trip to the county seat from Bayville was a long journey in those days. The county seat had been removed from Atlas to Pittsfield in 1833.

Another document of record, written in the magnificent Collard hand, also is connected with the decease of Deleon L. Dodge. The document, dated at Bayville, January 13, 1845, is in support of the birth date of Deleon Dodge, born August 30, 1822, and is as follows:

"I hereby certify that the within memorandum of the birth of Deleon Lamarr Dodge was by me drawn off the family record kept by H. Dodge, the father of said Deleon L. Dodge, and that it was copied correct. John J. Collard."

## CHAPTER 182

### Businessmen of Early Bayville; the John J. Collard Teaching Line

DR. HEZEKIAH DODGE, whose name is so intimately associated with early Bayville and the Barton and Collard families, was born near Pompey, New York, received a good education, studied medicine and was graduated from a New York City institution. He was a son of Ezra and Mary (Foote) Dodge, natives of Ireland and Wales respectively, both of whom died in the Empire State. He located for practice of his profession in Sweet Springs, Virginia, but afterwards removed to Augusta, Georgia, where he remained six years. There he married Grenville Haynes, native of Botetourt county, Virginia, and daughter of Joseph and Jane Haynes,

he a native of England, she of Ireland. The Haynes family had located on a Georgia plantation, near the town of Augusta.

In October, 1825 (or 1826) Dr. Dodge came to Illinois, traveling in a wagon and bringing with him four slaves whom he disposed of at Edwardsville, where he located for a short time, coming thence to the location on Bay Creek in what is now Pleasant Hill township, in the fall of 1826 (or 1827). One record indicates that he located at Edwardsville in October, 1826, and came to Pleasant Hill township a year later, October, 1827.

The Dodes, as noted in a preceding chapter, came to the Bay Creek country close upon the heels of Thomas and Rebecca (Holland) Barton (parents of John J. Collard's wife), who had removed from Kentucky to Missouri and came thence to Pleasant Hill township in the spring or summer of 1826, crossing the Mississippi river on a raft. Mrs. Dodge was a native of the same Virginia settlement that nurtured Thomas Barton and Rebecca Holland.

Grimshaw, the historian, describes Dr. Dodge of old



Bayville as one of the most remarkable figures of early Pike county days, a "fit subject for a painter." He was "long, lean and lank," and particularly in a crowd and at court time he was the observed of all. He figured in one of the most noted lawsuits of early times. He charged one Zumwalt, a rival early-day miller on Bay Creek, with the destruction of his mill-dam at Bayville. Zumwalt was said to have remarked while at the home of his son-in-law on the night of the destruction of Dodge's dam: "Just now the muskrats are working on old Dodge's dam." Alpheus Wheeler, the tall, ungainly Highland lawyer who was considered such an oddity in the Illinois legislature to which he was elected from Pike county in 1838 and 1840, during this trial delivered one of those forensic outbursts that are numbered among the classics of the Pike county bar. Said he, assailing the character of the prosecuting witness, Dr. Dodge: "Dr. Dodge are a man so devoid of truth that when he speaks the truth he are griped." John Jay Ross, another attorney of that day, laughed so uproariously at Wheeler's outburst that the latter turned upon him and, bringing down his long arm with a majestic sweep, shouted: "I wish I had a tater. I would throw it down your throat."

The old cemetery of the Dodges, which today marks the site of the long-vanished Pike county pioneer town of Bayville, lies inside the Bay Creek levee and a short distance north of the present state highway bridge on the bluff road a mile and a half southeast of Pleasant Hill. The grave-stones, such parts of them as are still above the surface of the valley, are plainly observable from the highway where it crosses the bridge. Two of these stones mark the burials of Dr. Hezekiah Dodge, first physician and surgeon in that section of the county, and his wife Grenville, a daughter of the Old South. Dr. Dodge died February 28, 1873; his wife preceded him on October 8, 1872.

The Dodge burial ground is the only one of the eighteen burial plots in Pleasant Hill township that lies in bottom lands. All the others are atop the rugged hills. From the bridge at the site of the Dodge burials, off to the east and a little to the south, may be seen the numerous white stones of the Venable cemetery, on top of the high bluff.

No house stands today where once was Bayville. The nearest house to the spot is one across the creek and below the approach to the state highway bridge. This house is the home of the Carl Edwards family and belongs to the Sam Richards estate. It is known as the old Clarky Gant place. From Clark Gant it passed to John Turpin and from Turpin to Samuel Richards. Mrs. Carl Edwards was Edna B. Richards, daughter of Sam. Her mother was Sarah A. Galloway, daughter of Joseph B. and Sarah (Jennings) Galloway and granddaughter of James and Ursula (Lewis) Galloway, pioneers of the Bay Creek country.

M. E. DeCamp of Martinsburg, 81 years old, a native of Bayville, remembers the vanished town. His grandfather, Eliphalet DeCamp, had a store there in early days. Alexander Hemphill also had a store. Hemphill and DeCamp at a later period had a store in Pleasant Hill. Hemphill at one time (in the late 1860s) had a partner, E. T. Gresham, the firm being known as Hemp-

hill & Gresham. Notes and accounts of this early firm are among the records of the estate of Alexander Hemphill.

In the earlier days of Bayville, when John J. Collard was resident there, Jesse Hughes had a smithy and plow factory on the creek bank. He made the prairie plows (spelled "ploughs" on his bills of account) that were used by the first settlers to break up the stubborn bottom prairies around Bayville. Hughes was followed later by James Branson, who had a log smithy at Bayville, with George Ricketts in the wood-working department. William McClain was the last of the Bayville smithys. R. and J. McLaughlin were also among the Bayville merchants of John J. Collard's time.

Alexander Hemphill, the early Bayville storekeeper, was a Tennessean, who settled, following his first migration, in Pike county, Missouri, where he married Margaret Wilson, member of the Wilson family whose history has been related. In 1840 they located in Calhoun county, coming thence to Bayville, in Pike county. He was a justice of the peace, an auctioneer, a ferry operator for a time at Clarksville, and supervisor from Pleasant Hill township in 1856-57, and again in the Civil War period 1863 to 1865, when he was succeeded by his son, A. F. Hemphill.

Alexander Hemphill died September 6, 1868, at which time, according to records of his estate, he still had a store house at Bayville. John J. Collard was one of the appraisers of his estate, along with Samuel R. Cannon and John V. Bowman. Hemphill's farm property and store goods were sold at public sale following his death, as was the custom in those days. It was one of the biggest sales of that time. The sale bill, in the hand of John J. Collard, who clerked it, is a roll several yards in length, well preserved, recording hundreds of sale items, together with names of purchasers and prices paid, being on the whole an amazing example of clerkship. It took Auctioneer James H. Wheeling two days to cry this sale, October 3 and 4, 1868. He charged the estate \$25 for the crying. Collard also assisted in settling the estate. He charged \$25 for clerking the sale and for his services incident to the estate settlement.

Alexander Hemphill left surviving him, according to A. F. Hemphill's petition for letters of administration, his widow, Margaret Wilson Hemphill, and Aaron Francis, Samuel Walton, David Huston, Amelia J., and an heir of Robert N. Hemphill, who had died in Pike county, Missouri, "some time in the year 1850," according to the proof of death subscribed by the father, Alexander Hemphill on October 6, 1854. A. F. Hemphill was named administrator for the estate of Alex Hemphill.

Eliphalet DeCamp, another of Bayville's early merchants, died October 7, 1874. He was a native of Newark, New Jersey, who came west in early times and located in the French town of St. Louis, where he engaged in his trade as a hatter. One of his high top hats, considerably more than a century old, is still possessed by Fannie Hemphill of Pleasant Hill. He was the father of William Thomas DeCamp and Adaline A. DeCamp, who married Joseph Turnbaugh.

Ezra Dodge, brother of Dr. Hezekiah, was another early settler near pioneer Bayville. His settlement was

on the  
Hill.  
Hemphill  
Holla  
and  
Colla  
the l  
Sta  
one  
close  
Mrs.  
26.  
was  
Elia  
on  
the  
T  
neer  
so d  
trav  
emp  
thei  
regi  
Joh  
who  
and  
the  
J  
the  
Ple  
10.  
The  
182  
Un  
low  
Eli  
He  
Oc  
Cl  
tha  
co  
sto  
rec  
In  
th  
se  
th  
of  
fr  
w  
w  
a  
a  
si  
b  
p  
t  
t  
f  
e



on the bluff road a mile down the bluff from Pleasant Hill, near the railroad crossing. He married Sarah A. Hendricks. He died in 1865. Among his children were Holland, Francis, Charles Henry, Sebrid, Sarah, Helen and Mrs. Ephraim I. (Mary Cornelia) Bennett. John J. Collard was also closely associated with this branch of the Dodge family.

Still another settler near Bayville was Eliab Buckaloo, one of the Ramsey Creek (Mo.) settlers of 1810 and closely associated with the early Bartons, parents of Mrs. Collard. Eliab Buckaloo died at Bayville, February 26, 1844. John J. Collard administered his estate. He was also named by the court as commissioner to sell Eliab's lands. Collard clerked the Buckaloo estate sale on April 26, 1844, for which Alexander Hemphill was the crier.

Thus we see how closely associated were these pioneer Bay Creek families whose honored names loom so distinctly in the story of that region. Many of them, travelers of wilderness trails, trail blazers for a new empire, had no schooling; some of them could not write their names. Invariably, it seems, the settlers of that region turned to the brilliant young school teacher, John J. Collard, for help in settling the estates of those who died, for guidance in affairs of law, for drawing and executing documents, etc. To him they entrusted their most intimate affairs.

John J. Collard acquired the 80 acres described as the west half of the southeast quarter of Section 22 in Pleasant Hill township (site of Bayville) on February 10, 1845. The transfer was from his wife's parents, Thomas and Rebecca Barton, who had settled there in 1826 and had obtained formal title thereto from the United States government on September 27, 1830, following the sale of the public lands. John J. and Mary Elizabeth Collard transferred this tract to Alexander Hemphill on September 14, 1847, and Hemphill on October 8, 1867, deeded a part of it to John McClain.

Gone is Bayville. Nothing now remains to suggest that here was once the metropolis of the Bay Creek country. Silence broods where a century ago were busy stores and the clanging mill. Here, in earlier times, the red men had encamped and on this spot chosen of the Indians the early white men also established themselves.

From the account of Colonel John Shaw, founder of the first Pike county seat of justice at Coles' Grove, it seems probable that it was on or very near this spot that Captain Nathan Boone (son of Daniel) and a party of spies, during the Indian war on the Missouri-Illinois frontier at the time of the second war with Britain, were set upon by three times their number of Indians, whom the doughty captain and his followers repulsed and drove from the field in a fierce night battle. Boone and his men were scouting at the time between the Mississippi and Illinois rivers and along the base of the bluff, following old Indian trails that roughly correspond with the present bluff road. This battle, according to Shaw, occurred the night of August 15, 1813.

At Bayville, John J. Collard established a dynasty of teachers. It was here in this Bay Creek country that the first school in what is now Pleasant Hill township was established. This school was held in an abandoned

settler's cabin at the foot of the bluff and near Bay Creek. A settler named Eliphalet Munn had lived there prior to that time. He disappeared. No one ever knew what became of him. The settlers, after about a year, used his log house for a school room. William Howell was the first teacher. This was in 1828.

A little later, the settlement held school in a log house near the home of Eliphalet DeCamp, the Bayville merchant. DeCamp's house stood on the south half of the southwest quarter of Section 22, Pleasant Hill township. This was at Bayville. DeCamp died there in 1874. This second schoolroom stood very near the present highway bridge.

The Bayville school of today is down the bluff, a short distance below the site of the early town of that name.

John J. Collard began teaching in the pioneer free schools of Pleasant Hill township in 1840. It is probable that he had taught a term or two in the early subscription schools at Bay Creek prior to 1840, probably as early as 1838. A teacher named Collard was in the township that early. It was probably John J.

It is probable that John J. Collard's first schooling was received from one James Wetmore, an early Missouri pedagogue. There is of record in the court house of Lincoln county, Missouri, a receipt signed by this James Wetmore, dated August, 1823, which acknowledges receipt from Captain Elijah Collard (uncle of John J. and administrator of his father's estate) of \$1.75 for schooling of the deceased John Collard's children. The John Collard of this reference was John J. Collard's father. John J. was then nearly six years of age.

John J. Collard fathered a line of teachers. Four of his children became teachers. Mary Elizabeth, born during the family's sojourn in Bayville, became a teacher, as did several of her descendants, including her daughter, Jennie Alberta Brant (now Mrs. James C. Yokem of Pleasant Hill), and the latter's daughter, Mary Eva Yokem (now Mrs. Burdette Berry). Mary Elizabeth Brant's son, Alvin Truman Brant of Pittsfield, also has two daughters who have been teachers, namely, Thelma Brant (now Mrs. Harold Voshall of Pittsfield) and Beulah Brant (now Mrs. John Sommers of Jacksonville). Another teacher in this line was Naomi Craigmiles (Mrs. Russell Henry), whose mother, Nola Dole Brant, was a daughter of Mary Elizabeth (Collard) Brant and a granddaughter of John J. Collard.

Eliza Jane Collard was another daughter of John J. and Mary Elizabeth (Barton) Collard who became a school teacher. She later became the wife of M. H. Hulshult. She died in 1930.

John Ray Collard, a son of John J., was a teacher, as were three of his grandchildren, namely, Lucille, Audrey and Hazel Hoover, daughters of Herbert Hoover and John Ray Collard's daughter, Bertha (Collard) Hoover.

Another daughter, Ora Emma Collard, latest survivor of the John J. Collard children, was for many years a teacher in the public schools. She married George E. Hughes. She died at Blue Springs, Missouri, May 31, 1938. Ora Emma's daughter, Mrs. Clara (Hughes) Jones of Anaheim, California, also has a record as a teacher.

Other descendants of John J. Collard who became



school teachers include Mrs. Ora Emma Collard Waugh, former Pike county teacher now teaching in the grade schools of Independence, Missouri. She is a daughter of John J. Collard's son, Daniel D. Collard, deceased.

Lucretia Collard, daughter of John J. Collard and wife of A. J. Ligon, had a son, Harvey Ligon, who taught school. Elijah Collard, son of John J., was not himself a teacher, but his son Clyde's daughter, Frances

Collard (Mrs. John Robinson), engaged in teaching.

John J. Collard was the first of a Collard succession of teachers in the old Bayville school. He was followed in that school by his son, John Ray Collard, and by his daughter, Eliza Jane Collard; also by his granddaughter, Ora (Collard) Waugh, daughter of his son Dan.

Altogether a dozen descendants have followed in the footsteps of John J. Collard, Teacher.

## CHAPTER 183

### The Children of John J. Collard; the Brant and Galloway Families

JOHN J. COLLARD, scholar, politician, county official, school teacher and more or less public scribe for the Bay Creek country in the days when many of the settlers could not write their own names, was also a soldier on the side of the Union in the War of the Rebellion. He left Pittsfield late in 1859 or early in 1860, several years after the conclusion of his second term as county clerk. He then went to Pleasant Hill with his family. This was shortly after the birth of his ninth child, William Webb Collard, who was born in Pittsfield July 27, 1859.

During the Civil War, John J. Collard went over into Missouri and enlisted with a group of his old comrades of the early Missouri border. He became first sergeant of Company C, 10th Regiment of Missouri Volunteers. During the war, his services as a scribe were much in demand. He it was who penned numerous of the letters sent back by his comrades to loved ones at home.

Mrs. A. Wall of Nebo, whose first husband was John J. Collard's son, Elijah Barton Collard, recalls it being said that John J. did so much writing, largely with a goose quill pen, that he had to wear a stall on the little finger of his pen hand to keep it from being worn away.

John J. Collard enlisted in the Union army in 1863, following conclusion of a term of school in Calhoun county, in which county he taught after his removal from Pittsfield.

Mr. Collard continued in public life after his return from the war. In 1873, the year before his death, we find him a commissioned notary public in Pleasant Hill. His commission was signed by Governor John L. Beveridge, who was elected Illinois lieutenant governor in 1872 and who became governor in 1873 when Governor Richard J. Oglesby resigned for a seat in the United States Senate.

John J. and Mary Elizabeth (Barton) Collard had 11 children, namely: Lydia Rebecca, Eliza Jane, Elijah Barton, Mary Elizabeth, Lucretia, Daniel D., Harvey Gilmer, John Ray, William Webb, Ora Emma and Laura Ann Collard.

Lydia Rebecca, first born of the children, was named for her paternal and maternal grandmothers, Lydia (Cannon) Collard and Rebecca (Holland) Barton. She was born in Fairfield (now Pleasant Hill), September 21,

1841. She lived only a little over a year, her death occurring April 12, 1843. She was buried in the old Jackie Sapp burial row, atop the high bluff on what is now the Elza Barton place, east of Stockland. This cemetery was abandoned 65 years ago, when the last burial was made therein. The first burial of record was made at this spot in 1830. Not a stone is left standing intact in this burial place where so many of the early Bay Creek settlement were interred.

Eliza Jane Collard, second of the children, was born in Fairfield February 27, 1843, shortly before the death of Lydia Rebecca. On December 15, 1872 she married Martin H. Hulshult, with Justice John Mills officiating. He was born July 9, 1849 in Ohio, a son of Henry and Mary Hulshult, both natives of Germany.

The Hulshults had no children of their own, but Mrs. Hulshult's niece, Ora Emma Collard Waugh, daughter of Daniel D. Collard, made her home with them much of the time following her own mother's death.

Martin H. Hulshult died June 13, 1921 at Pleasant Hill, aged 71 years, ten months and three days. His wife reached the age of 87, being active until shortly before her death. Mrs. Alvin T. Brant relates that Mrs. Hulshult, when 82, was still an excellent quilter and that she continued her tatting until she was 87. She died May 5, 1930, aged 87 years, two months and eight days. She was buried beside her husband in Crescent Heights cemetery at Pleasant Hill.

Elijah Barton Collard, third child and first son of John J. Collard and Mary Elizabeth Barton, was born at Bayville (early village on Bay Creek), October 16, 1844. He became a merchant at Strout and was also a station agent for the Chicago & Alton railroad at that Pike county point.

On November 25, 1877 E. B. Collard married Emma Harpole, the ceremony being performed by Justice A. Glyn. She was a daughter of Lycurgus and Sarah Jane (Martin) Harpole and a sister of former County Clerk John D. Harpole of Pittsfield. Two sons were born to Elijah B. and Emma (Harpole) Collard, namely, Arthur Barton and Clyde Oscar Collard.

Arthur Barton Collard, born December 30, 1878, resides in Louisiana, Missouri, and is employed as a telegrapher for the Chicago & Alton railroad at Bowling Green, Missouri. He is unmarried.

Clyde Oscar Collard, born July 8, 1881, married first, Lillian B. Spicher of Louisville, Kentucky. They had two children, Frances and Norman Collard.

Frances Collard, on July 3, 1932, married John William Robinson of Pittsfield, a school teacher and a son of R. Keys and Minnie (Gheen) Robinson, with the Reverend W. H. Cannon of the Christian church perform-