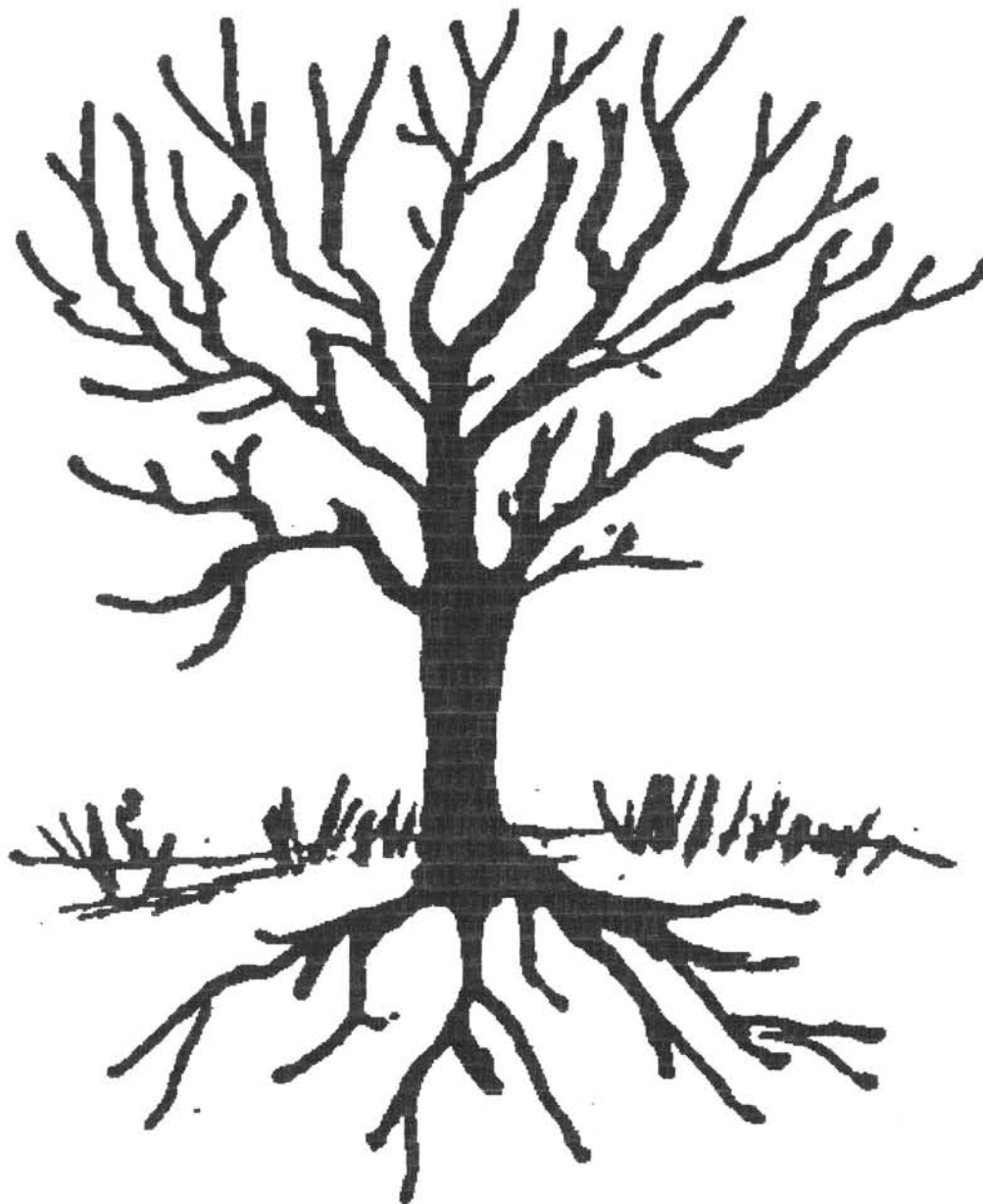

Roots and Branches

Volume 5 Issue 4

Aug- Sept. 1997

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE ROOTS & BRANCHES GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



The Frustrations of The Genealogical Buff

Dedicated to Martha and Jane

How true it is that we today
are made of many strains.
Our ancestors were hardy souls,
who suffered many pains.
We search the records of their deeds
and learn that they were brave.
They loved their country and, when called,
their life they gladly gave.
We rove the grounds where ancient bones
are quiet in repose.
The weather-beaten headstones
only faintly do disclose.
The vital information, which
we copy down in haste.
And then we muse and ponder
how our ties to them are based.
The given name of grown men folk
was given their male heir,
And, he in turn, so name his child,
confusing us for fair!!!
"If only" we are wont to cry...
"If only "we had asked
Those dear old folks"; who loved to
talk of kin and times long passed.
So on we go, in constant search
of facts and names and dates.
We hope some day to meet our kin
who wait at heaven's gates.
Our questions then will be of naught,
but those we've left behind,
Belatedly, will join the search.
tis normal for mankind.
Procrastination is the thief of time,
the sage has told.
We never learn, till late the hour,
that time is worth pure gold.
Mrs. N.G. Corder 1249 Bitonti St.
Morgantown West Va. 26505
As printed in The Genealogical
Helper Sept. Oct. 1978

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TOO MANY JOE'S

So you think YOU have a problem with
YOUR genealogy " Imagine a researcher in the
year 2078 trying to figure out THIS honest-to-
goodness, real family noted in a local
newspaper. Joe Ahuna, prep man for "Hawaii
Five- O" calls himself " Joe No. 4". Why? He has
three older brothers also named Joe. All the
brothers named their first son Joe. He has three
sisters named Josephine... and his father is Joe
Ahuna, Sr. !
Jean G. Rigler 2117 Puualli Pl.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
As printed in The Genealogical
Helper Sept. Oct. 1978



CENSUS DATES

The dates on which each census was taken can be very useful when calculating ages of children that were shown in months in censuses taken. Instructions to census marshals stated that the information in the census was to be taken as of the following dates. Unfortunately these instructions were not always followed.

1790-1820-----1st Monday in August
 1830-1880-----1st Day of June
 1890-----1st Monday in June
 1900-----1st First of June
 1910-----15th of April
 1920-----1st of January

(Fl. Chapter Ohio Genealogical Society Inc.
 Newsletter Nov-Jan.96)

20 WAYS TO AVOID GRIEF IN YOUR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH (cont.)

11. Try not to let your research get behind. Establish a filing system for your papers (using file folders or 3- ring binders) and file each page of notes, documents, photocopy, etc. as you acquire it. There are few things more disheartening then contemplating a twelve foot- high stack of unfiled papers, wondering if the birth certificate you desperately need to refer is somewhere in it.
12. Double-check all dates to make sure they are possible, for example, a woman born in 1790 1790 could not be a mother in 1800.
13. Be on the lookout for nicknames. A request for a birth record for Sadie White may be rejected if the name on the file is Sarah White.
14. Beware of mail-order promotions offering personalized genealogists of your surname with titles such as "The Amazing Story of the BLANK Family" or "The BLANK Family New World Registry. These are usually little more than computer-assembled lists of names from telephone directories. Notify the Better Business Bureau, postal authorities and Consumers advocate agencies if you receive one of these.
15. Don't assume modern meanings for terms used to describe relationships For example, in the 17th century a step-child was often called "son-in law" or "daughter-in-law," and a "cousin" could refer to almost any relative

except a sibling or a child. (to be concluded in next issue).

OCCUPATIONS FROM THE PAST

PRIG NAPPER -----horse thief
 PROCTOR-----official of a university
 PROTHONARY-----law clerk
 PUBLICAN-----innkeeper
 PUDDLER-----wrought iron worker
 PUGGARD-----thief
 PUNKY-----chimney sweep
 RAKER-----street sanitation worker
 RATONER-----rat catcher
 REDAR-----interpreter of dreams
 REVENUER----- taxman who enforcers tax laws on liquor
 RIPPER-----seller of fish
 ROVER-----archer
 RUNNER-----smuggler, messenger
 SANDESMAN-----ambassador or messenger
 SCRIMER-----fencing master
 (Oliver House Notes-Yates County (NY) Genealogical & Historical Society)



THE GENEALOGICAL BUG THAT BITES

BY FRAN CARTER-WALKER

The GENEALOGICAL BUG bites and there is no cure ! Usually the first bite is fatal. The first time you find your grandfather (whom you knew as a child) on a census, living with his parents as a three- year- old child, you are no longer ready for vaccination. You have the GENIE BUG.

The first trip to the library is often fatal. I believe the bug is attracted to census records, or maybe to the cries of joy when something is found. It often bites in most unusual places, then grows to a burning fever. Interviewing relatives with a bit of information in hand will strike new cords in their minds for information. Once you have interviewed and checked censuses, begin with a serious fever into the land and deed records, probate, church and other records. You will be amazed at the records that begin to pile up.

Serious fever begins when you find for the first time that you are duplicating previous research. At this time, only bed rest and at home reorganization will slow the fever--getting a hold on your own records. Working with a research log, a date list, pedigree charts, family group sheets and a good filing system are the medicines prescribed.

We can't keep it all in our heads. Let's face it--we can't handle the GENIE BUG alone. Now is the time for some serious classes, workshops, seminars, conferences or just plain studying the total picture. What is available? Where? How can I get it?

The next time you feel the "fever" you might want to ask yourself if your previous findings have all been recorded, charted, analyzed and put in the proper location. One does this BEFORE going on to the next step.

The GENIE BUG bites and there is no cure. The only thing we can do is to scratch the itch it causes and research, research, research. Organize, analyze, and keep in control. The bug is not fatal--just difficult to control. (From CRACKER CRUMBS: Vol. 18:2 December 1995-January 1996. News letter of the Manasota Genealogical Society, of Bradenton, Fl.

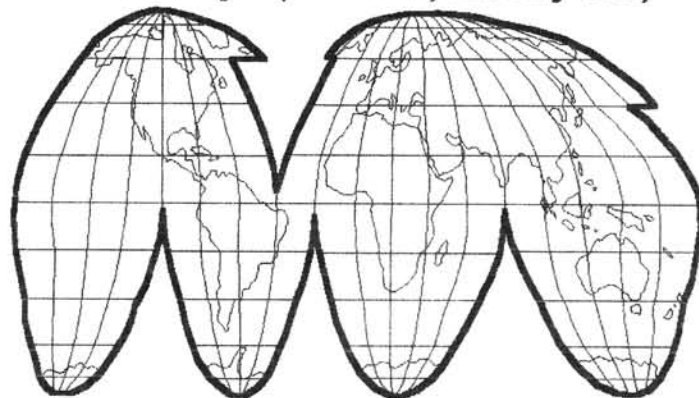
LULLABY

(THE WASHINGTON REPUBLICAN
WAYNESBURG PA. MAY 28, 1896)

Never mind the goblins dear they are only make believe. The boggy man is something just invented to deceive. But it is well to have it immediately understood. That the trolley car will catch you if you are not very good. So don't play tag or ring a round a rosy in the street, Keep close inside the nursery tis your only safe retreat. Give up your romping merriment, as little children should For the trolley car will get catch you if you are not very good. (Washington DC Star)

ANCESTORS

If you could see your ancestors
all standing in a row.
I expect you would find there,
one or two you wouldn't care to know.
Because in climbing Family Trees
one always meets a few.
Who get there by irregular steps
as such folks always do.
If you should meet your ancestors
all standing in a row.
You would surely find there one or two
whom you would be proud to know.
But here's another question
which requires a different view.
If you should meet your ancestors
would they be proud of you?
(Links & Bridges The Genealogical Society of
Hernando County Fl. (Dick North) Jun.-July 1997)



PEDIGREE

Origin of "pedigree": Five hundred years ago, people were as interested in tracing their roots as they are today. Often, they hired monks to go through the records and build genealogical charts and histories. As the monks noted the descent from one generation to the next, they would make a little three line mark: a long line with two little ones angling out of it at the bottom. The marks looked to them, like the footprint of a crane or in French, the "Pie de GRUE". And it is the foot, the "Pie de Grue", that you now refer to when you talk about your heritage and your pedigree. (From Roots & Shoots Quarterly Summer, 1995 as it appeared in The Quest-Florida Chapter of Ohio Gen. Society Jul-Aug. 1997)

Naturalized

If your ancestor was naturalized after September 20, 1906, the Immigration and Naturalization Service has an index that will tell you the location of the court where the papers were made out. Write Immigration and naturalization Service, 425 I Street, Washington, DC 20536.

QUERIES

WOODRUFF ,George Wilson born Dec 10, 1888 Harrick Township Bradford Co. Pa. Died Jan 14, 1979 Delaware Co. NY, son of John Woodruff & Wealthy Couch. Need parents of John & Wealthy Lillian Shaefer PO Box 762

Lake Helen, Fl. 32744. Phone 228-3024

ROLFE,STEELE , Lillie Martha Rolfe B. Jan 26,1886 Tonawanda, Bradford Co. Pa.

D. Dec. 7,1953 Binghamton NY . Need to find parents Paschel Rolfe & Louise Steele.

(see Lillian Shaeffer above)

SOMERSET COUNTY. Looking for persons researching SOMERSET County area of New Jersey , from the late 1600's Patricia Grassi 437 Secluded Oaks Trail. DeLand Fl. 32724-3410- 904-736-4774

GENEALOGY ON LINE

Neil Armstrong of the Volusia County Computer Genealogy Group is the producer of "Volusia Genealogy on Line" and is inviting anyone who wishes to receive his information to send him their E- Mail address, and he will include them at no cost, He says there are programs, discussions and "neat spots" He sends to about 70 now. His e-mail address is: **ARMSTRONG @D.B.ERAU.EDU**

He said " Don't ever phone or write me because I will not answer....e-mail only. If anyone sends him a question, he will try to answer it via e-mail, or publish it for others to answer.

Family Doctor: Your wife needs outdoor exercise.

Husband: But she won't go out. What am I to do?

Doctor: Give her plenty of money to shop with.

(Washington Republican- March 18, 1897)



ROOTS AND BRANCHES

AUG.- SEPT. 1997

MEET YOUR OFFICERS

Mary Lois Kelley Recording Secretary.

I have been searching The Kendalls my mother's family for 7 years- have put what my aunt had researched for 40 years in order. Have proved back to 1784- and then the next generation was at the right place, right time and same name but haven't been able to prove it and from there the Kendall's go back to 1421. From 1784 Ephraim Kendalls wife Lucinda Brown's family through the book " Ancestral Roots of sixty colonists who came to New England between 1623 and 1650 6th. edition go back to Cerdic King of West Saxons 519-534. The BARTLETTS my father's family go back to the Mayflower and 2 generations in England.

William(Bill) Louis Markert Treasurer.

William Louis Markert was born on November 24, 1928 in Clifton, New Jersey to Grace Prentis Markert and George Markert. William has seven sisters and one brother. He was raised and schooled in Clifton.

He married Ann Joyce Carrigan on November 18, 1950. William (Bill) has worked in many fields including a milk route, television repair and for a parade float company. Joyce and Bill have three wonderful children Richard Thomas, Barbara Ann and Carol Marie. Richard is married to Linda and lives in Little Falls, New Jersey. Barbara is also married and lives in Scottsville New York with her husband Larry and their two children; Jennifer and Rachel. Carol is single and lives with her parents.

Bill, Joyce and Carol moved to Florida in August of 1977. They reside in DeLeon Springs. Bill is retired from the State of Florida Department of Transportation. Bill is an active member in the Sons of the American Revolution(SAR).

The ancestor for which Bill entered the SAR is Captain Johannes Holmegh Post. Some of the lines the family are researching are; Post, Terhune. Ackerman, Hoffman of New Jersey and Markert of Germany along with Washington, and Hoare Of Ireland. The family can trace the Post Family line back to the 1300's in Holland.

Thomas H. Calvin President.

Tom, like Bill, was born in 1928 but across the river in Brooklyn, New York to Margaret Elizabeth Kerr and Harold W. Calvin. Tom had two brothers Dick Calvin and Harry Patterson. He spent his first ten years in school in the NYC system.

He left home during his sophomore year and finished school in Chautauqua New York. and after graduating he joined the Army and served with the 1st Cavalry in the Army of Occupation in Japan. After his enlistment was up he returned to New York and earned his Bachelor's degree at the then Fredonia State Teacher's College.

Tom met his wife Patricia in Penn Yan NY and being a careful planning type of person married her 6 weeks later. They said it wouldn't work but Tom and Pat celebrated their 45th anniversary this year, and are looking forward to many more. Tom & Pat have 4 children and eight grandchildren. Their oldest Michelle lives and works in Albany NY, Candy is a teacher in the Saratoga Springs NY school system and she and her husband Fred Bull have three children Martha, Nathan and Meredith, Susan the youngest girl also lives in Saratoga Springs with her husband Jim Stanley and their three, Jessica, James & John. Tom, the youngest, lives in DeBary Florida with his wife Kitty and their two girls Nicole and Kristen.

Tom taught for ten years, worked for Montgomery Ward, was a short order cook, Bar Tender, and a Special Deputy Sheriff. With special support from Pat he obtained his Master's from the State University College at Geneseo and later his Doctorate from the State University at Albany. Tom spent 17 years at the New York State Education Department and then "retired" to Florida. and then 6 years later retired again.

The families Tom is searching are Calvin, Cincotta, Hughes, Kerr, Kimbrough, Lemley, Patterson, Rice, Sharpnack, Slater, Snyder, VanDewark, Woods, White. He really enjoys his time spent on his Genealogy, and Roots & Branches.

AMONG FRIENDS

The following article first appeared in an article entitled "Among our volunteers" in the January 1993 edition of "AMONG FRIENDS" The Friends of the Library Newsletter- DeLand Area Public Library, we thought it should be reprinted in our Newsletter.

AMONG OUR VOLUNTEERS.

Bette and Malcolm Lane are a husband and wife team who volunteer regularly at our library. Working twice a week, they file practically all the cards in the adult card catalog. Their service in our library began in the spring of 1986. Mrs. Lane, who was born in Ozark Oklahoma, grew up in Hartford, Connecticut, She first trained as a nutritionist. After her children were in college she entered Columbia University and received her Master's degree in library science. She was then a school media specialist for eighteen years in Rye, New York.

Mr. Lane graduated from Trinity College in Hartford, where he majored in finance. He was a tax accountant before retirement. Mrs. Lane says, with a twinkle in her eyes, that she trained him for his present job of volunteering in the library.

The Lanes enjoy genealogy and traveling as hobbies and when they return from a vacation, they always find cards waiting to be filed.

BOARD MEMBERS

- President -----Thomas H. Calvin
- 1st.Vice Pres.-----Rosemary Sutton
- 2nd.Vice Pres.-----Vacant
- Rec. Sec. -----Mary Lois Kelley
- Treasurer-----William Markert
- Corr. Sec.-----Carol Markert
- Past Pres.-----G. Robert Fox
- Book Comm. Chairman-----Al Little
- Editor Newsletter-----Thomas H. Calvin

**YOU ARE A
GENEALOGIST'S SPOUSE
WHEN**

You're the only person in the bridge club who knows what a soundex is.

Some of your best friends live 200 miles away.

You have more pictures of tombstones than of your kids;

" I need a little help at the courthouse" means forget the cleaning, washing, dinner, chores the day is shot;

The mailman can't believe you get this much mail from people you have never met;

You explain to mother why you can't go 25 miles for Sunday dinner, but you can go 300 miles to check out another cemetery;

"As soon as I check this census record. I'll repair the leaky faucet" means "call the plumber";

Your neighbors think your crazy, your friends wonder, and you know that you are. Despite it all, even you are a little anxious for the next family reunion.

"It's a few miles down the road " means at least 50 miles.

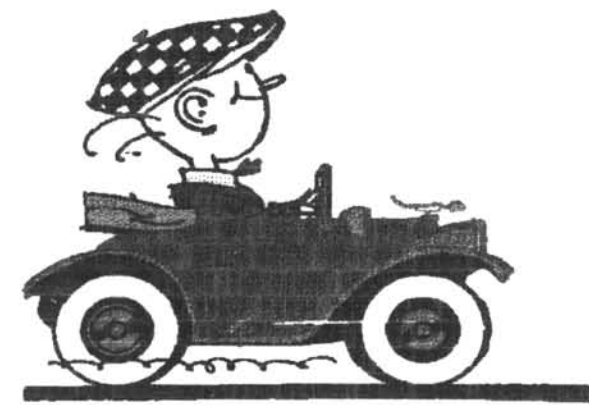
("adapted from several sources" Fl. Chapter Ohio Genealogical Society Inc. Newsletter Nov-Jun.96)

MEETING SCHEDULES

The Roots and Branches Genealogical Society meets at the DeLand Public Library at 8:00 PM. On the first Thursday of the month September through June.

The Board of Directors meetings are held at 10:00 AM on the Friday preceding the regular meetings.(See enclosed calendar)

Members are welcome and encouraged to attend in all meetings.



Ancestor of the Month

A Man and a Fort

In an earlier newsletter I have mentioned how my 4th great grandmother and her husband Israel were married during a period of Indian attacks in the area of Fort Jackson in the present Greene County Pa.

Thomas Slater was among the earliest settlers within the vicinity of "Eden", and that for some years he and his family had been on terms of friendship and intimacy with the Indians. But the time came when even he was not exempt from their depredations, for they, when on the rampage, were no respectors of persons.

Once a sudden alarm of lurking savages came over the Slater family, and pell mell, helter skelter the entire household was off for the fort. After running for a period of time, the old gentleman thought of his gun which he had forgotten to take with him. He had two daughters Sarah (who you have heard about before) and Nellie who were brave and fleet. They were directed to return and secure the gun, which they did with the rapidity of the wind, and one tradition says they were greeted with a flight of arrows from the height of Duvall's hill. One of the girls has been known to have said, that it seemed to her that she had not only run on that occasion but that she "flew." (Pioneer History of Greene County).

The same history describes Fort Jackson and gives us a better idea of the resourceful methods taken to protect the area pioneers.

As first this fortification was but a single cabin remolded and restructured into a sort of a block-house. (Random House Dictionary defines Block-House "formerly" a building, usually of hewn timber and with a projecting upper story, having loopholes for musketry, a house built of squares logs.) (Definition inserted by Editor of this Newsletter).

But in the course of fleet footed time, when the inhabitants increased and dangers thickened, a regular stockade of great capacity and superior strength was constructed.

This consisted of a regular system of cabins, arranged in the form of a hollow square and enclosing an acre of ground. Between these cabins were palisades ten or twelve feet high all supplied with portholes and other necessary conveniences essential to effective defense.

Each prominent, thrifty settler in the neighborhood who looked to Fort Jackson for protection, owned one of its elementary cabins, and besides a home on his farm had a home of defense to which he resorted in the case of an alarm.

The doors of these cabins all opened towards the enclosure and on the outward side there was neither door or window. except it would be some contrivance of an opening in the upper part as a means of observation. To this fortification there was one common entrance gate, but once inside, each family controlled its own apartment and latch string.

The following article "The Houses of the Early Settlers" is taken from the book Local History of Greene County and Southwestern Pennsylvania by Andrew J. Waychoff originally published as a series of articles in the Waynesburg Democrat Messenger in the 1920's. published in Book form in 1975 and reprinted in 1994 by the Cornerstone Genealogy Society of Greene County. (This is Article 36 found on page 16).

The houses were rude cabins, generally of one room, and built of logs. The place was near a good spring, in which this part of the country abounds. The neighbors, who lived sometimes miles away very often aided free in the erection of the cabins. They joined willingly, not only as a privilege, but also as a duty. I recollect many wood-choppings, corn-huskings, frolics, etc. Frolic was the name as mirth, wit, and gayety and enjoyment were in the minds of the workers. These frolics were not by men only; women joined and provided a bounteous spread for the workers.

(Houses of Early Settlers Cont.)

All went merry as a wedding bell. In earlier times these frolics sometimes lasted for continuous days. Most people now would be astonished to hear of conditions as they existed.

I quote the following from a book entitled "Old Redstone," published in 1854 by Joseph Smith, D.D. Similar statements are in many of the oldest books touching the same subject. I begin on Page 95:

" On an appointed day, a company of choppers met, felled trees, cut them off at the proper lengths; a man with a team hauled them to the place; this while a carpenter was in search for a straight grained tree for making clapboards for the roof. The boards were split four feet long, with a frow, and as large as as the timber would allow. Yjey were used without shaving. Others were employed in getting puncheons for the floor. This was done by splitting trees about eighteen inches in diameter and hewing the faces with a broad-axe. They were half the length of the floor They were intended to make. These were the usual preparations for the first day.

The second day, the neighbors collected round and finished the house.

The third day's work generally consisted in furnishing the house, supplying it with a clapboard table, made of split slabs, and supported by four round legs, set in auger holes, Some three legged stools were made in the same manner. Some pins stuck in the logs at the base of the house, supported some clapboards which served as shelves for the table furniture, consisting of a few pewter dishes, plates and spoons ; but mostly of wooden bowls, trenchers, and noggins. If these were scarce, gourds and hard-shelled squashes made up the deficiency. (The iron pots, knives and forks were brought from the east side of the mountains, along with salt and iron on the pack-horses.) and a supple oak placed with its lower end in a hole in the floor and the upper end fastened to a joist, served for a bedstead, by placing a pole in the fork, with one through a crack between the logs in the wall. This front pole was crossed by a shorter one within the fork, with its outer end through another crack. From the first pole through the crack between the

logs at the end of the house, the boards were put on, which formed the bottom of the bed. Sometimes other poles were pinned to the fork, a little above these for the purpose of supporting the front and the foot of the bed, while the walls were the support of the back and head. A few pegs around the walls for a dispay of the coats of the women and the hunting shirts of the men; and two small forks, or buck's horns to the joists for the rifle and the shot pouch, completed the carpenter work.

The cabin being finished, the next ceremony was the house-warming.

"All classes of people seemed to live in the same class of house and under the same conditions.

No. 78

Historic Scraps

In hunting large game the hunter kept to the leeward of the game. In order to know this when he could not otherwise tell, he wet his finger and held it above his head. The side of the finger from the direction the wind blew, would be cooler. North and south were known by the fact that thicker bark and moss were found more on the cooler noprth side of the trees.

