



The Blackford-Wells Tracer

A Newsletter of the Blackford-Wells Genealogy Society

Volume 4

October 1999

Number 4

President's Corner – by Lynn Elliott

Thanks to each of you who have worked so hard on the behalf of Blackford Wells Genealogy Society. I am happy to report that our society has grown and matured during the past 3 years. The number of people who were involved with our organization in December 1996 has doubled! We have learned about different means of research and shared our frustrations when research materials were not readily found. A special thanks to Lillie Harris for her outstanding work as editor of the Tracer. We have enjoyed Lillie sharing her research materials with us through this publication. The article, "Memories of the Civil War Period" was brought to us by BWGS member, Mrs. Lucile Henley.

I would like to remind everyone that the dues for 2000 are now due. Membership continues at the current rate of \$10.00 for a single membership, \$15.00 for a family membership.

The next meeting of BWGS will be November 20th at the Bluffton Library. The election of officers will be held. Nominations are still open for officers, if you are interested.

Editor's Note :

It's hard to believe that two years have gone by so quickly. I have enjoyed being Editor. It was a challenge for me, as well as being fun and all and all a very rewarding experience. I would like to thank all who were kind enough to send articles for the newsletter. Without them the newsletters wouldn't have been interesting. The out-of-state members have indicated they enjoyed the "old time" articles. Due to my health, I must regretfully resign as your Editor. I hope the new Editor has as much enjoyment getting the newsletter together as I did.
Lillie

Helping Lillie with the Newsletter these past months has been frustrating, fun and rewarding. But the time has come to let someone else have fun! Therefore, I am resigning along with Lillie so the new Editor can appoint a new "editor's helper".

Virginia Wittwer

Wells County Indiana Towns and Townships is the title of a 176 page, limited edition book. It is a pictorial history with the stories of the people and happenings that developed our country since Murray was established in 1834. Sixty-seven different town names have appeared within the county's nine townships. Some have had their names changed through the years- Many were only "wide places in the road" with a general store serving the needs of the neighborhood. Most are only memories of days gone by. The publication date is 12/1/99. Book orders received with payment in full by 11/1/99 will be \$30. After 11/1 the price is \$35. With \$5. Shipping and handling. Add \$2. Shipping and handling for each additional book. Remittance by check or money order to: Wells County Historical Society, PO Box 143, Bluffton, IN 46714-0143.

Reminder – The Blackford County Historical Museum is open on Sunday 1 – 4 p.m. and by appointment if you call 765-348-4634. The Museum is located at the corner of High and Kickapoo Streets in Hartford City.

New Members:

Roberta Carpenter, Box 232, Bartley NE 69020
Steve Hedges, 360 N. Arlington Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46219
Dawn Maddox-Montgomery, 11632 S 300 W, Montpelier, IN 47359
Neva Scott Williams, PO Box 101, Gas City, IN 46933

Queries:

Roberta Carpenter: Looking for information on **Jeremiah Teeters**, married Elizabeth **Gammell**, 14 Apr 1839, Wayne Co. Ohio; need his parents and ancestors.

Kathryn J. Reaser, 5611 S. Sherbourne Dr., Los Angeles CA 90056 looking for relatives of **Cynthia Ann Lane** born 1842 in Venton Co., OH. Married to **John J. Reaser** 22 Oct 1859 in Wells Co. IN.

What you'll find in this issue....

- Completion of West Grove Cemetery Records
- Memories of the Civil War Period
- Secretary's Report(s)

MINUTES OF THE BLACKFORD-WELLS GENEALOGY SOCIETY
JULY 17, 1999

The July meeting of the Blackford-Wells County Genealogy Society was called to order by the Vice-President, Connie Brubaker. She led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. The report of the secretary's last meeting was not read due to the fact that it was published in the last Newsletter. The Treasurer's report was not read.

Committee Reports:

The nominating committee announced they would be meeting after our regular meeting was closed.

The cemetery committee reported that the Blackford Cemetery book should be available at the next meeting. Connie Brubaker reported on the finding of the Colbert Cemetery, south of Warren. She said no names, only stones (field stones). In the Sprague Cemetery, all the stones had been removed, only a plaque reading "John Sprague and Family." In Licking Township, on the county line, she found the Leffler Cemetery.

Lynn Elliott had literature available that Senator Ford had sent to us pertaining to the new laws of cemeteries.

There being no further business, the meeting was turned over to Patricia K. Johnson, Director of the Northeast District of the Indiana Genealogical Society, Inc. She explained the many services of the Indiana Genealogical Society and encouraged us to join the society. Brochures were available, as well as the book, "Once A Hoosier" was for sale and also tote bags with the insignia of the Indiana Genealogical Society.

She explained how helpful it would be if we could attend the annual meeting of the Indiana Genealogical Society to be held at Evansville next year. Not only are there speakers, but also vendors with all supplies needed in genealogy research.

Miss Johnson complimented us on our Newsletter. She stated that there are three things needed to make a good genealogy society: 1. Good volunteers; 2. Good quality newsletter (this is very important to "out of state" members); 3. Items from 1800, 1900 and of course current deaths, also "delayed birth records." This "delayed birth records" is something we did know about, but it should be looked into. She suggested we get young children interested in genealogy, inviting them to workshops and attending regular meetings. Show them the importance of Birth Certificates, Death Certificates and Marriage Licenses.

After a short question and answer period, Vice President, Connie Brubaker, thanked Miss Johnson and the meeting was closed. The next meeting will be at the Brass Latch in Montpelier on Sept. 18. Barbara Elliott will give the program.

Respectfully submitted,
Blanche Bennett, Secretary

Thanks to Virginia Wittwer for taking notes of this meeting in my absence.

MINUTES OF THE BLACKFORD-WELLS GENEALOGY SOCIETY
SEPTEMBER 18, 1999

The Blackford-Wells Genealogy Society met in the Montpelier Library on September 18, 1999. President Lynn Elliott called the meeting to order and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The secretary's report was read and approved. The treasurer's report was also read and approved.

The following committee reports were given:

Research committee had received a query.

Cemetery committee announced that the Blackford County Cemetery book was available for \$4.00. They also plan to do Jay County's cemeteries next.

Nominating Committee reported by Mary Bumgarner:

President: Connie Brubaker

Vice President: Mollie Quinn Kendall

Treasurer: Ruth Potts

Two People thinking

Nominations will be open at next meeting.

Lynn Elliott reported on a book compiled at Marshall, MI. This book recorded who bought the lot, names, birth dates and death dates. This was all collected by the Genealogy Society. She also thanked the Blackford-Wells Genealogy Society for the donation at the death of her husband to the Keystone Fire Department.

Barbara Elliott announced that she and Connie Brubaker will be presenting a program to the Wells County Historical Society on October 14 at 7:30 PM in the Library at Bluffton concerning the computerization of cemetery records in Wells County. She also said the Wells County Towns and Townships books will be ready for the Bluffton Street Fair.

Meeting place for the society will need to be changed in Montpelier due to the fact that many other events are being scheduled for the Brass Latch. Lynn is negotiating for the Montpelier Community Building for 2000. Barbara Elliott will check the library in Bluffton.

Lynn announced that Lillie Harris retiring as editor of the Newsletter and we will need a new one.

Barbara Elliott gave an interesting program on the new computer system for records at the Elm Grove and Fairview cemeteries. The records are housed at the monument company across from Fairview Cemetery. Due to the fact that original records were hand written there many problems in converting to computer. A short question and answer period followed Barbara's presentation.

All present repeated the Mizpah Benediction for dismissal.

Respectfully submitted,
Blanche Bennett, Secretary

MEMORIES OF THE CIVIL WAR PERIOD

As a Farm and Small Town Boy Recalls them
at Montpelier, Indiana
by Enos Baldwin

I will leave to the historian the prewar causes which brought on the conflict in the nation. These settlements in Blackford and Wells County were made by emigrants from New England, principally Vermont, and from Virginia and Kentucky in about equal number. My Uncle, Abel Baldwin, laid out Montpelier after the fashion of the capitol of Vermont, his native state and several relatives and friends from Cavendish, Vermont, emigrated there by covered wagon through what was then a wilderness with difficult roads and unbridged streams which of way between the East and the West. These Yankees became the leaders as preachers, teachers, merchants, traders, Doctors, and lawyers. They selected good farm sites near the village on the Salamonia River and made substantial improvements and comfortable homes for themselves. They and their sons and daughters intermarried often with the younger emigrants from the South.

My father, Goldsmith Baldwin, born in Vermont in 1804, taught school, entered an 80 acre plot of government land on Scuffle Creek in 1837, a hundred years ago. He married a daughter of a Virginia emigrant in that year, probably one of his pupils. Three children were born of this marriage, Margaret, Abel and Enos. My brother, 10 years older than I, enlisted in the 17th Indiana Regiment in 1861. My father was too old and I was too young for service. My father, like most of the Yankees, was an ardent and outspoken abolitionist. Most of the emigrants from the South took sides with the pre-slavery party or Democratic Party before the war and some of them were actively sympathetic with the South, but I am glad to say that no member of my mother's family were dis-unionists. One of her brothers, Bently Jarrett, served with distinction in the Union Army and returned to the ways of peace at home living a good life thereafter whereas his youthful tendencies had been somewhat pugilistic and interperetic (interpretive?).

On the public squares of Montpelier Village recruiting officers came home and organized and drilled a company of home guards for service. I remember the crowds that gathered to the music of the fife and drum to witness these insipid military preparations. They aroused a feeling of opposition in the outlying sections between Montpelier and Bluffton, county seat of Wells on the north, and Hartford, county seat of Blackford on the south. The opposition rather secretly, for the most part, organized themselves into lodges of the Knights of the Golden Circle. They armed themselves, as far as possible, with their squirrel rifles and shot pouches, slung over their shoulders. Some of the more daring and hot headed ones carried their rifles with them on their visits to Montpelier for trade and other purposes, but no direct conflict over occurred there between them and the home guards, as was threatened at times.

The only casualty that occurred was the killing of a Union soldier by the name of Whittaker home on a furlough near Trenton, Indiana, in southern Blackford County. He was said to have been shot in the back by rebel sympathizers many of them prominent in public affairs of Blackford County in later years. Evidence was never produced to convict any of these persons, but the hatreds of the incident last for a generation.

Some stirring political meetings were held by both parties in Montpelier. I remember one held in the darkest hours of the war, about 1863, at Montpelier in a grove east of the graveyard. Its principal speaker was Daniel W. Vorhees, afterwards Senator of distinction from Indiana and known as "The tall sycamore of the Wabash" for his fervid and eloquent oratory. In this address to which I listened on the outskirts of the crowd, Mr. Vorhees referred to my family and another Yankee family, the Spauldings, sneeringly and with caustic criticism of which he was a master. As I listened to this blasphemy of my family name my blood boiled within me and I was in a fever of excitement and anger, but nothing could be done about it. All the able bodied men had gone to the front in the Union Army, only old men, young boys and women were left at home to carry on.

The delegations from both north and south of Montpelier came in, in large numbers, many of them riding in decorated wagons and cheering their party leaders as they passed through Montpelier. Some one of the opposing party called them butternuts and they accepted the slogan. They cut the butternuts by cross sections with a fine tooth saw and made breast pins which were worn by women. Some of them, more thrifty, had strings made of these shells and wore them around their necks and men pinned them on their coat lapels. The men also brought their rifles with them to the meeting to further demonstrate their will to use force if any occasion arose. I was glad when that day ended and allowed my troubled spirit to resume its calm. There were other occasions when Montpelier seethed with political excitement. One was on Saturdays when many farmers came in to get mail and weekly papers and hear letters read from the Army at the country store and a few of them had imbibed too freely in bootleg whiskey. While some of the news favorable to the north was being read they became very noisy and threatened to start a riot in the store. The owner of the store was Oscar B. Boone, a small Vermont Yankee, but full of courage and pep. He had back of his counter 2 large pistols and a big black snake whip. When he thought his drunken crowd was about to start something, he jumped upon the counter with a big pistol in one hand and shouted to them vigorously, swinging the whip and pointing the gun in their direction. The crack of the whip which he made resound almost like that of a pistol was enough to make the drunken bullies clear out of the store almost falling over each other in their haste to seek safety out of the range of the whip and the pistol. I was outside on the street when this occurred but near enough to know what was going on.

I might mention, in this connection, that Oscar Boone did not run a chance of losing trade to other towns. He had for a partner Bill Twibell a rather pronounced Democrat, who held his party members in line for the store.

My earliest political recollection was the campaign of 1856, I then being 5 years old. I remember that our family with a relative or two went to Bluffton in a big 2 horse wagon to attend a Republican Rally there. I was given to hold in my little hand a white banner on which was printed in large black letters "For President and Vice President Fremont and Dayton" the candidates for that years campaign. They were defeated by the Democratic candidates Buchanan and Breckenridge. There were followed in this campaign meetings in various sections in and around Montpelier, pole (flag) raisings, the democrats using hickory poles and singing, as they raised them, "We'll take the tall hickory timber to honor young Stephan (A. Douglas) to you," in 1960. The republicans used ash poles for their flags. Martial music with the Fife and Drums and speeches by local orders, pro and con, were the order of the day.

In this era began the torch light processions for evening demonstration and it continued to be a feature for many years afterwards. In the later years, fireworks and firecrackers were added to enthuse the perspiring patriots, in other words to "whop-em-up." On one occasion there was an exciting race for the district representative to the Indiana legislature. Dr. William T. Shull, a popular republican, ran against a Mr. Snow, democrat. They held joint debates at several towns in the district. Dr. Shull was the better orator, but Mr. Snow was a better master of logic. Snow was elected. I stayed in Indiana after the death of my mother in 1860 until 1866. I lived with my sister, part of the time going to a school taught by her, and with my brother, who taught school in the Slater district during the war after his return. I also lived with him after his marriage to a Blackford County pupil of his, at Fort Wayne, Indiana, and attended the Fort Wayne schools.

One of my most cherished and typical boyhood experiences of farm life was at Uncle John Jarrett's on a large farm near Scuffle Creek. He and Aunt Polly had 10 children of their own, all of them living at home at the time. My Aunt spun the yarn on a large wheel, dyed it in fast colors, red, green, and blue, put it in her large loom and wove the cloth and later made it into garments for the entire family and a suit of blue-jeans for me like her own boys. I wore this suit when I went to Ohio. It lasted 2 or 3 winters and I was always proud of it.

For summer wear my Aunt made linen garments from home grown flax carried through by her in the operations of spinning, weaving, and the making of shirts and pants I had a suit of this, too. At one time during the war, it was impossible to get pearl buttons for our shirts and they had to be sewed together at the collar and worn though the week, night and day, before taken off.

Uncle John's home was about a half a mile from what was then known as the old ford where General Anthony Wayne crossed Scuffle Creek with his little army. The old ford was the favorite swimming hole for us boys in the neighborhood. At one time during the heated summer, our problem was to get our sewed shirt collars loose and again fastened together to go in swimming. We used our savings to buy needles and thread and with a pocket knife to cut the sewings, we solved the difficulty.

My cousin, Joe Jarrett is still living with his daughter, Ferne, at Bluffton, Indiana. At family reunions of the Jarrett kinfolk, many reminiscences were exchanged. One story occurred probably in the late summer of 1864. Uncle John had a pet sheet, Black Billy. The boys teased him until he became vicious. One day Joe Jarrett and I were crossing a big field and when we reached about the middle of it, Black Billy came charging after us. We reached a large stump of a tree and got on top of it before Billy could strike us. He sidled around the stump, trying to get at us. At one time he got near enough us so Cousin Joe could grab him by the horn. We both held him and pressed his head tightly against the stump so that he could not get away. We had him and he had us and a cold rain began to fall, chilling us. Finally, when he got quiet Joe said he could hold him and ordered me to slip down on the other side of the stump and go the house, half a mile away and get some one to liberate Joe. Uncle John came with a pitchfork and liberated Joe. Incidentally releasing Bill, who did not care to tackle a full grown man with a pitchfork. This story is not a war story but it had its thrills for us.

In Jay County, Indiana, whose county seat is Portland, there was established a little college at Liber. Its founders were anti-slavery men, Professor Taylor, father of Robert S. Taylor, later a prominent lawyer at Fort Wayne was its first president. His fame as a teacher brought many pupils from the counties of Ranolph, Blackford, Jay, Wells and Adams. My brother and sister both attended there in 1859 and 1860 and prepared themselves for teaching. When I was about 12 years old my father took me there and placed me in the intermediate department where I studied for about six months. AT this school there was admitted the first negro in any school of higher learning, at that time. He was very intelligent and ranked high among his white class mates.

This caused the withdrawal of many patrons who took the pro-slavery side of the argument. They built and incorporated another school in competition with Liber College and called it the Farmer Academy. It was largely attended during war time and a few years afterward. Today no trace of either school exists and only a few small houses mark the place, once a center of learning for Eastern Indiana.

As the Civil War proceeded toward the closing years of the conflict, the government's credit suffered a severe test and financial transactions and commercial operations were

difficult. Its currency issues consisted of treasury notes called greenbacks and the fractional parts of a dollar in small notes were called shinplasters. The high point of the gold dollar was that it took \$2.85 of these issues for exchange. One old gentleman returning from the grocery as he sat down to his meal to partake of his purchased food said it tasted of the greenbacks, meaning the high cost of food. This inflation period continued till I think about 1869, when the government resumed special payments. The Congress in meantime following the war had enacted internal revenue laws and measures levied for the most part on luxuries like whiskey and tobacco enabled it to do this. But the period of hard times continued resulting in the panic of 1873.

In 1866 my sister and her husband, Washington Biggs, decided to move from a lease near Montpelier, Indiana, to a farm near Delaware, Ohio, where Mr. Biggs was born and raised. Mr. Biggs and I started across the country with a 2 horse covered wagon leading a cow, tied to the rear of the wagon. The cow did not understand her part of the program, hence one of us had to walk behind to urge her on or else she would almost stop the wagon by her resistance. It took 8 days to cover this trip and we slept in the wagon at night and ate lunch prepared for us before we started. Mr. Biggs' father, Elder John H. Biggs, was noted hardshell Baptist preacher. He and his sons were dyed in the wool democrats with a strong tendency to sympathize with their southern party members. A rather picturesque leader of the late war and post war period was Clement L. Vanlandingham. He belonged to that wing of democracy that nominated General George B. McClellan for President in 1864 and adopted a plank in their platform that said, "We demand the immediate cessation of hostilities," meaning to end the war by compromise and let the confederate states form a separate government and a union of their own. Elder Biggs' son, John Biggs, was so enamored of Vanlandingham's leadership that he named his first born son after him, Clement. Later in my newspaper and historical work I found that many other ardent Democrats of this type had likewise named their sons Clement.

It is not my purpose in submitting this memorandum to go extensively into the political history of 3 decades between the Civil War and the Spanish American War. The returning Union Veterans after the surrender of Lee to Grant at Appomatax were acclaimed as victors and heroes by the Union Party of the North. All of the candidates of the Republican Party that filled the presidential chair had been generals in the army, Union army, for 8 years, Grant, Hayes, Garfield, Arthur, McKinley.

The martyrdom of Lincoln, Garfield, and McKinley strengthened the hold of the Republicans and held their masses in line until 1884 when Grover Cleveland was elected over James D. Blaine by a small electoral majority. The returning union veterans organized themselves into the Grand Army of the Republic, known as the G.A.R. They became a dominate factor in politics of the nation and were almost to a man allied with

the Republicans. These veterans and other strong partisans continued to hurl invectives against the South to keep the Northern States vote solid for the Republicans. These war cries which they indulged in so persistently every campaign, came to be known as waving the bloody shirt. This period developed some able and patriotic statesmen among the minority Democrats of the North. They pointed out the questionable and in many cases unethical methods of the government used in the reconstruction period of the Southern states. In 1876 when General Hayes was declared and elected President by a Louisiana commission, said to have been unduly influenced by the Major Party over Samuel J. Tilden of New York, by a small margin of a few votes. The Democrats afterwards in their campaigns characterized this as "The crime of 1876" with some justification.

I recall among the minority leaders Samuel J. Randall of Pennsylvania, Senators Allen G. Thurman and Pendleton of Ohio, John J. Carlyle of Kentucky. Among these Senator Randall, unlike other leaders of his party, was a rather pronounced protectionist. This held the Eastern Democrats where industry was strongest in lime for support of their party and enabled Randall, incidentally, to stay in office in Congress for many years. In time the South recovered to a degree that it sent some of its best men to both houses of Congress. Among these I might mention Senator LaMar, State of _____ and Senator John Sharp Williams of Mississippi. A rather picturesque character by the name of Ben Tillman serviced in the congress and by the directness and vigor of his attacks on the opposition, was known as "pitchfork Tillman". I hesitate to deal at greater lengths on the post war evils inflicted on the South. These came into flower in General Grant's administration under the leadership of such men as Thad Stephens and Cockeyed Ben Butler of Silver Spoon fame gained when he was carpet bag governor of Louisiana. These carpet bag organizers from the North organized the negro voters and carried their depredations on the helpless Southerners.

While I was wintering in Mobile, Alabama, in 1919, I was shown the courthouse there built under carpet bag rule. The building was none too good yet the carpet baggers loaded it with a bonded debt that was still unpaid when I was there on which the taxpayers of Mobile County were still paying interest. Transactions like this were had in many states. It took almost a generation after the Civil War for the Southern people to regain anything like a normal status in their government. Many thousands of acres of valuable timber land and other valuable franchises passed into the hands of the carpet bag emissaries, and the beautiful plantations of pre-war days were overgrown with second growth timber and Southern politicians; what Roosevelt said recently about the warring labor factions "A plague on both your houses!"

Above, in this article, I mentioned Senators Thurman and Pendleton, both men of ability and a good brand of patriotism, Mr. Thurman was known in the Senate and in his campaign as the old Roman. His insignia was the red bandana handkerchief which he always carried in the breast pocket of his coats and wiped his face when he perspired during this oratorical efforts. Both he and Senator Pendleton attacked with vigor the evils and inefficiency and dishonest graft which prevailed the Post Office and the Internal Revenue Departments to an extent that almost paralyzed and plundered the services which they were organized to render. That issue was one of the big pleas or support in the Cleveland campaign. The independent wing of the Republican party whose members were called mug-wumps met in convention and endorsed Grover Cleveland's candidacy. These issues and a blunder made by a Republican speaker in New York a few days before the election caused New York, with its large electoral vote to swing to Cleveland's support. In this incident Reverend Dr. Burchard, a retired minister spoke and characterization that sounded good to him, but the word Romanism was a fling at the Catholic Church. Many of its members were Republican. It is said at the time that in 48 hours after the mug, Romanism and Rebellion utterance was made that the pews of every Catholic Church in New York were lined with Circulars containing the slur on their religion.

New I come to a place that illustrates a favorite philosophy of mine that there is a divinity that shapes the ends of nations as well as individuals, Grover Cleveland became President, and as soon as he entered the White House, a hungry hoard of party leaders besieged him, quoting the Jackson slogan "To the victors belong the spoils." Husky Grover Cleveland wearing an 18 or larger shirt collar was just the man to wrestle with these persistent folk. He said in essence, "Boys I like you all; appreciate your support and want to help you when I can, but the situation calls for patience. I was elected on a civil service platform, I shall stand firmly in my administration on that plank that I walked in on, till the reform is made a fact in government." So the civil service or merit system government employees in all branches of government were organized and installed and the long campaign of men like Thurman and Pendleton bore good fruit in reforming our governmental affairs. It is a matter of history that Grover Cleveland's first cabinet members were chosen from among the ablest men of his party in the country and the strength of that administration was of such merit that although General Harrison defeated him in 1888 he was able to defeat Harrison in 1892. This was an incident that had not occurred in our political history before or since, that of a president serving two terms with an intervening administration. The panic of 1893 was charged against President Cleveland and his party; but there is some history to prove that in some degree the Harrison administration was not 100% pure against its causes. General Harrison did not go as far as some of his partisans desired in undoing the good work of President Cleveland's first term and they opposed him (Harrison) in his second campaign. They

were made up largely of the old blocks of five history and known in this campaign as the bread and butter brigade. Competent historians in future histories will not fail to award President Cleveland as a sincere patriot and an able administrator, working faithfully with the best men and conditions that were available in his time.

During the Civil War the states of West Virginia, Kentucky, and Mississippi were in turmoil of a trying sort. The sympathies of the members of the same family were often divided between the North and the South. Often one brother entered the confederate army while another brother of the same family chose to join forces with the union army of the North.

In 1881 I left my work as I completed it, my part at least on the history of Summit County and its industrial city of Akron, Ohio. I joined the forces for a brief period of D. Appleton and Company who, that year published Jeff Davis' history of the war. I worked at Covington, Kentucky, and there interviewed many ex-confederate soldiers. During the struggle of 61-65 there had arisen some differences between General Breckenridge of Kentucky and Jefferson Davis and his Generals about the policies and methods of conducting the war of the North. Hence Mr. Davis' book did not meet with a general friendly reception but I did fairly well in this work till about midsummer when I went to Lexington, Kentucky. One member of the firm, L. L. Baskin, formerly I had worked for in Akron, Ohio, and other Ohio cities, then began a publication of histories in the bluegrass region of Kentucky. I resumed work for him in Lexington, Kentucky, and Georgetown for a history of Fayette and Scott Counties. It was my privilege in Lexington to interview some of the most noted Generals and civilians of the Civil War. Among these were General William Preston, General Breckenridge, two brothers of John Morgan, the Raider, his mother and sisters, and Benjamin Gratz, the latter one of Kentucky's most influential citizens exerting his strong personal influence to keep Kentucky in the Union. I gained much valuable information and regret that I do not now possess a copy of that book issued in 1882. I learned at first hand much about John Morgan, previous to his spectacular raid in the North. It will be recalled that by employing his gorilla methods and striking the unarmed communities in Ohio and Indiana across the river he started the North to such an extent that they massed their home guards so that he did not get very far. Some of the Southern Generals held similar views with that of Morgan as the war advanced toward its middle period, namely that the only chance of winning the war was to pierce the North at some strategic point and cripple the Union Army by cutting off its supply of munitions and provisions. But this idea never gained the approbation of General Robert E. Lee. Another incident growing out of my historical work at Akron, Ohio, was the meeting there of Jason Brown, brother of John Brown of Ossawatimic, Ohio, fame who stirred the North by his bold stroke in the prewar period. I was residing in Lexington at the time of President Garfield's assassination (September 19, 1881) and witnessed the funeral ceremonies held there to give tribute and honor to his life and martyrdom.

Memories of the Civil War Period (Continued)

For the first time in Kentucky history the societies of the colored people were allowed to march in the same procession of civic parades as the white societies at this funeral ceremony. I have heard there were cases similar to this in other Southern Cities at that time. Some historical authority commenting on this said that Garfield accomplished more in bringing the South together and cementing the union by his death than he could have by his life if he had lived.

My brother, a veteran of the Civil War, went with his cousin, Isaac Baldwin, to sell fruit trees and other nursery stock. My cousin had carried on this business in the South in the prewar period and was very successful in placing large orders. But in Missouri in the post war period the feeling ran so high that his Yankee dialect seemed to work against his success with many ex-confederates and their friends. Some of the "stay at homes", women included, showed more bitterness than the ex-soldiers. My brother, Abel Baldwin, had much larger success in soliciting than Isaac. He looked and spoke much more like the people of Missouri and Isaac entrusted him almost entirely with a delivery of the trees to avoid conflict. So it is possible in the border states that the feuds and ill feelings existed much longer than in the states and communities of the confederacy.

Gay Co Cemetery Cont.

- Regester, Thomas, (264); b. March 1, 1823; d. Jan. 1, 1910; s. of Robert and Abigail (Rigby) Regester; h. of (1) Mary (Williams) Regester (m. June 16, 1849); (2) Martha (Mendenhall) Regester (m. April 17, 1864). Known as "Uncle Tommy."
- Regester, Thomas, Jr. (135); s. of Thomas and Mary (Williams) Regester.
- Rigby, Aaron B. (118); b. April 11, 1832; d. April 12, 1879; s. of Seth and Delilah (Gilbert) Rigby; h. of Martha (Lewis) Rigby. One of the five survivors of the Seth Rigby family, all ten of whom are buried in West Grove. See Nos. 111-115, incl.
- Rigby, Baker A. (270); b. April 11, 1837; d. - - - s. of Seth and Delilah (Gilbert) Rigby (see Aaron B. Rigby, above); h. of Ruth (Boyd) Rigby.
- Rigby, Dora (270.1); 1882-1953.
- Rigby, Harold C. (285); 1900-1901; s. of C & M Rigby. Names of parents as they appear on gravestone.
- Rigby, Martha (Lewis) (120); b. Dec. 28, 1831; d. Dec. 8, 1904; dt. of Enos and Margaret (Grisell) Lewis; w. of Aaron B. Rigby.
- Rigby, Mary A. (119); b. Jan. 10, 1868; d. Oct. 1, 1877; dt. of Aaron B. and Martha (Lewis) Rigby.
- Rigby, Ruby R. (286); d. 1900; dt. of C & M Rigby. See Harold C. Rigby, above.
- Rigby, Ruth J. (Boyd) (269); b. Aug. 28, 1842; d. Jan. 22, 1902; w. of Baker A. Rigby.
- Rigby, Sarah E. (268); b. July 29, 1862; d. July 19, 1898.
- Rigby, Seth (Family) (111 - 112 - 113 - 114 - 115). Five members of the family of Seth and Delilah (Gilbert) Rigby died in an epidemic of "bloody flux" (probably cholera) in 1849. Five members of the family who survived also are buried at West Grove: Aaron, Baker A., Matilda Ann, wife of Thomas L. Gray; Hannah, wife of James Williams, and Harriet, wife of Levi Johnson.
- Rigby, Susan (212); d. Dec. 14, 1882; age 57-6-2; w. of Silas Rigby.
- Rooney, James (263); b. March 15, 1815; d. Feb. 11, 1904; h. of Rebecca (Murphy) Rooney; father of Minerva (Rooney) Brunson, Rebecca (Rooney) Brunson and Ann (Rooney) Tucker.

- Sawyer, Anson E. (175); d. Sept. 26, 1861; age 3-3-5; s. of Dr. James and Ruth G. (Haines) Sawyer.
- Sawyer, Elizabeth Ann (Frame) (95); d. May 5, 1852; age 33-8-22; 1st w. of Dr. James Sawyer.
- Sawyer, Dr. James (88); d. Aug. 7, 1898; age 82-2-25; s. of Archibald and Mary Sawyer; h. of (1) Elizabeth (Frame) Sawyer, (2) Ruth (Haines) Sawyer; pioneer physician and one of the early teachers at West Grove school.
- Sawyer, Ruth C. (Haines) (89); d. Dec. 7, 1891; age 69-11-24; 2nd w. of Dr. James Sawyer.
- Shinn, Amanda Ethel (320); 1876-1935; dt. of Cornelius and Sarah (Irey) Shinn.
- Shinn, Cornelius E. (323); 1851-1926; h. of Sarah E. (Irey) Shinn.
- * Shinn, Donie (U); dt. of Cornelius and Sarah E. (Irey) Shinn.
- Shinn, Leslie C. (321); 1876-1943; s. of Cornelius and Sarah E. (Irey) S.
- Shinn, Lois E. (318); b. 1926; d. 1943.
- Shinn, Ruth E. (319); 1930-1931.
- Shinn, Sarah E. (Irey) (322); 1858-1933; dt. of Alfred Irey; w. of Cornelius E. Shinn.
- Shoup, Mary Magdalene (227); birth and death dates unknown; mother-in-law of Jacob Wolf; apparently mother of Mary Wolf. See inscription on Wolf stone.
- * Silliven, Everett (40); Co. F, 75th Ind. Inf.; mustered in 8-12-1862; out 1-22-1864.
- Silliven, Hannah (170); d. April 19, 1855; age 21; w. of -- Silliven; inscription largely illegible.
- Silliven, Hiram (85).
- Silliven, James A. (90); d. May 10, 1874; age 70-5-27.
- Silliven, Laura C. (37); d. March 22, 1857; age 2-6-3; dt. of J M & R W Silliven. Parents described on gravestone as shown.
- Slaves, Fugitive (80.1). Mariah (Bowersock) Mendenhall was authority for the information that an unknown number of fugitive slaves who died while concealed in the neighborhood prior to the Civil War were buried in unmarked graves in West Grove Cemetery. She said the graves were on the east side of the meeting house, near the foundation, about half-way between the north and south ends of the building. The information was given by her to her granddaughter (my mother) and thence to me. -- DLS

- Slay, Laurana (60); dt. of Anthony W. and Mary (Farrington) Slay.
- Slay, Mary (Farrington) (59); b. April 27, 1839 in Jackson Twp., Jay County, Ind.; d. April 18, 1863 in Jay County; dt. of William D. and Mariah (Bowersock) Farrington; w. of Anthony W. Slay.
- Slay, William D. (58); b. April 5, 1860; d. May 11, 1941; s. of Anthony W. and Mary (Farrington) Slay; 2nd h. of Evaline D. (Smith) Hunt (m. May 7, 1921).
- Smith, Caroline (71); b. June 21, 1850 in Penn Twp., Jay County, Ind.; d. Sept. 25, 1851 in Jay County; dt. of Edmund and Eliza (Dutton) Smith.
- Smith, Dillwyn P. (5); b. Feb. 14, 1840 in Penn Twp., Jay County, Ind.; d. June 13, 1930, same township; s. of Edmund and Eliza (Dutton) Smith; h. of Sara E. (Dugdale) Smith.
- Smith, Edmund (42); b. Nov. 4, 1814 in Beaver Co., Pennsylvania; d. July 11, 1853 in Penn Twp., Jay County, Ind.; s. of Joseph and Joanna (Aten) Smith; h. of Eliza (Dutton) Smith (m. Oct. 1, 1834).
- Smith, Edmund, Jr. (41); b. Aug. 28, 1853 in Penn Twp., Jay County, Ind.; d. Aug. 10, 1854, same township; s. of Edmund and Eliza (Dutton) Smith.
- Smith, Eliza (Dutton); see Dugdale.
- Smith, Elva A. (4); b. Sept. 6, 1900 in Penn Twp., Jay County, Ind.; d. there Sept. 29, 1912; dt. of Louis A. and Harriet (Mendenhall) Smith.
- Smith, Harriet M. (Mendenhall) (3); b. March 14, 1875 in Penn Twp., Jay County, Ind.; d. June 21, 1942 at Bluffton, Ind.; dt. of William F. and Alice (Votaw) Mendenhall; w. of Louis A. Smith (m. Feb. 25, 1897).
- Smith, Louis A., (2); b. Aug. 30, 1876 in Penn Twp., Jay County, Ind.; d. Dec. 21, 1961 at Bluffton, Ind.; s. of Dillwyn P. and Sara E. (Dugdale) Smith; h. of Harriet M. (Mendenhall) Smith (m. 2-25-1897).
- Smith, Maria (70); b. July 6, 1837 in Columbiana Co., Ohio; d. March 29, 1843 in Penn Twp., Jay County, Ind.; dt. of Edmund and Eliza (Dutton) S.
- Smith, Mary Joanna (43); b. Oct. 24, 1847 in Penn Twp., Jay County, Ind.; d. April 24, 1864, same township and county; dt. of Edmund and Eliza (Dutton) Smith.
- Smith, Morris (69); b. July 12, 1838 in Columbiana Co., Ohio; d. April 7, 1843 in Penn Twp., Jay County, Ind.; s. of Edmund and Eliza (Dutton) S.
- Smith, Rachel (Beeson) (24); b. May 13, 1814 in Columbiana Co., Ohio; d. July 6, 1854 in Penn Twp., Jay County, Ind.; dt. of Richard and Ann (Oliphant) Beeson; w. of John S. Smith (m. ca. 1833).

- Smith, Sara E. (Dugdale) (6); b. March 18, 1840 in Clark Co., Ohio; d. Sept. 20, 1904 in Penn Twp., Jay County, Ind.; dt. of William R. and Ann (Hilles) Dugdale; w. of Dillwyn P. Smith.
- Soper, Goldie (190) and Soper, Sylvia (191); d. Feb. 28, 1892; twin daughters of Earl W. and Clara B. Soper.
- Sumption, Charles (130) d. September 8, 1865; age 27-2-14; inscription on gravestone appears to be September 8, but annual returns of Ossian Lodge No. 297, F. & A.M., show the date of death to have been September 5; also that he "died at Camden, Ind."
- + Sumption, Clifton Howard (U); 1858-1860; s. of Thomas and Emily Sumption.
- Sumption, John, Sr., (131); h. of Susannah (Lewis) Sumption.
- + Sumption, John, Jr. (U); 1829-1865; s. of John and Susannah Sumption; h. of Sarah (Gray) Sumption.
- Sumption, Lewis (127).
- Sumption, Susannah (Lewis) (126); w. of John Sumption, Sr.
- + Sumption, Thomas (U); 1828-1859; s. of John and Susannah (Lewis) Sumption; h. of Emily Rakestraw Lewis.
- Swaney, George (254); d. Aug. 4, 1895; age 35-3-20; s. of William and Barbara Swaney; h. of Viola C. (Brown) Swaney.
- Swaney, Viola C. (Brown) (253); d. Nov. 21, 1894; age 32 years, 8 days; dt. of John and Mary Ann (Lewis) Brown; w. of George W. Swaney.
- Swoveland, Eliza A. (Gaskill) (293.1).
- + Tucker, - - (U); infant son of Ott and Lola (Bunson) Tucker.
- Tucker, Ann (Rooney) (259); 1845-1926; dt. of James and Rebecca (Murphy) R.
- Tucker, Eliza Ann (Mendenhall) (188); b. April 15, 1842 in Penn Twp., Jay County, Ind.; d. May 20, 1910, in Jay County; dt. of William and Rebecca (Ward) Mendenhall; w. of John Nelson Tucker.
- Tucker, Elizabeth (260).
- Tucker, Ella (See Tucker, L R E.)

* Tucker, John Nelson (189); 1832-1911 (Jan. 27); s. of Alva and Hannah Tucker; h. of Eliza Ann (Mendenhall) Tucker; Co. B, 11th Ind. Cavalry; mustered in 12-9-1864; out as corporal 9-19-1865.

Tucker, L R E (185); d. Aug. 11, 1879; age 3-6-10; dt. of John Nelson and Eliza Ann (Mendenhall) Tucker. Initials L R E Tucker appear as they are on gravestone. The Tuckers had a daughter Ella, b. Feb. 17, 1872 and d. Aug. 11, 1879. These dates do not correspond with the age, but the grave is believed to be that of Ella.

Tucker, Maria J. (187); b. Feb. 26, 1863; d. Feb. 11, 1882; dt. of John Nelson and Eliza Ann (Mendenhall) Tucker.

Tucker, Martha D. (169); d. May 24, 1877; age 33-10-4; w. of Daniel Tucker.

+ Tucker, Mildred Farrell (U); dt. of Ott and Lola (Brunson) Tucker; d. in infancy.

Tucker, William (186); b. Oct. 5, 1864; d. Jan. 5, 1875; s. of John Nelson and Eliza Ann (Mendenhall) Tucker.

Votaw, Emeline S. (61); b. Sept. 28, 1834; d. Oct. 12, 1853; dt. of Daniel and Sarah (Hilles) Votaw; one of four children to die within a period of 12 days.

Votaw, Martha A. (63); b. Jan. 29, 1847; d. Oct. 22, 1853; dt. of Daniel and Sarah (Hilles) Votaw; see Emeline S. Votaw, above.

Votaw, Sarah (Hilles) (65); b. April 6, 1808 in Washington County, Pa.; d. July 24, 1882 in Jay County, Ind.; dt. of Hugh and Elizabeth (Wilson) Hilles; w. of Daniel Votaw (m. Oct. 30, 1828). Note that four of their children died within a period of 12 days.

Votaw, Susan R. (62); b. March 25, 1844; d. Oct. 14, 1853; dt. of Daniel and Sarah (Hilles) Votaw; see Emeline S. Votaw, above.

Votaw, Wilson D. (64); b. March 9, 1833; d. Oct. 24, 1853; son of Daniel and Sarah (Hilles) Votaw; see Emeline S. Votaw, above.

Wenger, Irra Linly (216); d. Nov. 25, 1873; age 10 days; s. of William and G. Wenger. Spelling of names consistent with gravestone inscription.

Wenger, Mary M. (215); d. Nov. 20, 1877; age 2-2-2; dt. of William and G. Wenger.

White, Solomon (80).

Williams, Althea W. (325); 1891-1909; dt. of Miles M. and Rosella (Haines) W.

* Williams, Eli (255); b. Dec. 10, 1845; d. Sept. 4, 1887; s. of George and Rachel (White) Williams; h. of Emaline (Fisher) Williams; Co. B, 138th Ind. Inf.; mustered in 5-27-1864; out 9-30-1864.

Williams, Elizabeth S. (Maris) (45); b. Oct. 30, 1828; d. Oct. 23, 1887; w. of Jesse Williams.

Williams, Emaline (Fisher) (255.1); 1855-1946; dt. of Samuel and Susan Fisher; w. of Eli Williams (m. Dec. 7, 1874).

Williams, George (11); b. July 17, 1799 near Augusta, Ga.; d. 1887; s. of Thomas and Prudence (Reynolds) Williams; h. of Rachel (White) W.

Williams, George, Jr. (52); 1836-1846; s. of George and Rachel (White) W.

Williams, Hannah (Rigby) (324); 1834-1915; dt. of Seth and Delilah (Gilbert) Rigby; w. of James Williams; one of the five survivors of the Seth Rigby family, all 10 of whom are buried at West Grove. See Nos. 111-115, incl.

* Williams, James (139); b. March 26, 1830; d. - - s. of George and Rachel (White) Williams; h. of Hannah (Rigby) Williams; Co. A, 23rd Ind. Inf.; mustered in 10-22-1864; out 7-23-1865.

Williams, Jesse (46); d. April 15, 1879; age 52-2-3; s. of George and Rachel (White) Williams; h. of Elizabeth (Maris) Williams.

Williams, John (66); 1823-1910; h. of Lovise (Hansen) Williams; s. of George and Rachel (White) Williams.

Williams, Lovise (Hansen) (67) 1825-1906; w. of John Williams; spelling of first name as it appears on gravestone.

Williams, Martha B. (306); 1862-1943; w. of Noah Williams.

Williams, Mary R. (47); 1853-1875.

Williams, Miles M. (326); b. Sept. 9, 1854; d. 1940; s. of James and Hannah (Rigby) Williams; h. of Rosella (Haines) Williams.

Williams, Noah (307); 1852-1937; s. of John and Lovise (Hansen) Williams.

Williams, Ollie (68); 1864-1882; dt. of John and Lovise (Hansen) Williams.

Williams, Rachel (White) (12); b. May 5, 1803 in Greene County, Pa.;
d. Jan. 28, 1880 in Jay County, Ind.; dt. of James and Mary (Kent)
White; w. of George Williams.

Williams, Rosella (Haines) (327); 1859-1941; dt. of Isaac T. and Mary
Elma (Gray) Haines; w. of Miles M. Williams.

Williams, Thomas (51).

Williams, Wanda (304); 1927-1931.

Wolf, Clifton (246); 1869-1886; grandson of Jacob and Mary Wolf; grave-
stone inscription says "Met death while loading logs."

* Wolf, Irvin J. (258.1); 1895-1964; s. of Elwood and Celeste Wolf;
grandson of Jacob and Mary Wolf; U. S. Naval Reserve, 1918-19;
aviation mechanic.

Wolf, Jacob (245); 1798-1878; father of Elwood Wolf; inscription on
gravestone says "Teamster. His teambells were famous over the
National Road."

Wolf, Mary (244); 1809-1864; w. of Jacob Wolf; mother of Elwood Wolf.

* Wolf, Orrel M. (258.2); 1890-1965; s. of Elwood and Celeste Wolf; grand-
son of Jacob and Mary Wolf; U.S. Navy, 1917-19; Leyte, 1944;
Marine engineer.

Yanoy, James Edward (315).