

#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Early School House in Jackson County
- Genealogy Library News
- Small towns of Blackford County
- Family Group Sheets
- Ye Olden Times

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 5  
NOVEMBER 2005

# Blackford Wells Tracer

## Deed Project Update

We have permission from Indy to purchase the microfilm. At \$20 per roll, purchase of all available will cost a little over \$500. This will put our project in the red and on Mickey's bad list unless we can get another grant next year. I am planning on applying for another IGI grant, so keep your fingers crossed.

Our transcription is progressing nicely, book L (1861 - 1863) is being transcribed. And a copy of the database is available on the computer in the archive and Connie and company are assisting with data entry as time permits. We could use more help with keying in the transcribed information if you have Access 2000 or newer and even a little bit of free time. Contact me, Cami Mount, for more information --  
csm81g@yahoo.com

## SCHOOL 77 YEARS AGO

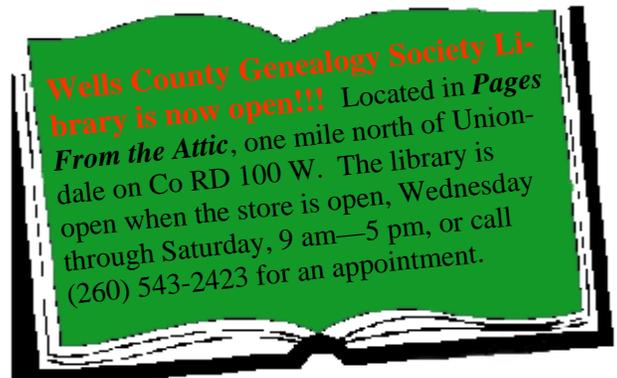
**Uncle John Minnich Describes First School House in Jackson Township Where he Went to School In 1842**

**Crude Structure With Rude Furniture Drew Pupils From Many Miles in All Directions**

**Written by D. P. Huffman**

The first school house ever erected in Jackson township was built about the year 1840 and stood in the northwest corner of section 11, or just across the road east from the Jones cemetery, or about forty rods south of the Sugar Grove church where the big home-coming was held last August.

The building was constructed of round logs, that is, they were  
*(Continued on page 5)*



## President's Corner

Wow where has the year gone??? It's time for the last meeting of the year 2005, let's look back at what we have accomplished this past year. (If I can remember).

- Cami and her team of researchers have completed several books of deeds. In another year we should have that project completed.
- We have sold all of the Early Settlers books, but 15. And the Will Index about 12. When they are gone there will be no more. so be sure to get your copies before they are gone.
- The new library is open and ready to be used. (although many have not sent their family tree information in to be used by others).
- We started an index of all the surnames researched by our members (again we need yours).
- Progress has been made on the small town histories.
- Our name has been changed, or will be—in effect the first of January.
- We received a \$500 grant to help defray the cost of the deed recording.

I'm sure there are other things we have done that I can't remember.

I hope you will all attend the final meeting this year and become more active in the business of the Society. We need everyone to keep the momentum rolling for a new year of activities.  
Connie



## Genealogy Library Open House

The library is finished! ...or as finished as it can be considering that genealogy is never really completed while on this earth. The open house took place on 01 Oct 2005. A few of our members came by and hung out for a while. Joan brought some cookies and old fashioned candy and Connie provided the drinks. We had a couple visit with us who were not members. And Connie said she's had a few more visit our library since the open house.

To those members who helped get things organized and ready, I send you a great big thank you. It would still be sitting undone without your help. And thanks to Mary Lou for getting the picture and ad to the Bluffton Banner!

Reminder: **We need your help!!!** Send us your ancestral charts & your family group sheets. See page 4 for an example of the family group sheet. It is part of our society constitution that we provide our ancestries to be preserved. "Objectives: 1) Collect, preserve, secure, document, organize, and record the ancestry of any and all...Wells counties families." You do NOT have to use the charts we provided. If you have one you like to use or if your computer program prints a ready-made one, that is fine, too. Just send them! 😊



The November meeting will have as a special speaker, Don Remenschneider. Don is president of the Lutheran Cemetery Association. He will be discussing the logistics of moving Parker Cemetery in Allen Co. which was done last year.

We will also be having an important business meeting. **IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN!** We need to elect officers for the year 2006. We need all members possible to attend this meeting to vote for who you want to have serving us next year. We will meet on Sat., Nov. 19th at 10 AM at the Bluffton Library.

**A hearty welcome** to our newest members. From California joining us we have John Cupp in Smith River. Tina Reed lives just south a bit in Frankfort, Indiana. And from the ol' Parlor City itself (Bluffton) we have Laura Sawyer and Tom & Lora Williams. Glad to have all of you as a part of our society!

## Minutes of the September Meeting

**Call to Order:** A regular meeting of the Society was held at the Wells County Public Library. The meeting was called to order by President Connie Brubaker.

**Report of Minutes:** July 2005 meeting minutes published in newsletter. Mary Lou Bumgarner moved to approve, Linda Thomas seconded. **Motion to approve carried.**

**Treasurer's Report:** A report was not available.

**Correspondence:** Richard Meeks of Miami, FL sent in a photograph of a Civil War troop. John Logan has been identified in the photo, and Mr. Meeks is hoping to ID other troop members.

**Committee Reports:** **Archive** update provided by Linda Thomas. Thursday, September 14, several members helped at a workday at the archive. All first family papers have been placed in binders and an inventory has been started. The Wells County Historical Society will be providing copies of school records. Linda noted that the archive will accept histories from members, and that 4-generation charts have been requested from the membership.

An open house was scheduled for October 1 !0 am to 2 pm.

**Deed Project** report published in newsletter.

**Old Business: Society name and tax status.** The By-law Committee provided a copy of proposed changes, however a quorum was not present, so no action could be taken.

### Indiana Genealogical Society affiliation

Cami Mount reported that affiliation requires that the tax-exempt status be in place and that ten members must also be IGS members. No further action will be taken at this time.

**New Business:** The Society will share a table with the Wells County Historical Society at the Collector and Hobby Show, and at Street Fair.

Connie Brubaker suggested that our next project be a 100 (1898 – 1998) year residence book.

**Nominating Committe:** Connie announced that the nominating committee would be Lynn Elliot, Sarah Tucker, and Joan Gavilanez.

**Announcements:** November 19, 2005 meeting will be held at the Wells County Public Library. Election of our 2006 officers will be the primary business, afterwards, a short program on moving graves will be presented by Don Remenschneider, president of the Lutheran Cemetery Association.

Submitted by Cami Mount

### BLACKFORD-WELLS GENEALOGY SOCIETY

**PRESIDENT: CONNIE BRUBAKER**

**VICE PRESIDENT: CAMI MOUNT**

**SECRETARY: LYNN ELLIOTT**

**TREASURER: MICHELLE JONES**

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR: LINDA THOMAS**

### SOCIETY RELATED EVENTS

*November 19, 2005—Annual Meeting—election of officers—Dan Remenschneider- moving cemeteries*

*January 21, 2006—Meeting*

*March 18—Meeting*

*May 20—Meeting*

*July 15—Meeting*

*September 16—Meeting*

*November 18—Meeting*

## Some Blackford County Small Towns

These excerpts are taken from A History of Blackford County, Indiana published in 1986 by the Blackford County Historical Society. If you wish to learn more about these small towns and others in Blackford County, I encourage you to find the book mentioned above and take some time to peruse it.

### Mollie

Mollie was not always populated by four. The post office was established October 19, 1888, with Henry H. Dean being the first postmaster. It was discontinued on October 16, 1889, then reestablished February 6, 1890, with Anderson Hatfield being the postmaster. On February 28, 1907, it was again discontinued. The post office was housed in the front of the grocery operated by Jacob Burnworth. This store was located on the south side of the present residence of David Schwarzkopf. According to Nova MCCammon, you could buy 25 pounds of flour for 45 cents. The store also had a small waiting room for passengers using the Indiana Union Traction, the trolley system which extended from Hartford City to Mollie and from there to Montpelier and Bluffton. The grocery burned to the ground in 1891. It was rebuilt and burned again in 1914....

According to a newspaper article of December 28, 1972, the population peaked to 25 prior to the 1920's. Every town has its day, and Mollie had hers. About the time of World War I, and army biplane was forced down due to engine failure. Cecil Beeson, Blackford County historian, was on of the many Hartford City people who rode the trolley to Mollie to see what was then quite a novelty. Beeson said the landing of this plane may have been the first plane landing in Blackford County.

### Matamoras

Matamoras was the oldest town in Blackford County when Hartford City and Montpelier were still wildernesses. Matamoras was a thriving little community located on the west side of the Salamonie River and three-quarters of a mile east of Montpelier. It had a mill,

a store, a tannery, a post office and a school. There is still evidence of the mill on the west river bank....

The 1880 census in Matamoras which was enumerated by Lafayette nail and filed in the National Archives, Washington, D.C., listed 12 heads of households ranging in age from 24 to 58 years. Occupations included constable, farmer, teamster, blacksmith, sawmill worker, wood cutter, shoe store operator and lawyer.

When the Fort Wayne, Cincinnati & Louisville Railroad, now known as the Nickel Plate, no longer passed through Matamoras, the town was deserted and almost overnight became the "ghost town" it is today.

### Trenton

Trenton is one of the oldest towns in Blackford County. It was laid out in January 1847 by Robert H. Lanning, his brother Ezekiel Lanning, Bazel Anderson and William Cortright on Cortright's land... The public square where the principal business houses were located was at the intersection of Main and Albany streets....

Indiana's historic natural gas boom beginning in 1886 brought increasing prosperity and an increase in population to large and small communities alike....

The peak production year for natural gas was 1902 and 1904 for oil. A sharp decline followed in 1906 for both. By 1915 the boom had expired, and thus began the decline of Trenton.

### Crumley's Crossing-Kingsley

When Edward M. Crumley brought his wife, Sarah, and their four little sons to Indiana in 1837, he was taking them into a heavily forested and swampy wilderness. A year later Crumley had purchased on hundred seventy four acres of land in Jackson Township from the United States government for \$1.25 an acre. He moved his family from Ohio and carved a farmstead from the woods in the southeastern part of the township....

Crumley Cross Roads grew into a settlement with several cabins, stores, a blacksmith shop and sawmill. The Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railroad came through in 1867...

The stores, the school and the

blacksmith shop are gone. The sawmill was converted into a barn on the Sidney Manor farm and the Methodist church is now the Kingsley Full Gospel. Evidence of the settlement still exists with a handful of houses on the west side of county road 700 East and 400 South.

### Millgrove

The quiet little community of Millgrove in the south eastern part of the township was once a thriving town with several industries, businesses and homes.

Millgrove was laid out in 1867 or 1868 on land owned by Robert Sawyer, and named by J. C. Robbins. The town was situated south of the railroad tracks with a smaller addition to the north....

The advent of the automobile and good roads has encouraged people to travel to larger centers for their buying and selling. This has contributed to the demise of small towns such as Millgrove. Today, it is a cluster of thirty or so houses about the intersection of 500 East and 300 South. The school and Red Man's hall stand empty and deteriorating and "Robbins grocery is gone. The railroad depot is a picturesque building and a favorite subject with artists. One can purchase bread, milk and pop at the feed mill which is owned by Jim Cross, a resident of Millgrove, and operated by his daughter, Rhonda Schick. The mill itself is no longer in operation.

### Dundee-Roll

A school built at the northeast corner of the crossroads at 100 W and 700 N was the beginning of a thriving village called Dundee. It was never platted, but like "Topsey," just grew as the population increased and lots were sold for businesses and homes....

A town in Henry County is also named Dundee. When the postal station was renewed, it was named Roll after the Mathais Roll family, early settlers in Washington Township.... Roll continued to be the only community of any size in Washington Township. Most business places, as well as the high school, have been torn down or are empty and deteriorating. The peo-

# Family Group Record

Prepared By \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Preparer \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Ancestral Chart # \_\_\_\_\_ Family Unit # \_\_\_\_\_

## Husband

Date — Day, Month, Year		City	County	State or Country	Religion
Born					
Christened					Name of Church
Married					Name of Church
Died					Cause of Death
Buried					Date Will Written/Proved
Father					
Mother					

## Wife maiden name

Occupation(s)		Religion
Born		
Christened		Name of Church
Died		Cause of Death
Buried		Date Will Written/Proved
Father		
Mother		

* #	Sex M/F	Children Given Names	Birth		Birthplace		SI./Ctry.	Date of first marriage/Place		Date of Death/Cause		Computer I.D. #
			Day	Month	Year	City		County	City	County	State/Country	
1												
2												
3												
4												
5												
6												
7												
8												
9												
10												
11												
12												



## Articles for the news letters

Ok people... I am in need of articles. None have been received lately that I am aware of and I may have to start printing stuff about my own families. Remember, they can be obituaries, family stories (funny or otherwise), or old newspaper articles. I gladly accept old photos (DON'T send originals, the PO could lose them), an idea or a tip that you have found helpful, a bit of the history of your family, (perhaps how they came to be in the county) or just about anything genealogy related. Send those articles either by email or snail mail to Linda Thomas, 5391 N-400 W, Markle, IN 46770 or [lvtforp@parlorcity.com](mailto:lvtforp@parlorcity.com), or call me at (260) 758-2332. If you have any questions about what would be accepted, just ask.



### Family Group Sheets

Last issue we asked for charts of our family(ies) (see last issue), now we want you to provide us with your family group sheets. Please use the form on the previous page if you do not have one of your own. Some computer program print them at the touch of a button (or two or three buttons) and those would be happily accepted, too. So far we have only had a few ancestral charts turned in. Please, please help up with this. Fill out one for each of your ancestors. If that means you are sending a hundred sheets of paper... GREAT! We'll just purchase more binders to put them in. It also does not have to be limited to Wells County. My husband's family actually came from the Pulaski Co. area, but yet we will be putting his family in our records, too.

We would also like to run these sheets in the newsletter over the next year or two (however long it takes to run them all). As with the charts, if you do NOT wish for your family group sheets to be placed in the newsletter, please drop a note in with them that you wish to be exempted. If that is not indicated, the charts will be printed here.

If you have any questions about how to fill out the family group sheets or the charts in the last issue, call Connie @ (260) 543-2423 or Linda @ (260) 758-2332. Please mail them to Connie Brubaker, 7077N - 100W, Uniondale, IN 46791.

### The Wisdom of Will Rogers

Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier'n puttin' it back in. If you're ridin' ahead of the herd, take a look back every now and then to make sure it's still there.

If you get to thinking you're a person of some influence, try ordering somebody else's dog around for a while.

*(Continued from page 1)*

not hewn, and the cracks between the logs were daubed with clay and the structure was about eighteen feet square.

On the west side for a length of about twelve feet, one of the logs was cut out and in this space slats were inserted about twelve inches apart and over all greased paper was stretched and eighty years ago they called this rude contrivance a window, and on the inside of the building, in the log just beneath this window, holes were bored and wooden pins about a foot long driven into the holes and a plank about a foot wide laid on these pins and this was the writing desk and the only one in the room, as the seats on which the pupils sat were made from spit logs supported on wooden legs firmly driven in auger holes. These rude seats had no backs to them, nor no desk in front and were far from comfortable.

May we say here, that the plank which formed the writing desk was the only sawed piece of timber in the entire building, all the others being split or hewn, and about the window, the idea in greasing the paper was two-fold—it rendered it more imperious to rain or snow and also rendered it more transparent.

Sometimes a careless urchin would unluckily send a snow-ball through the greased paper and alas for the boy who did so, for he was required to skirmish around and secure enough paper for a new window, and as only two men in the entire neighborhood, Mr. Batson and Mr. Lownsbury, were subscribers to newspapers, the job was not quite as easy as it would be today.

In the southeast corner of the room was a smaller window of the same transparent substance, greased paper, and about sixteen by twenty inches in size and this was the sum total of the lighting system in his primitive structure.

Opening on the south was the door and this was made of split oak boards pinned on the battens with wooden pins and hung on wooden hinges. In fact, not a nail was used in the entire building, unless some were used to hold the slats in place across the opening that served for a window, as none were used in the roof, the clap-board roof being held on with weigh poles.

The heating system was in keeping with the other improvements and consisted of a huge fireplace about six feet wide made of split sticks and daubed with clay and sometimes when the clay had been cracked by the heat and fallen off, the sticks caught fire and then it was the business of the big boys to "snow-ball" the fire out, and if there was no snow water was carried from a spring a few rods distant.

On the north side was a blank wall and the left was laid with the same material as the roof, clap-boards.

No blackboards, no chalk and only three or four slates, and no steel pens, but pens made from goose-quills or turkey or eagle feathers, and it required much of the teacher's time during the writing period to keep these pens sharp and hence our word "pen-knife."

Black ink was made from a solution of maple bark and copperas, while a good many used ink made from poke-berries.

The floor in this temple of learning was made of pincheons or split boards and as these didn't quite fit as closely as the present day tongued and grooved flooring, the ventilating system was not so bad as might be imagined, especially when we remember that the windows could be neitre raised nor lowered.

It was the winter of 1842-43 or 77 years ago, that "Uncle" John, then a little boy of

*(Continued on page 9)*



## YE OLDEN TIMES

A monthly addition to **your** genealogy society newsletter. Edited & typed by Linda V. Thomas

We continue on with excerpts from *The Gem*. Excerpts included here are from papers of 1873-1875. We will then jump to the *Greenback Times*, an obviously political paper of 1878.

The Bluffton Woolen Mills are being supplied with a new boiler, and otherwise improved for the work of the season now at hand. They are under the supervision of Mr. Jas. H. McNally, of Fort Wayne, a gentleman of long and successful experience in the business.

### Bluffton Fruit House

Cheapest House in town.--Constantly on hand a choice selection of Foreign and Domestic Fruits and Confectionaries. Coolest and Best Soda Water and Lemonade. Having fitted up a suite of fine rooms, I am prepared to supply

### George McFarren

Has removed to the old white brick corner recently occupied by the Auction Store, and has added a New Bakery in connection with his Grocery and Confectionery, and keeps all kinds of Fresh Bread, Cakes, Pies, Crackers, & e., constantly on hand. He is also refitting and remodeling the room lately occupied as a barber shop for an Eating Room and Ice Cream Saloon.  
*The Gem, April 1873, p. 3*

If you want a nobby suit of clothes just drop in at Schlesinger's Hall of Fashion. He's got 'em, sure, and no mistake. Give him a call and be astonished at his fine stock and low prices.

FURNITURE.—McBride & Bro. keep a large and varied stock, and manufacture to order everything in their line in the best style and at reasonable prices.

They also keep in stock Walnut and Rosewood Burial Cases, and have two

good hearses for funeral occasions.

Take your Butter and Eggs to McFarren's, and exchange them for Groceries.

See the advertisement headed "Farm for Sale," in another column. It is a desirable property, and a bargain can be had in it for the reason stated in the advertisement.

Smith, the Pioneer Ice-Creamist, has refitted and refurnished his Ice-Cream Saloon in fine style for the present season, adding also an organ of splendid tone and finish. His Saloon is up stairs, removed from the noise and dust and "stare" of the street, where guests can quietly enjoy themselves.

As to the quality of his Ice-Cream, he has made some of the article in his time and rather flatters himself that he understands his "biz," yet his patrons are left to definitely settle this point.

*Premiums.*--To the person eating the greatest number of dishes at his Saloon during the season, he will give \$3 in silver; next, \$1.50; third, 50c. Printed checks furnished with each dish.

W. B. Miller, Dealer in Drugs and Chemicals. Ossian, is sole agent for Prince of Pain at that place, and keeps a supply on hand.

Brad Berry, of Ossian, is agent for the best Sewing Machine in the world--the Florence. He also takes subscriptions for the livest [*sic*] and cheapest paper in thirty-seven States--*The Gem*.

### What Prince of Pain is doing for the Afflicted

Abraham Mast, living near Murray, Wells county, Ind., says he has not been able to plow for six years, so badly was he afflicted with rheumatism. He used half a bottle of Prince of Pain, and to his astonishment his aches left, and he is able not only to plow but to do any and all kinds of work.

V. Bryan, marble cutter, Bluffton, Ind. Rheumatism in knee; unable to work. Three applications of Prince of Pain cured him.

John Roush, Liberty township, Ind. Case: Neuralgia in head; suffered three days and nights; no sleep; pain almost unendurable. Treatment: One pinch of

Headache Snuff, one teaspoon Prince of Pain internally and one application externally--then a cure.

Jacob Drew, printer, Bluffton, Ind. Case: Sore throat--very bad. Prince of Pain cured him in one night.

Richard Smith, farmer, Liberty township, Ind. Had cholera-morbus in its most aggravated form. Three doses, he says, saved his life. He advises everybody to try a bottle and be convinced that it is "the best medicine in America."

*The Gem, June 1873, p. 2*

### N. Schlesinger,

MERCHANT TAILER AND DEALER IN  
**Gents' Furnishing Goods!**

WOULD respectfully inform his friends and the rest of mankind that he is now receiving from the East a large and splendid stock of Spring and Summer Styles of Clothing; also a full line of the best grades of piece goods, which will be made up to order by experienced workmen, and perfect fits guaranteed.

Remember "Hall of Fashion" Market street, opposite the Court House.

### Farm for Sale.

The undersigned offers his farm for sale at a bargain, because failing health prevents him from giving it proper attention. Situated in Liberty township, one-half mile from Funk's Mill; 120 acres--80 under cultivation: good orchard, excellent water, and fair buildings. To anyone wanting a valuable property at a low price, the opportunity is now offered.

For particulars apply on the premises, or address JOHN HUPP  
Bluffton, Wells Co., Ind.

*The Gem, June 1873, page 2*

J.H.C. Smith has greatly improved the appearance of the Fruit House by the addition of a substantial and handsome iron balcony, whole width of front, from the popular Foundry of A. Townsend & Co.

Cut stone for front, water tables, door and window caps, etc., have been received by rail for Studabaker's new bank building, and will soon be in po-

sition on the solid foundation already prepared.

Eight regular trains a day, together with several extras each week, are required to do the business on our railroad at the present time.

Why are ladies the greatest thieves in existence? Because they steel their petticoats, bone their stays, crib their babies, and hook their dresses.

Time is constantly rolling on, producing innovations and improvements, yet in Missouri, after a lapse of sixty years, the old familiar potato-masher is still woman's favorite weapon when a family jar occurs.

It is an old saying that "what is good for man is good for beast." Prince of Pain had long since become known as a superior remedy for the numerous aches and ills of the human family, but had not been recommended for domestic animals from the fact that it had not as yet been tried in that direction.

But comes now Mr. Mossburg, of Huntington county, who informs us that he had a valuable horse so far gone with colic that he could not stand on his feet. A bottle of Prince of Pain happened to be in the house, and as a last resort about half of it was drenched into the suffering animal. Immediate relief was experienced, and in less than twenty minutes the horse was feeding, and is today sound and well, and worth \$150.

Comes also Joseph Little, of Wells county, who says that he lost several fine hogs from cholera. Having two others attacked, he administered two tablespoonfuls of Prince of Pain to each, and they are now well and fat—will make first-class meat, which he intends for family use.

These cases are cited that others may be benefited in like manner.

*The Gem, July 1874, page 2*

Partial list of presents given to the patrons of Dr. Barker's Prince of Pain during the past year:--

E. A. Purcell, Ft. Wayne, cash, \$600.

C. S. Burgan, Bluffton, buggy, \$200.

Geo. Allen, Carrollton, furniture, \$30.

A. S. Steadman, Hoagland, gold watch, \$150.

S. McBride, Bluffton, lady's watch, \$15.

A. J. Brickley, Markle, " "

C. W. Starr, Anderson, gent's watch, "

W. S. Baker, Portland, " "

G. F. Dickerson, Nottingham, " "

J. F. Mossburg, Warren, " "

G. Hoffman, Warren, lady's watch, \$12.

J. B. Spence, Dorsey, " "

C. Houdyshell, Vera Cr., gen. Watch, \$15.

M. Bassett, Bluffton, " "

M. Blair, Reiffsburgh, " "

E. L. Pengry, Bryant, " "

Mary Rowe, Markle, " "

Jane Huss, Ossian, " "

Caroline Linn, Bluffton, " "

George Hurt, " "

I. Fields, Bluffton, lady's watch, \$20.

A. Ramsey, " " "

Jos. Raver, Barber's Mills, " "

Jacob Blair, Reiffsburgh, " "

Geo. Wasson, Murray, " "

A. McCoy Smith, Ossian, " "

T. T. Smith, Bluffton, " "

Milo Richey, Ossian, " "

Henry Oman, Bluffton, accordeon, \$10.

I. N. Wolfe, Nottingham, " "

Daniel Fahl, Bluffton, " "

W. Coffield, Barber's Mills, " "

Simon Cox, Po, set lady's jewelry, \$9.

Jacob Aker, Roanoke, " "

Albert Dilley, Bluffton, " "

Jos. T. Haines, Balbee, gold ring, \$6.

Jacob Wysong, Warren, " "

J. Zimmerman, Bluffton, " "

J. W. Hendricks, Monroe, " "

D. W. Alspach, Wiltshire, O., " "

Wm. F. Hunt, Huntington, " "

S. L. Riddile, Murray, " "

Jacob Quigley, Warren, " \$5

M. J. Falksberry, Montpelier, " "

Nancy Messenger, Fox, " "

E. Harper, Warren, " "

J. Sheffler, Sheldon, " "

Benjamin Christman, Linn Grove, Adams county, told one of his neighbors to try Barker's Ague Remedy, and if it failed he would pay the bill. It is a sure cure.

**"BEST MEDICINE IN AMERICA."**

**What It Has Done and Is Doing.**

Mrs. Vinson, of Nottingham township, says she would not do without the Prince of Pain if it cost her five dollars per bottle. It is the only thing she can find to relieve her of Neuralgia.

***The Gem, July 1874, page 3***

The undersigned, of Liberty township, would hereby tender his thanks to the generous public for past favors, and also solicit favors for the future in purchasing the best of medicine, advice and practice.

Dr. C. Hunnicutt, E. P.

***The Gem, July 1874, page 4***

**List of Business Men in Bluffton.**

We have aimed to make the following list as full and complete as a hurried preparation would permit.

Omissions can be supplied, mistakes corrected and changes noted in our next issue:

*Restaurants*

W. H. Bennett. J. A. Wiley.

*Meat Markets.*

Wm. Mitchell. H. E. Grove.

E. Poffenbarger. M. M. Justus.

*Bankers.*

John Studabaker & Co.—Exchange.

*Clothing.*

E. Rothschild.

Tribolet Brothers.

*Sewing Machines.*

Barker, Stephenson & Co.—Weed.

W. H. Covert—Victor.

F. M. McFadden—Howe.

W. E. Pratt—Singer.

*Grocers.*

J. H. C. Smith.

W. S. Kapp. L. S. Kapp.

J. M. Erler. A. Douglas.

G. F. McFarren. Jacob Stout.

J. B. Plessinger; also, Queensware.

*Lumber Dealers.*

J. North & Bro.—Planing Mill.

Whitney & Dougherty.

*Dry Goods.*

H. C. Arnold & Co.

Oppenheim & Young.

Studabaker, Wiley & Co.

O. F. Wilson.

E. A. Deam & Co.

Curry & Rogers.

Kain & Myers.

*Marble Works.*

H. Bender J. A. Grove.

*Flouring Mills.*

John T. Clayton

Kenagy Brothers.

Jon VanHorn.

*Slave Dealers.*

J. H. Smith—Steam Works.

W. B. Nimmons.

*Foundries.*  
A. Townsend & Co.  
Wilhelm & Estabrook.

*Woolen Mills.*  
Wiley, Studabaker & Co.

*Flax Mills.*  
Waring, Studabaker & Co.

*Butter and Eggs.*  
James P. Deam

*Printing Offices*  
Chronicle—J. W. Ruckman.  
Banner—E. A. K. Hackett.  
Book and Job—J. G. Smith

*Dentists.*  
O. S. Covert. Thomas Sturgis.

*Photograph Galleries.*  
R. R. Harvey. O. Harnish.

*Corn Planters.*  
T. Horton & Co.  
Henry Krill & Co.

*Washing Machines.*  
T. Horton & Co.

*Milliners*  
Mrs. D. Ridgley.  
Mrs. A. J. Crosby. Mrs. Linn  
Mrs. Louis. Mrs. Sickner.

*Blacksmiths.*  
J. G. Feeser. J. W. Gettle.  
Josiah Gettle. Ed. Santee.  
Shaffer & Co.

*Cigar Manufacturers.*  
Wm. Wiecking & Co.

*Livery and Sale Stables.*  
M. Alexander. S. Wist.  
Wilson Deam.

*Hardware.*  
J. Bliss & Co. H. Krill.  
S. Lesh & Co. M. Read.

*Drug Stores.*  
Davenport & Baumgardner.  
J. E. Sturgis. J. W. Freeman & Co.  
Bugh & Co. W. A. Gutelius.

*Boot and Shoe Manufacturers.*  
Geo. Gottschalk. S. McCleery.  
E. Mosure. A. Patrey.  
Henry Walmer. B. M. Spencer.

*Grain and Pork Dealers.*  
Waring, Studabaker & Co.

*Harness Makers.*  
J. E. Borden. O. C. Mitchell.

*Gunsmith.*  
W. H. Covert.

*Barber Shops.*  
J. F. McBride. J. C. Kline

*Bakeries.*  
F. Christman. J. A. Wiley.

*Proprietary Medicines.*  
Barker, Stephenson & Co.  
W. H. Covert. A. J. Priest.

*Book Stores.*  
F. N. Kellogg. M. Miller.  
*Watches and Jewelry.*  
C. Warner. C. G. Quick.  
*Gents' Furnishing Goods.*  
J. L. Humphrey.

*Hotels.*  
Oliver House—W. H. J. Covert.  
Exchange Hotel—T. H. Gutelius.  
Burgan House—C. S. Burgan.

*Furniture.*  
W. W. McBride & Bro.  
Wm. Workman. H. Thoma.

*Physicians and Surgeons.*  
Horton. Cummins. Johnston.  
Crosby. Clark. Mason.  
Bugh. Ransom. Estill.  
Melsheimer.

*Painters.*  
E. B. McDowell.  
C. Shaffer. Doug White.

*Wagon and Carriage Makers.*  
C. Shaffer & Co. G. T. Kocher.  
C. Karns. W. T. F. White.  
Acton & Bigelow.

*Bent Wood Factory.*  
W. B. Nimmons & Co.

*Saw Mill.*  
Burgan & White.

*Attorneys at Law.*  
Todd & Rinehart. N. Burwell.  
Dailey & Mock. A. N. Martin.  
Hilligass & Hale. W. J. Davis.

*Saloons.*  
Pioneer—Jo. Griffith & Co.  
Western—Jim Miller.  
Crescent—Bob Dehaven.  
Brick—Fred Christman.  
Arcade—Jake Stout.  
Empire—Frank Burns.

***The Gem, Nov. 6, 1875, p. 2***

Here begins excerpts from *Greenback Times* by J. G. Smith, editor. We begin with a listing of those who are running for various offices in the State of Indiana on the Greenback Ticket. I will skip those and go straight to those which are for our own county.

---

Wells County Ticket.  
FOR COUNTY CLERK,  
JAMES F. COLEMAN, of Jackson Township.  
FOR COUNTY AUDITOR,  
JAMES W. SPAKE, of Harrison Township.  
FOR COUNTY TREASURER,  
JACOB HAFLICH, of Rockcreek Township.  
FOR SHERIFF,  
LEWIS GARTON, of Lancaster Township.  
FOR RECORDER,

JOSEPH LESH, of Rockcreek Township.  
FOR COMMISSIONER, FIRST DISTRICT,  
ELIJAH MORRISON, of Jackson Township.  
FOR COMMISSIONER, THIRD DISTRICT,  
MARTIN BECK, of Jefferson Township  
FOR SURVEYOR,  
MOSES READ, of Harrison Township.  
FOR CORONER,  
**CHAS. SHAFFER, of Harrison Township**

The first number of the Montpelier Examiner came to hand last Friday, flying the name of Ben A. Smith at its masthead as editor and proprietor. Bro. Smith gets up a neat, live and well filled paper, (the Smiths all do it,) creditable alike to the town and himself. It is to be independent in politics, and devoted largely to local news and home interests.

***Greenback Times, Sept. 12, 1878, p. 2***

#### TOWN AND COUNTY.

Circuit Court.—Several cases have been disposed of this term by submission to the Judge without the intervention of a jury.

Samuel A. Kapp, for his terrific assault on Calvin C. Deam, last January, was fined \$50—total, with cost, \$75 or \$80.

Isaac McCleery, for drenching Nigger Jim with whisky, fined \$10.

Five indictments against Isaac Newton Neff for retailing. One was "squashed," and he was acquitted in the remaining four.

Mary C. Ormsby was idivorced from Geo. S. Ormsby. Also, Virginia A. Hankins from Joseph W. Hankins.

In the divorce case of Laura Robinson vs. Henry Robinson, the defendant filed an affidavit for change as to Judge.

Justice's Court.—Filora Homan, a girl of bad repute, was arraigned before Justice Smith, last Friday, on a charge of grand larceny, preferred by John H. Durr. Filora had a curiosity to see how she would look and feel in bridal toggery, and went straightway and stole a wedding dress, the property of Mrs. Durr. The accused was held to bail in the penal sum of \$200, failing to give which she was stowed away in the jail.

Wm. Williams and Joseph Fisher were arrested on affidavit of Emanuel Griffin, charged with pulling off and

<p>carrying away peaches, contrary to the statute. Plea of guilty. Fined \$1 each—amounting in all to \$17.35. Geo. W.</p>	<p>Williams went replevin bail, and defendants didn't go to jail. <i>Greenback Times, Sept. 12, 1878, p. 4</i></p>	<p>(Continued from page 3) ple of the community have celebrated Dundee Days in June since 1977 with contests, flea markets, music and dancing.</p>
--	--	--

(Continued from page 5)  
only seven summers, attended his first school in this pioneer school building, nearly new then and no doubt the pride of the community, and his first teacher was Sampson Richards.

Mr. Richards seems to have been very satisfactory until the approach of the holiday season, when, according to custom, the question of treating the school was broached to him. He very flatly refused and for about an entire week was barred from the school building by the larger pupils. The situation was becoming desperate and home-made ropes of hemp and flax were brought to school and threats of tying and “ducking” in the river were frequently made, but at this crisis the three school trustees, of which Mr. Minnich’s father as one, took a hand in the affair and Mr. Richards consented to “come across.”

It seems he had been to Ohio in the preceding autumn and had brought back a quantity of cider and apples and the pupils allowed as how some of that cider and 75 dried apple pies would be about the right kind of a treat and the teacher agreed that if the good women of the neighborhood would bake the pies he would “furnish the fillin” and they agreed and when the great day came the scholars were instructed (sic) to bring no dinner, the dried apple pies only, and the pupils, visitors and teacher reveled in cider and dried apple pie.

The next year Robert Alexander was teacher and as in the preceding winter, everything went well until the holiday season drew nigh, when some of the larger boys, of whom there were quite a number in those days, requested him to sign a promise to treat the school at Christmas time.

Mr. Alexander declined to sign.  
The boys then served an ultimatum announcing that if he didn't sign they would immerse him in the creek which was only a few rods east of the school house. Mr. Alexander declined some more, when three of the larger boys, Link Roush, Jo Miller and John Jones, forcibly seized the teacher, carried and dragged him to the top of a bank which here overhung the creek and endeavored to hurl him into the stream beneath. They succeeded only too well, but the teacher was “game” and muscular as well and when he went crashing through the ice into the stream the three big boys went with him, but the chill of the icy water soon had the desired effect and standing in the water almost to the arm-pits and using the firm ice in front of him for a writing desk, he quickly affixed his name to the article of agreement and he and the boys hurried through the frosty air to the school house, where the teacher pulled an overcoat over his wet garments and standing near the stove conducted the recitations for the afternoon session and the three big boys also remained until school closed, but then 75 years ago no one had ever heard of the “flu.”

Other of the old-time teachers in this old-time school house were William Terrill, Joshua Shaffer and summer terms were taught by John Foust, Sr., Maria Alexander and “Aunt” Ruth Chopson.

As this was the only school house for miles around many of the pupils came long distances to school; one pupil, Robert Wiley, coming from near where the Wiley school house now stands, and crossing the river in a canoe when the river was not frozen solidly enough to be safe, while from the other direction came the Graves brothers, from above where the Twin Bridges now are and like wise canoeing across the river to reach the school

Some of the other pupils whose names are familiar to many readers of the Tribune were: Becky Cloud, Nate Lownsbury, Samuel Batson, Easter Batson, Sally Jones, John Beard, Julia Swaim, Eli Richards, Lemuel Colbert, Serena Colbert, Samuel Jones—but space forbids mention of more although Uncle John remembers every one of them.

Only a few, a very few, of the light-hearted merry boys and girls who attended this old-time school are now living.

Most of them have gone the way of all the earth but they lived and labored not in vain, for from their hardships, privations and sacrifice the boys and girls of today have advantages of which these old pioneers did not even dream but with all the advantages of the present day, the splendid school buildings, colleges and universities—with all

**Silas**  
Barnhart W. Bugh, known as B.W., came from Ohio on horseback, and purchased the west one-half of Section 24, in Washington Township, from the government, May 22, 1837. The land was a marsh when B. W. brought his family to settle in 1848.  
Mr. Bugh organized a Methodist class in his home, and must have built the log school on his land to further the church and to give his ten children an education....  
A reminder of this forgotten community can still be seen today. “Silas Stock Farm” is painted on the north end of the barn on the property now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Helm.

**More Wisdom of Will Rogers**  
After eating an entire bull, a mountain lion felt so good he started roaring. He kept it up until a hunter came along and shot him. The moral: When you're full of bull, keep your mouth shut.  
There's two theories to arguing with a woman.... Neither one works.  
If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is to stop digging.  
Never kick a cow chip on a hot day.  
Never slap a man who's chewing tobacco



their splendid equipment and their carefully prepared courses of study and their talented and gifted instructors, it is doubtful if they will send forth from their portals a nobler, loftier, more heroic type of manhood and womanhood than that which went forth from the primitive log school house of three-fourths of a century ago.

VISIT THE WELLS COUNTY GENEALOGY SOCIETY LIBRARY if you would like to read more about the early schools in Wells County. The library holds a binder for EACH Wells County township which includes much information about the county's earliest schools. The above excerpt about the school house in Jackson Township is just a sample of what you can find within our very own society library. Check it out!

### Membership Form

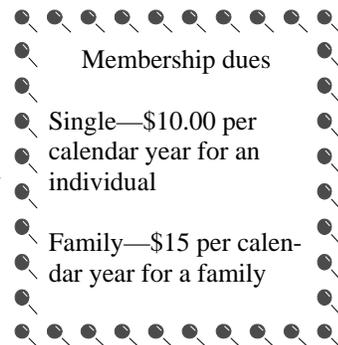
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname(s) Researching: \_\_\_\_\_



### BWGS ITEMS FOR SALE

	Members		Non-Members		Quantity	Total Amt.
	Book	Shipping	Book	Shipping		
Early Settlers of Blackford and Wells Counties (Book)	\$40.00	\$5.00	\$45.00	\$5.00		\$
Wells County Will Book (index of wills)	\$15.00	\$5.00	\$20.00	\$5.00		\$
Both books	\$55.00	\$6.00	\$65.00	\$6.00		\$
Poneto Newspapers on CD (16 issues from 1901-02)	\$ 5.00	\$1.00	\$ 6.00	\$1.00		\$
BWGS Membership--\$10.00 individual/\$15.00 family	(Circle one) Individual or family					\$
<b>Total Amt. Enclosed</b>						\$

Mail to: \_\_\_\_\_ (You can also pick items up at Pages from the Attic, one mile north of Uniondale on Co RD 100 W)  
 Blackford Wells Genealogy Society,  
 P.O. box 54,  
 Bluffton, IN 46714

Blackford Wells Genealogy Society  
 P.O. Box 54  
 Bluffton, IN 46714