JOSEPH WOOD

The foremost character in the early history of the Belleville colony was Joseph Wood, founder of the station, and general manager of the colony, which was planted by William Tilton on his vast holdings in Wood (then Harrison), County, Virginia, in 1785.

Tilton, who was a wealthy Philadelphia merchant, capital on and land speculator, came with the party, and remained for a time, but Wood was his manager, and later became possessor of the lands on which the settlement was made.

Joseph Wood came to Wood County, December 16th, 1785, though he had visited the spot in the summer before, and was several weeks on the way. He married a daughter of James Pentliver, one of his "Pilgrim" colonist party.

As Belleville was a part of Kanawha County before 1800, there is no record at Parkersburg of the event.

After the loss of that part of "the original four thousand acres" included in the claim of Dr. Craik, he moved to the Marietta colony, where he acquired prominence, becoming a judge.

Later, Judge Wood disposed of the remainder of his lands in the Belleville tract, as shown elsewhere, and remained a citizen of the buckeye state until his death.

GEORGE D. AVERY

George Dollbeare Avery was the proprietor of the Dr. Craik survey, consisting of thirteen hundred seventy-four acres of the Belleville bottoms.

Avery was, like most of the first settlers of the Belleville colony, a northern man, yet like other northern men who were pioneers of Wood County; the Spencers, Cooks, Stokelys, and others, he indulged in the ownership of slaves, when living in a state where he could.

I have nothing to show the date of his birth or death. He was a native of Connecticut, and from there came to Belleville in 1794 with his family which consisted of his wife and two sons of his wife, of whom he was guardian. These were the Champlins of the later history of the section. A son, George, may have been born after he came to Belleville.

His wife died at Belleville before 1806, and was buried in the old Belleville cemetery, about a half mile below the mouth of Lee Creek, before 1806. He had one son George, who was at home in 1806.

As late as 1830, George D. Avery made a deed for the old roadway above the present village. Whether this man, then a resident of the city of Washington, was the father or son, I have nothing to show. The name occurs in the latter records of the county, but whether the same family or not, I do not know.

Avery was a New Englander, from New London, Connecticut. He came to Belleville in 1794. One account says his sister married Henry L. Prentiss, but that is in error. I believe the connection was that Harry L. Prentiss' mother was a sister to Avery's wife, as was also Samuel Allen's wife, Esther M. Cressy.
Avery at once laid out a town, if indeed his town lots were not the same as those of the former proprietors. His lots were in two rows, and were one hundred by two hundred feet. There was one street fronting on the Ohio River, a part of the river road. Back of the lots was a twenty foot alley, and then another row of lots, with probably provision for another street beyond.

There was a cross street where the road from the south fork of Lee Creek intersected the river road. Avery also at once launched an immense business for a wild country. Besides his plantation of over a thousand acres, most of which was an unbroken primeval forest, he was proprietor of an "ordinary", as hotels were then called. He had a boat yard with saw pits for whipsawing the lumber and timbers, and a rope walk for manufacturing cordage.

He also had a merchandising establishment, which must have done, or attempted to do, a vast volume of trade. As evidence of this, a part of the records we have of his debts for merchandise show two notes, one dated October 8, 1802, to John T. Duryea, a New York merchant, for Three thousand five hundred ninety-one pounds, ten shillings, four pence, currency of the State of New York, "for goods purchased". The other was for Eighty-nine hundred seventy-eight dollars and seventy-nine cents. To secure these notes, Avery gave a mortgage on about six or eight hundred acres of land, which was to be sold if the notes were not paid by a stated time.

The land was forfeited, and was purchased on February 9th, 1804, by a company of New York business men.

This was all the land he then possessed, excepting about two hundred thirty acres, which included the village and a saw mill across the hill on the south fork of Lee Creek, which he had built and set in operation.

On November 8th, he mortgaged a strip of thirty acres on the lower side of his reserve, to secure two debts, a note of Seven hundred twenty-four dollars and fifty cents, due to Joseph Lewis, which was payable in three years, and One hundred fifty dollars and seventeen cents to Adam Douglass. Nathaniel Davison, a Clarksburg attorney practising in the early Wood County Court was Trustee, and in time the land was sold to meet the obligation.

On the 18th day of December following, another mortgage was given on thirty-three acres adjoining the last to one William Ladd, a merchant of the city of Alexandria, District of Columbia, for merchandise to the amount of Eleven hundred seventy-eight dollars and twenty cents. This piece was sold by William Ladd, then of Boston, but late of Alexandria, and "struck off to Thomas Turner at public auction", for the sum of One thousand and ten dollars. (Here William Ladd is named as Trustee, and John G. Ladd as the creditor). Turner also bought the Davison thirty acres.

Avery now had the mill on Lee Creek, and one hundred fifty acres of land at the village, all river bottom, and I presume, mostly cleared, as the upper line ran easterly with the "fence" to the back line.

Being still in debt, and encumbered, hid wife dead and his business gone, Avery, on the 14th of May, 1806, leased his land to Samuel Weld, formerly, if I am not mistaken, of Pike County, Kentucky.

There were two transactions. The first was on May 11th, 1806, as the document reads, George D. Avery to Samuel Weld, "doth hereby demise grant and to farm let" his "saw mill and grist mill, together with the one acre of ground which was condemned for an abutment, and also the mill dam with its abutments, with all kinds of privileges, and appurtenances thereto belonging", for a period of seven years.

Weld was to pay to Avery for the saw mill "at the rate of One hundred fifty dollars per year", for the grist mill at the rate of One hundred fifty
dollars per year "from the time that the grist mill shall be ready to grind".

Avery was to finish the grist mill at his own expense, and Weld "to keep all the premises in good repair and to suffer Avery, his heirs, assigns, agent, executors, or administrators to enter upon and view the premises from time to time".

In the second agreement, on May 14th, 1806, Avery leased his land to Weld, described as—

Beginning at the old cabin by the shipyard, thence running easterly with the fence to the back line of Avery's land, with same southwardly to land conveyed to William Ladd, westwardly with same to the line at the road on the Ohio River, with road and fence to beginning.

It will be noted fences are mentioned the entire distance on the north and west sides.

From the operation of this contract, Avery reserved "the house and lots improved by John Pyle; the house and lots formerly owned by Esther Hempstead, Ebenezer Griffing and Guidon Saltonstall, and all the buildings and front lots above the Saltonstall lots to the upper line mentioned".

The land is leased "with all other houses and appurtenances" for a period of seven years. Weld agrees to pay the sum of Three hundred fifty dollars rental a year, three fourths of the amount to be paid in produce, and one fourth in money. He agrees to pay all taxes on the lands, and to keep all buildings and fences in good repair, and to take care of the fruit trees set out "during the said term", also to improve and manage every part of said premises "in a good and husband like manner". He is to "board said Avery and his son, George, with meat, drink, and washing and lodging, at the said premises during the said term", and shall permit Avery and his son to at all times "enter upon and view said premises" as they desire.

The day before the lease of his land and tavern stand, Avery had given Weld a bill of sale on all his goods, and store fixtures and belongings, household and hotel equipments, farm implements and horses, cattle and farm stock, and products on hand, personal belongings and fixtures appertaining to his mill and boatyard.

Four days earlier, he had given to John Mitchell (May 10th, 1806) a bill of sale on his slaves, to secure a loan of Seven hundred eighty-four dollars. These were one negro man, Simon, and his wife Sukey, reserving to "myself the use, improvement and control" of the slaves with one half of all increase during the two years the trust continued.

I saw nothing more concerning this transaction, but as the debtor was practically in bankruptcy before a week, it is not likely they were ever recovered.

There is a long list of articles and equipment included in the personal property case. The items are varied from yokes of oxen and cows to "ten logs in the street". Among the items listed, I also saw one bureau, seven tables, a pewter bowl and six maps. It mentions stacks of wheat and rye.

The witnesses to the lease were William Weedon, William Enoch, and Caleb Bailey.

A Mr. Cummins, who made a tour down the Ohio River in July, 1807, says that Avery was then in the Wood County "gaol" for debt, that his business was under the management of a Mr. Wild from Durham, Connecticut, who had seventy acres of the river bottom in corn, and fifty in wheat, and that the fall preceding, Avery had a barn burned with two thousand bushels of grain and a horse, as well as several stacks of grain, and his mills. He also said that while the
criminals were known, there was not positive proof sufficient to convict them.
(This last is from the Rector Papers.)

The Wood County jail was a massive structure of huge square logs, notched
down close together, and walls, floor and ceiling securely lined with heavy two
inch oak planks, whipsawed perhaps, at Avery's Belleville sawpits.

There were two strong rooms, or cells, on the inside, one for the criminals,
the other for the prisoners for debt, of which George D. Avery became an occu-
pant, and, cruel irony of fate, the records of the County Court - of which
Avery was a member in June, 1901, having been a member of the Kanawha County
Court at the time Belleville was transferred to Wood County - show that in
September, 1806, George D. Avery he allowed "further time till the October Court
next to furnish another lock for the jail"

Avery was also a very high grade practical surveyor, and did the surveying
for the Robinsons when the city of Parkersburg was laid out.

He was not a political aspirant and, so far as I can find, was never a mem-
ber of the General Assembly, nor did he occupy any office other than that noted.

Hempstead Family

Another pioneer of the Avery settlement at Belleville was Mrs. Esther L.
Hempstead. She was the widow of Samuel Hempstead, and came, no doubt, with or
because of her relationship to Avery, who, I believe, was her brother. She was
also from New England. Like George D. Avery and the Prentisses, she was from
Connecticut. I do not find much concerning her life before coming to Belleville,
or that of her husband.

There was a Dr. Giles Hempstead prominent in the social and civil life of
Marietta, who may have been a relative.

In 1806, Hallam Hempstead was City Recorder of Marietta, as was Giles
Hempstead in 1807 and 1814. He was Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas in 1809,
and a member of the Town Council in 1816.

Dr. G. M. P. Hempstead was born in Connecticut and came to Ohio in 1802.
He was educated at Athens University, and Muskingum Academy.

For the day and time, Mrs. Hempstead seems to have had considerable exec-
utive ability, and to have had quite a hand in the shaping of Belleville com-
munity, and to have bought and sold numerous pieces of real estate.

Later she married William McCready, a wealthy man who was, himself, an
owner of much land, and a dealer in lands. At the time of her marriage to
McCready, she deeded and sold her own holdings in Wood County land.

Mrs. Hempstead bought three lots in Belleville, and one hundred acres of
land lying immediately above the mouth of Lee Creek of Avery before the organ-
ization of Wood County - probably soon after his coming to Virginia.

The Lee Creek land, together with a twelve acre lot adjoining, she bought
of David Chapman, were sold to Jonathan Prentiss, price received not given. The
sale was in 1799, and the deed is not in Wood County records.

Mrs. Hempstead also owned eighty-five acres lying back of the Craik survey,
which was largely bottom land, and eleven acres on the run back of the colony,
where the road crossed Lee Creek.

These were bought before the organization of Wood County in 1799, and sold
to H. L. Prentiss, with her lots in the village, (there were four lots when
sold in 1809), ninety-six acres of land and four town lots for the nominal sum
of one of One Dollar.

Mrs. Hempstead also owned at one time, three hun-
dred fifty acres on Stillwell, bought of John Spencer. She sold this to Samuel
Allen for one dollar. She and Allen's wife were sisters, and sisters of George
D. Avery
Perhaps another of the most important character of the early history of the Belleville Colony was Peter Anderson. He was born about 1786, and died in 1838.

He and a brother, Andrew Anderson, came to the Belleville colony in 1787. While coming to Wood County from Wheeling, they were probably from Pennsylvania, as was David Lee, the hunter and trapper who married their sister.

Peter Anderson was active there through the early years of the settlement as a hunter, scout and Indian fighter, and was a Justice of the Peace and member of the County Court in Kanawha County when Wood County was organized, occupying the same position in the new county. In 1810 - 1816, he served a term as High Sheriff of Wood County. He was also a local preacher in the Methodist Church, but unlike Reese Woolf, a pioneer preacher of some standing, I do not find where he united couples in wedlock.

Anderson married Sarah Coleman, a daughter of Michael Coleman. He must have been married before he came to Belleville, as if I get the statement correctly, Jane Anderson, who is given as one of Joel Anderson's heirs, was married in 1806.

Peter Anderson raised four sons and two daughters, as given on records at the Court House:

- Joel Anderson.
- Michael Anderson.
- Edward Anderson, married Elizabeth Staats, daughter of Isaac Staats.
- Nancy Anderson, married Elijah Staats, Jr.
- Margaret Anderson, married Jacob Clinefelter.

Peter Anderson may have owned lands inside the Craik lines and lost them when Wood lost out in his claim.

When Wood County was organized, he had a lot in Avery's Village, and in April, 1801, he bought fifty acres of the lower end of the Craik Survey, and lived there for years.

It was here he maintained a ferry across the Ohio River, and bought and sold outlying lands, sometimes in large amounts, set up his children with homes of their own, became wealthy for his day, and died in 1838, a prosperous and respected citizen.

Despite his excellent business ability, and his success in the world, Peter Anderson, who grew up in the pioneer days of the backwoods, had little or no education, could scarcely read and write, and his spelling of deeds and documents make them quaint literacy curiosities.

Anderson was a blacksmith by trade, and a surveyor by profession.

Of the Anderson Family, we have:

- Peter, married Sarah Coleman.
- Nancy married James, son of Malcolm Coleman.
- A daughter, married David Lee, the trapper.

Andrew was one of the first settlers of Belleville.

Peter Anderson was appointed Justice of the Peace for Wood County, and sworn in February 9th, 1801. I have read discussions of the dates and names of the succession of the Justices, but as a matter of fact, the different appointments were probably independent of others, and not as successors.

Peter Anderson lived on the upper part of the fifty acres at the lower end of the Craik survey. The lot was divided at different dates between Jincy White, wife of Alexander White, who, I understand was a daughter of Joel Anderson, though if she were Peter's own daughter, it would seem much more reasonable.
Of these and other lands lying back of them, the Whites got the lower part in 1809. In 1833, Staats was given a piece of land across on Cove Run, with a road across the hill, and a building site on the river road, his upper line being established as to "divide the well at the Anderson home exactly in the middle".

Later, he gave the remainder to his son, Edward, who lived on it for many years, laying out the present village of Belleville in 185-

Jincey White - her husband was dead before 1830 - died some time later, and the land passed from her children into the hands of Captain H. N. Crooks, who had purchased a farm below Cove Run, in 1835, and the Clinefelter interest later. Crooks got the White land about 1848, Edward's farm and village lots in 1853.

Joel Anderson was given a farm, and lived and died on the main Pond Creek, above the mouth of Long Run. He married Elizabeth Welsh February 17, 1814. He died before the settlement of his father's estate, in 1846. His heirs - as given - in that settlement, were:

James I. Harris, evidently a son-in-law whose wife was deceased.
Jane White, whose husband was deceased. (Her children are given in a deed made January 1st, 1831.)

Alexander Anderson.
Peter Anderson.
Margaret Anderson, wife of John Burdett.

Of these, Harris was probably of the family of pioneers opposite the mouth of the Hocking River. His wife's name, or names of any children, are not mentioned in the records.

Jincey White had been a widow since before 1831. She was a woman of business ability, a considerable landholder, and in very comfortable circumstances. It would seem, though, as elsewhere stated, that she was too old to be a daughter of Joel. However, James Anderson, Joel's son, married Margaret Willis.

I have little concerning him. He owned a large body of land on the ridge at the head of Long Run, and in the division in 1846, received another large tract adjoining. One hundred acres of this he sold to his son, Cyrenius, who was a local Methodist preacher, a local politician, a strong Union man. He was hated by his neighbors "on the other side" because of this.

Alexander W. Anderson was an extensive land owner on Pond Creek in the forties and fifties. He bought out several of the heirs, and was prominent as a real estate dealer.

Peter Anderson, Jr., sold his interest, which he held jointly with his brother, A. W., and Mrs. Burdett, and perhaps went west, as he does not figure on the land Books.

Margaret married John Burdett. She sold her interest to her brother, but I think they lived in that vicinity. They were the parents of Alexander Burdett, who lived on Short Run in 1860.

John Burdett was a son of Willis Burdett, who lived on the Middle Fork of Reedy Creek, and a brother of Elihu Burdett, Lovell Burdett, and Jesse Anderson Burdett, who was A. B. Chancey's first school teacher, (see Sketches on the settlement of Reedy Valley, Roane County).

Edward Anderson, the second son of Peter, married Elizabeth Staats, in 1809. She was a daughter of Isaac Staats. Elijah Staats, Jr., who married Nancy Anderson, was her brother.

Edward lived on the Belleville bottom, east of the Craik survey, and nearly back of the present village, on land given to him by his father.
When in 1833 the father gave him the land occupied by the present village, he moved on it and lived there for about twenty years. Luke Anderson, son of Peter and Sarah, must have been much younger than his brothers. He was not married until about twenty years later. His wife was Elizabeth Anderson, (or this may have been a Luke Anderson, Jr., of a younger generation. Luke Anderson’s father gave him one hundred acres on the south fork of Lee Creek, above Jacob Flinn’s, in 1834. Later he lived on the head of Cove Run.

He was a voter at the Presidential Election in 1860. Michael Anderson, Peter’s son, I think, lived at one time on the Ohio River, on the "V" tract, and west of the low gap. I have nothing showing who he married, or if he were a landowner.

Alexander, who married Mary White, in 1837, and Samuel C., who married Nancy Williamson, in 1838, may have been of his family. Margaret Anderson who married Jacob Clinefelter, and Nancy who married Elijah Staats were daughters of Peter. Elizabeth Anderson married John Allen in 1826. She was a daughter of Edward.

William Allen, who married a Justice, was their child, perhaps, but would have been only sixteen when married.

John W., Jr., William and Major, voted at the fall election in 1860. Elijah Staats, Jr. who married Nancy Anderson, lived for a time on Long Run. Later he was on the head of Cove Run, or perhaps on the ridge above. He traded for land on Jerrys Run, where he died about 1853. He left seven children: John H., Peter A., Alexander M., who went to Illinois, Eliza A., who married William Ball, Theodore V., who married Elizabeth Hall. When he died, she married John W. CeiDiff. I think, though, that she was first remarried to Richard M. Arnold, who died about 1863. Isaac Staats was the youngest.

Andrew Anderson, the brother of Peter, who came to Belleville, in 1785 was a younger man, and at that time unmarried.

After the Indian War closed, he drifted into the wild forests beyond the Ohio River, where he continued the life of hunter and trapper until it too was absorbed by encroaching civilization.

He is said to have made his home in the hollow of a large sycamore tree somewhere in the Big Bend across from Ravenswood, raising a little corn for roasting ears and johnny cake, and living by the use of his rifle.

Who or when he was married is not preserved, nor was the exact site of his home known to my informant, but it is said he was a victim of one of the cholera scourges that swept the Ohio River valley. Andrew Anderson had a large family, and several of his children lived on Sandy, above Ravenswood. I do not find among them the name of Luke Anderson’s wife.

Other Andersons married in Wood County were:
Margaret, married Samuel Hampton, in 1805.
Margaret, married Jeremiah Osborn, in 1822.
Peggy, married George Derenberger, in 1831.
Michael S., married Prudence White, in 1837, probably the Anderson on upper Pond Creek.
Sarah, married Joseph Smith, in 1839.
Joseph, married a Devaughn, no date copied.
After the death of Peter Anderson, presumably about Christmas, 1838, in the settlement of his affairs made according to law, George V. Lewis was appointed Administrator, and James Mitchell, Gassaway Harwood and William B. Pennybacker were the appraisers.

**Ingles Family**

William Ingles lived on the south fork of Lee Creek, across the ridge from the early village, and below Joel Dewey. He owned or claimed large bodies of land in the neighborhood, but sold little more than a claim after the organization of Wood County.

He left several hundred acres to his three children.

William Ingles left three children, a son John, and two daughters.

John Ingles was married on December 17th, 1805, to Rebecca Bibby, who was probably of the family of Isaac Bibby, who was one of the pioneers of the Belleville settlement, but not a land owner. He died about 1823. John Ingles was a land owner, and prominent in business matters of the neighborhood.

His father deeded him the patent for the two pieces of land above the mouth of Pond Creek, one on June 22, 1820.

Grace Ingles, a daughter of William, was married to Moses Sayre, April 9th, 1822. "Sears" was the name as spoken by the people of the vicinity. He was probably one of the Sayre family who settled at an early day around Letarts Falls and Apple Grove, on the Ohio side of the river.

He and Grace perhaps lived on the home farm, having bought John's interest in same, for a time, but were residing in Meigs County, Ohio, when in May 1831, they made a quit claim deed to Mary Ann Gilbraith for a one half interest in John Ingles' share in the land. Probably Mrs. Gilbraith was the other heir.

**Davi: Lee**

David Lee was a trapper on the creek, said by some to be named for him. He was a Pennsylvanian, and married a sister of Peter and Andrew Anderson. He afterward lived on Tygart's Flats, near the mouth of Badgely's Fork. He lived and died in the Lee Creek section (on Badgely's Fork).

I have nothing to show whether or not he was related to the Richard Lee of near Newark, or of the Richard Lee of Lee's Hill, nor how or whether any of these men were to the patrician "Lees" of Virginia.

**Prentiss Family**

There are four of the Prentisses, probably brothers or half brothers.

Jonathan Prentiss was a resident of Wood County while it was yet Harrison County. He seems older than the others, but could hardly have been their father.

Royall, who was very long prominent in Marietta in business and politics, was one of the Whig leaders of Washington County, Ohio. He was also an editor of a newspaper.

Though never a resident of Wood County, unless while young, he came to Belleville for a wife, where he married Margaret, a daughter of Joel and Jane (Coleman) Dewey, in 1811.

Staunton Prentiss lived in Marietta, also.

Henry L. Prentiss was a native of Connecticut. There seems a remarkable scarcity of data concerning his early days. His father's name has not met my search, but I am of the opinion that Esther L. Hempstead was a relative, and quite likely George D. Avery an uncle.
He married Rebecca Mayberry, at Belleville, in 1811. They appear to have once settled in Marietta, where Henry L. Prentiss advertises a rope walk in 1816. His first purchase was the Hempstead lands in Belleville bottom, back of the Craik Survey in 1809, two years before his marriage.

The eighty acres of land just above Belleville, he bought from Waddington as early as 1807. The latter sold to John Pennybacker, (I think). H. L. Prentiss had a daughter who married Daniel Goodenow.

In 1816, H. L. Prentiss advertises a revival of the rope walk of G. W. P. Prentiss in Marietta.

When Harry L. Prentiss sold Samuel Weld the Anderson lot in Belleville, in 1811, one William Prentiss was a witness.

Esther Prentiss, the widowed mother of these four Prentisses was a sister of Mrs. George D. Curry, and an aunt of the Champlin boys.

Dewey Family

Another name prominent among the Belleville "Pilgrims" is that of Dewey. While not of the first party, they came in 1787, with Coleman, Anderson, and Sherrod. There were as usually given, two brothers named Dewey, came from Wyoming County, Pennsylvania, Joel and Joseph.

Joel Dewey, in 1790, being then twenty-eight years old, married Jane Coleman, then seventeen. They raised a family of ten children. Joel Dewey bought a tract of wild woodland on the South Fork of Lee Creek at some time before the organization of Wood County, probably soon after the close of the Indian Hostilities. He lived on this until 1815, when he sold it to John Alkire. I find no record on the books of his ever owning other land in Wood County.

He was born in 1762, and he was only forty-five years old when he sold. Joseph Dewey, I have thought was a mistake in the name, and that Joshua was meant, but I find upon investigation that in April, 1806, Joshua Dewey sold to Joseph Dewey, sixteen acres of land, and that this tract is spoken of a few years later as belonging to "the late Joseph Dewey, now deceased". This Joseph could not have been Joshua's son, Joseph, who settled on Pond Creek in 1829. Thus, I had the proof I was seeking as to two Deweys in the Belleville Settlement. Joel Dewey sold forty acres of the southwest corner of his farm to John Flinn, Sr., in 1809. *(Correction: it was forty-three acres.)*

There is but little more given in the record books about Joshua Dewey after his sale of land to John Alkire, in 1816.

Years afterward, he was in possession of a small piece of land on Pond Creek, a part of his son's farm, which he mortgaged to one Fred Kizer, or Kiger, (was this a Joshua, Jr.?)

Joseph Dewey, Jr., moved to Pond Creek about 1828. He never accumulated much land like his neighbors, Bose, Flinn and Alexander Anderson. He sold off his farm in small parcels to his children and others. The sale of his real estate in the settlement after his death, occurred in 1872. Joseph and Ebony Dewey had several children. The names of some of them were:

Hiram P. Dewey, married Eliza Williamson, a daughter of Samuel Williamson, of the mouth of Pond Creek, in 1848. (I do not think Hiram Pennybacker was related to him.)

William Dewey owned a part of his father's farm, west of Pond Creek in 1852.

Melissa Dewey, married William Mills, in 1847.

Olive Dewey married George Simms.

The first, and the last three were his living heirs at the time of his death.

Joshua Dewey, who married Elizabeth Smith, in 1847, and there was a Mary Dewey who married James Brown in 1846.

These two may have been children of Joseph, or may have been children of Joel Dewey.

A descendant of Joel Dewey wrote of the family in "Pioneer Daughter".

The brothers, Joel and Joshua Dewey came from Wyoming County, Pennsylvania, to Belleville, in 1787, where they "assisted in the defense of the frontier".

From this source, I gather that Joel Dewey was born in 1762. He married Jane Coleman at Belleville in 1790. She was born at Wheeling in 1773. Joel Dewey went to Illinois after the sale of his land to Alkire, where he died in 1834. His wife died in 1816. They went to Calhoun County, Illinois. They had ten children.

Margaret Dewey, the eldest, married Royall Prentiss, (that they the parents of George Prentiss is an error.)

Joshua Dewey was born at Belleville, and married in Illinois.

Samuel Dewey was the eighth child. He was born in 1809. His wife was Docia Dent Harris, a daughter of William Harris. (William Harris, Jr., I presume). She was born near what is now Murraysville, in 1809, and married Dewey in 1849, (no doubt a mistake in print, as to date; the date of marriage was November 24th, 1844). Her father was William Harris and her mother was Margaret Coleman. (I think there is a mistake as to her age, as her parents were born in 1811. (March 25th, 1811). Dewey and his wife were second cousins.

Samuel Dewey, either the son of Joel, or his son, was the contributor to the "Pioneer Daughter". He lived below Washington Bottom in 1880, and should know if Gen Prentiss was his, or his father's cousin. However, some men, not being so inclined, know but little along biographical lines.

A prominent Parkersburg man once asked me what his grandmother's name was.

David Jameson

There is little preserved concerning David Jameson, beyond the fact that he was one of the "four Scotch families" who were with the "Pilgrim" at Belleville in 1785. Sometime while it was yet a part of Kanawha County, he bought a large tract of land at the forks of Lee Creek, whether of Woods, Tilton, Joseph Willard or Rogers, I did not learn. Presumably, he improved this, as there were old improvements at the site.

Either the title was defective and the land in court for years, or he voluntarily quit paying taxes and allowed the land to be sold in 1825. Having recovered a part of the boundary, the heirs sold it to Benjamin Mitchell, in 1850.

The Wells Family

Caleb Wells came to the Belleville colony upon his purchase of the Jonathan Prentiss farm, of McKinney, in 1837.

Wells having died, his lands were divided among his children, and Maggie was his wife's name. The children who inherited were: Philip, Absalom P., Foster, George S., Cora E., who married D. B. Stout, and Bettie, who mar-
ried Silas Oaks, and Ralph P.

Probably the grandchildren were: Alice, Maggie, Bertha S., and Kate B.

There was a Christopher Wells who married a daughter of Gassaway Har­

wood.

P. Foster Wells writes me that they arrived at the farm on the day Pres­
ident Harrison was inaugurated, March 4th, 1841.

Coleman Family

A prominent family in the early days of the Belleville colony, and still
prominent, through its descendants, in the neighboring sections of Wood and
Jackson Counties, is that of Coleman.

One of the tragedies of the Belleville Station, in the Indian Wars, was
the killing of Michael Coleman, who was the head of this family, who was shot
by the Indians while at breakfast in a hunter's camp at the falls of Mill
Creek, the month of February, 1793.

There is a disagreement as to the name of this man, some saying "Malcolm"
Coleman. His descendants give the name as Michael. It was from information
given to me by a grandson that I base my opinion.

In an address at the Centennial celebration at Ravenswood, in 1876,
Thomas Coleman speaks thus, "I was born in the wilderness of Kanawha County,
in 1801". He related the incident of the killing of "my grandfather", and said
the Indians, as tradition has it, got two scalps from his head, (for these
they received from the English authority the bonus or cash prize of Four hun­
dred dollars, or Two hundred dollars per scalp).

Thomas Coleman, of Parkersburg, a young lawyer, and a grandson of the
Thomas before mentioned, tells me there is an inability among the Coleman
family to agree as to what the name was. His aunt, Nancy Roberts, claims it
to have been "John", but he is inclined to believe that the odds are in
favor of Malcolm. He is positive the name was not Michael. So, I can only
state the case as it stands, and let it rest with my readers.

The ancestor Coleman, be it Michael, Malcolm or John, came with his fam­
ily to Belleville, from near Carlisle, Pennsylvania, in 1787. Of his children
I have the names:

Samuel Coleman.

John Coleman, married Phoebe Decoy, in 1806 (His wife signs her name
"Polly" later).

James Coleman, married Nancy Anderson, about 1800.

Thomas Coleman, married Sarah, (last name not learned).

Margaret Coleman, married William Harris, in 1811.

Jane Coleman, married John Boso (Beaureaux), in 1814.

Polly Coleman, married James White, in 1813.

Michael Coleman, married Angeline Turner, in 1815.

Ebery Coleman, married Joseph Dawey, Jr., in 1815.

I think it likely that Peter Anderson's wife was a Sarah Coleman, and
could be a daughter of Michael Coleman, making the tenth child of the ances­
tral Coleman, (or a younger sister of Michael Coleman).

Of Samuel Coleman, we have the name alone.

John Coleman, was grown and was a member of the hunting party at the
time of his father's death. After that event, he became an Indian hater,
and was also famous as a hunter, scout and Indian fighter in the Belleville
settlement. He bought a piece of land from Caldwell, lying on both sides of
Pond Creek, above the mouth of Long Run, in 1812. Later, he sold this and
probably went west.
John Coleman and Polly, his wife, both signed with an "X" in the Rardon Deed.

There is something in the above which doesn't seem probable. If the last four were children of Michael Coleman, they were all very young when he died, 20 years before, or all very old for that day when they were married, but there is no account of any other family from which they could have sprung.

James Coleman was the founder of the Jackson County family. He married Nancy Anderson, Peter Anderson's sister, while yet Belleville was in Kanawha County...

He died in 1803, leaving two children, Thomas, born at Letart Falls, June 2, 1801, so only two years old when the father died. The mother died the next year, in 1804. There were, it is said, two children, if I am not mistaken.

I have notes on two biographical sketches by Thomas Coleman, which I shall barely outline.

Thomas Coleman was born in 1801. After his mother's death in 1804, he was taken by his mother's brother, presumably Peter Anderson. He was bound out to learn the blacksmith trade, ran away when fifteen years old. He hired on as a cook on a keelboat on which he served for a time, and then continued in various jobs on the river until he finally became a proprietor.

On Dec. 23rd, 1823 he married Sarah Roush, a daughter of Henry Roush, in Meigs County, Ohio. They settled at Muses Bottom, in what became Jackson County, where he was a Justice of the Peace at its organization in 1831.

Either he, or his uncle Thomas, bought the "Old John Stanley" place above the mouth of Little Pond Creek, in 1806. They raised ten children.

One of these, Thomas B. Coleman, inherited the home farm, of six hundred twenty-five acres. He married Mary Ann White, of Belleville, and they were the parents of Thomas Coleman, the Parkersburg lawyer. Another, Henry, was a Southern Methodist preacher. He twice visited the Holy Land, and spent years lecturing on the same. He was the author of the book "Light In the East". A sister, Mary A., was the first wife of Isaac M. Adams, the Jackson County politician.

The Sims Family

John Sims was, I think, a Virginian, perhaps from Harrison County. He bought one hundred acres of land lying back of the lower end of the Craik survey, from Isaac Staats.

Staats was originally from Harrison County, but had been in Wood County for several years, and was living at Athens, Ohio, when he bought this land from Thomas Gilman, then of Washington County, Ohio, August 2nd, 1805. Staats kept the land but a short time, selling it to Sims.

Sims sold part of the lower end to Adam Alkire, on March 20th, 1806. Then in 1809, he sold to Staats the upper half.

Francis Sims married Catherine Alkire, in 1788, in Harrison County. As John Sims could not have been his son, I presume they were brothers. Francis Sims was never a land owner in Wood County, but was a resident for years, and lived after 1805, on a lease on Mrs. Hempstead's land on the Belleville bottoms, outside the Craik survey, and above John Sims' place.

The Sims family went to the Shade River in Ohio after John sold his farm.
Pioneers In Wood County, By John A. House.

Pennybacker Family

There were three different families of Pennybackers in Wood County, all from Shenandoah County, Virginia, and all closely connected.

Abraham Pennybacker was at Belleville before 1812, when he and Peter Anderson bought a body of wild land on Short Run from James Caldwell. In 1812, he was taxed with fifty acres. He married (wife's name not given) and died before 1831. He had eight children:

- Isaac married Mary Alkire, in 1828.
- John married Catherine Duncan in 1831.
- Elizabeth married John Alkire (Jr.) in 1828.
- Mary married Samuel Buffington in 1835.
- Amanda married Mounce B. Pennybacker in 1837.
- Abraham married Rebecca Mitchell in 1840.
- Rebecca.

Catherine married James Gill in 1826. Both were dead in 1831, leaving two children, John and Elizabeth Gill.

The Alkires were originally from beyond the Mountains, probably Loudoun County, Virginia.

John Pennybacker, a cousin of Abraham, came from Shenandoah County, Va. He bought land from John P. Mayberry in 1825. His wife's name was Catherine, (last name not learned). His father was Derrick Pennybacker, and he had a brother, Derrick, who used to visit Belleville, but never lived there.

A sister (or aunt?) married a Mayberry, who was the father of John P. Mayberry, and of Rebecca, who married the Prentiss. John Pennybacker had several children:

- John, who married Catherine Duncan in 1831, lived in Meigs County, Ohio.
- Hiram married a Timms in 1831.
- Catherine married James W. Mitchell.
- Mounce B., married Amanda Pennybacker, daughter of Abraham Pennybacker.
- Joseph was younger than W. B. He was a preacher, and visited Wood County.
- Benjamin R. married Penelope S. Beckwith in 1848. She was a daughter of Barnes Beckwith.

William Bird Pennybacker married Susan Abigail Duncan in 1832. He was born in 1803, and married Susan Abby Duncan, a daughter of Charles Duncan, of Lee Creek, in 1832. He lived about five miles from Belleville, on Lee Creek. Of their children, there were:

- James D. Pennybacker, born in 1832, went to Kentucky.
- Joseph S., born in 1846, went to Kentucky.
- Virginia, who lived at Nelsonville.
- Phoebe.
- Amanda C. married Daniel Wigal.
- Elizabeth A. (these two were twins.)

Susan (Abigail - Aunt Abby Creel), was born in 1843, and lived in Wirt County in 1886. (She died at Parkersburg 192-.)

Pocahontas, born in 1852.
- Ann D., born in 1858.
- America, born in 1855.

Error: He has John & Abraham who married Catherine Duncan & Rebecca Mitchell listed as sons of both Abraham and John Pennybacker.
Aunt Abby told me (spring of 1922) that her father was Bird Pennybacker (W. B.) son of John and Phoebe, and her mother was Susan Abigail Duncan, for whom she was named. She was then about seventy-six years old. John Pennybacker had brothers, Derrick and Joseph (a preacher), who visited them, but continued to live in the Valley of Virginia. Derrick was the father's name.

The other Pennybacker was Derrick, and he came to Parkersburg in 1815 and married Elizabeth Neal, John Neal's daughter, and was Neal's business agent and manager.

The Mayberry family, like the Pennybackers, were from "Old Virginia", and emigrated to Wood County in the first decade of the Nineteenth Century. There were three families of the name in Belleville.

John P. Mayberry was the most prominent of the three. His mother was a sister of John Pennybacker. His father may have been George Mayberry - at least I have so assumed, as George was the first and the largest land buyer of the three.

As there were several of the name in Wood County, there must necessarily have been a family of grown up children when they came. It is possible that Benjamin was the founder of the Belleville Mayberrys, but at least one of these weddings was before he bought land and permanently located there. He might, however, have been a renter for some years previous to that event.

John P. Mayberry was born at Pine Forge, near New Market, Virginia. He grew up on a farm, but acquired more education than the average country boy of the western parts of the slave state of Virginia. Being ambitious, he went to school in the neighboring town of Marietta, studied law in the office of Paul Fearing, the foremost lawyer of the place. In 1816, he married Lucy Fearing, a daughter of Judge Fearing of Harmer. Later, he was made Receiver of Public Monies in the United States Land Office, which position he was said to have filled very satisfactorily.

Prior to his removal to Marietta, he had been selected to serve Wood County in the House of Delegates of the General Assembly at Richmond, for 1817-1818. He was re-elected in 1818, but, receiving the Government appointment, removed to Marietta.

He served one term as Deputy Sheriff of Wood County while a young man, and was licensed to practice law in the courts of Virginia in 1812. He also was Prosecuting Attorney for Washington County, Ohio.

He had a law office in Parkersburg at the corner of Fourth and Juliana Streets in the early days. He was interested in mercantile matters in Parkersburg, with Levi Barber and later with Luther Edgerton.

He returned to Parkersburg and represented the county in the Assembly in 1832, and for four succeeding years, as an Anti-Democrat, and again as a Whig. Through the campaign of 1840, and for years, he was perhaps the leading factor in the Whig party of Wood County.

Of John P. Mayberry's children:
Henry married Frances Kincheloe in 1841.
Lucy P. married George W. Kincheloe in 1834.

Benjamin Mayberry bought from Waddington and (presumably) moved to Belleville, in 1814. He bought next, above Chapman's Run. His wife was Nancy, as her name is signed on papers in 1841.

In 1841, he sold his farm to John P. Mayberry, who in October, 1854, sold it to his son, George, who had married Frances Kincheloe, a
daughter of George W. Kincheloe. In 1865, father and son both signed a deed conveying the land to D. R. Neal, to whose descendants it still belongs.

George Mayberry was the first to cross the mountains, coming to Belleville in 1807, where he bought 250 acres of the Craik survey. He lived about half way between Lee Creek and the mouth of the Hocking River. He owned the land until 1867, when he sold it to Daniel R. Neale. He was in Washington County, Ohio at the time of the land sale, in 1824. He was probably the father of John P. Mayberry and Mrs. Prentiss, also of Benjamin, whose son, George Prentiss, was named for him.

Other Mayberrys were:
- Catharine, who married Joseph H. Samuels in 1812.
- Rebecca, married Henry L. Prentiss.

Of a younger generation:
- Elizabeth, married Charles Lewis in 1832.
- Rebecca, married William Neale in 1839.

**Flinn Family**

A Mr. Flinn was a hunter and trapper on the Ohio River near the line dividing Harrison and Kanawha Counties, at the time the settlement was made at Belleville, in December, 1785.

With him was a party consisting of his two sons, whose names are given: as Thomas and James, and their families, and one John Barnett, who married Mr. Flinn’s daughter, an old man Parchment and sons, John and Jacob, and a Mr. McCessack.

They had built a heavy log block house and spent their time trapping, hunting and fishing, raising a little corn during the summer on some nearby Indian cornfields. They claimed no title to the land, and did not want it improved. After the Belleville colony got fairly well established, the upper colony, for the convenience and safety, cast in their lot with them.

One writer makes the old man “Flinn” a widower, and his son, John, Sr., the father of “Old Johnny” Flinn, “Old Billy” and all the Pond Creek Flinns. The John Flinn from whom the Flinns of Belleville colony are descended must be a son of one of those two. He was born about 1780, or later.

In 1809, he bought about forty acres of the Dewey land on the South fork of Lee Creek, living there for six years, when he sold the land to John A. Winsor.

The next land owned by Flinn was at the mouth of Otter Run, on Pond Creek, near where he lived until his death about 1853.

John Flinn married Phoebe Cross. He seems to have had several brothers, one of whom was Jacob, who lived on Lee Creek, above the Ingles place, as also was Robert. John Flinn had several children, but it is difficult to determine from the dull records of names just which they were.

The Ann Flinn who became the second wife of John Boso was probably a child, as were Rebecca who married Charles Boso, a brother of Mike, in 1841. John Flinn, Jr., who married Phoebe, a daughter of Solomon Cross, in 1830, and second the widow of Captain Deem.

Betsy, wife of James Braham, in 1846.

George W. Flinn.

George W. Flinn was married twice. His first wife was Harriet White, and his second was Amanda M. Butcher.
His children were:

John C., (better known as "Young John").
Henderson.
George W. N.
Mary.

Amanda, who married Samuel Williams.

John Flinn, Jr., the "Old Johnny Flinn" of my day, was married first to Phoebe Cross, and owned much land on Pond Creek. His children were:

Jack Flinn, lived on Pond Creek, died January 10th, 1918, aged 87 years and 2 months.
Charlotte married S. Newton McKenzie.
Elisha married Theresa N. Tracewell.
Victoria married George Romine about 1870.
Ellen was married to the same man.
(I was told that Old Johnny Flinn's second wife was the widow of Captain Abram Deem.)

Jacob Flinn lived on Lee Creek. His wife signs her name "Sarah 'X' Flinn", in 1855. Of his children:

Rebecca married John Rice in 1852.
John W., married Amanda, daughter of John P. Buckley, in 1852.
William Flinn, of Long Run, may or may not have been a brother, or child, or cousin of this John.

George W. Flinn married Sarah Buckley in 1844, and he was probably the son of William, and owner of the Long Run land.

A Robert Flinn owned land on Long Run.

William Flinn (Old Billy) was a brother of John, and born about 1790.
He married Polly Staats, a daughter of Noah (sister of Noah is more reasonable). Whether he is the William Flinn of Long Run does not appear, probably not, as a George W. Flinn owned that later, apparently by inheritance, and this Flinn's George appears to be younger.
(Another source makes "Old Billy" a brother to "Old Johnny", or John, Jr. )

This William Flinn lived at the mouth of Meat House Fork of Sandy for many years. His children are given as:

William Flinn, married a Hoselton. This was "Cap" Flinn.
Sarah Flinn, married Henry Slaven.
David married a Cox.
Nancy married George Howard.
Kate married R. B. Baxter Howard and lived near Leroy, W.Va.
Jane married Newton Hicks.
Also, Joe, George and Lafayette Flinn.

The most, or all, of these marriages have been in Jackson County, W.Va., where the family lived, so I have no marriage dates.

William Flinn's wife of Long Run, signs her name as Mary "X" Flinn, in 1842, as mentioned before.

The Boso Family.

John Boiseaux was French, and probably of the Gallipolis colony. He was living about Hockingport at the time of, or shortly after, the Belleville Settlement.

John Boso (as the name became later) was born at Hockingport. He married Jincy Coleman in 1814. She was a daughter of the Coleman family, and the fact
that the name "Mike" was common in his and other families might be evidence that the victim of the tragedy was named Michael and not Malcolm or John.

Their children were:

John, married Serena Smith, a daughter of Samuel Smith, perhaps about 1850. Their children were:

Sam, "Mon", Jeremy, and perhaps a houseful of younger ones.

He lived on the old Boso Farm.

Michael, married Lucretia Mills. He lived at one time on one of the numerous loops of Pond Creek, and had a grist mill, operated by water power. They had a large family, two of whom must have been voters in 1870.

Charles, married a Flinn. He died in St. Louis.

S. Greene Boso was their son.

Nancy, married Joseph Hale. Their children were:

John and Joe were their oldest children. Others were Mike (for the that runs in the family), and Elisha, whose name probably dates back to some connection of the Bosos with Elisha Timms.

Barbara, married a Burdine, perhaps lived across the creek above the bend above Mike Boso's. There are also Burdines in Parkersburg.

Nancy, married a Hall, and moved to Ohio.

Thomas Benton "Bent" received a part of the home place, but sold it and moved to Illinois.

Lafayette, also had a part of the home place. He was in the Union Army, and probably went west.

Francis "France", went to Pomeroy, Ohio.

Kinsman Boso, married a Brown. He was not a land owner, and lived at different places on Pond Creek. (Someone told me that he was a son of John Boso, Sr.)

Joseph Boso received a part of the home place. He did not marry in Wood County.

John Boso first married Jincey Coleman in 1814. After her death, he, in 1827, was married again, to Ann (Juliana) Flinn, a daughter of John Flinn, Sr., and sister of John Flinn, Jr. So, the above family is partly related to the Colemans, and partly to the Flintts.

Charles Boso, who lived near the mouth of Little Pond Creek, was another son of John, and a brother of the John, Sr. of Pond Creek. While one of the traditions of the family says he lived in the blockhouse at the mouth of the Hocking River, another account says that Charles Boso was born on April 20th, 1792, in a houseboat at the mouth of the Hocking River. Both accounts may be correct.

Polly Boso, who married George Peters, in 1815, has been a sister of John and Charles Boso.

Charles Boso did not marry until about 40 years of age, or perhaps he was married before coming to Wood County. His wife's name was Mary Anderson. She may have been a daughter of Andrew, (or one of Peter's oldest sons.) Their first child was:

Isaiah Boso, born in 1833, and died in 1909. He married Mary Orem, and lived in Jackson County on Little Pond Creek.

John A. Boso, married Debby Mills, a daughter of William Mills, Sr., in 1849.

Nelson Boso, married a daughter of John Ingles. He lived about Little Pond Creek.

Willard went to Indiana.
Pioneers In Wood County, By John A. House.

(There was a Willard Boso and Willard Dewey named after Joseph Willard, the Marietta Realty man. A Nelson Flinn, Nelson Boso, and Nelson Crooks. Was this a coincidence?)

Jane married a Ferguson.

Charles and Liza were other children.

Like most very old persons, there is some uncertainty as to their age. There was a difference of opinion as to the age of Charles Boso at the time of his death. It is known, though, that he was over 100 years of age.

John and Charles had two brothers, Joseph and Jacob, both of whom married girls named Fancher.

On September 2, 1934, I met a man named Derenberger at a reunion at the City Park in Parkersburg, who told me a Boso family tradition.

The founder of the family was a Frenchman from Alsace-Lorraine section, and came with Lafayette's army to America, at the time of the Revolution. He did not return with the French army, but married in America, and later came across to the Ohio Valley. He was living on a Shanty boat tied at the mouth of the Hocking River. Boso had gone out hunting, and when he returned that night found an additional member in his family.

(Presumably there was a cluster of cabins around Fort Gower. If old Charley Boso was born in 1792, it was during the Indian War.) Derenberger knew nothing of the father's or mother's names.

This story may tie in with the other accounts as given above.

The Buckley Family.

The Buckley family is sometimes named among the Pioneers of Lee Creek, but I do not think they date so far back.

There are two of these families who were living on the South Fork of Lee Creek, above Elbow Bend. They came from Fairfax County, Virginia, before 1820. The first of these was Samuel, who married Nancy Reeves. Family accounts say they came in 1816. The widow got the first deed for land and paid the first taxes, 15 or 20 years after that date.

James Samuel Buckley, their son, was born in 1821. He was a Methodist Protestant preacher. I think Elisha Sheets, to whom Nancy Buckley sold her farm in 1853, may have been a son-in-law.

John Francis Buckley was of Irish descent, and came from Fairfax County, Virginia, in 1817, coming to Lee Creek. This was 17 years before he received a deed for his land. He lived at the mouth of Elk Run, and was, I presume, a brother of Samuel. To him, most of the Wood County Buckleys trace their origin. He was a native of Fairfax Co., Va., and a soldier of the War of 1812. He came to Wood County in 1811.

Harrison Buckley, a son of John F., married Eliza, a daughter of John Gilpin, of Middle Fork of Lee Creek. (Some say her maiden name was Barnes.) They lived on the home farm. They were married in 1836.

Eliza J. married Henry Sheets in 1836 (was probably a daughter.)

John, married Charity Flinn in 1849.

Sarah, married George W. Flinn in 1844.

They were probably children of John F., as also were:

Adeline who married Hyland Smith, in 1852.

Amanda, who married George W. Flinn, in 1852.

George W. Buckley, a son of John F., was born in Wood County, in 1821. He was married to Elizabeth Ellen, daughter of George Wigal, about 1845.

(Captain W. A. Smith told me in May, 1923, that Hyland Smith was "Before my time", and wasn't of Old Jimmie's set.)
WHITE FAMILY

Of the Whites, a very early family on Pond Creek, I can find but little information. They may have been in the colony before the organization of Wood County.

Alexander White married Jincey Anderson in 1806, and lived on the river above the mouth of Cove Run. They raised a family of several children, but he died early, (before 1830), and she, long a widow, later remarried. Their children were:

George White, married Rebecca Jackson, a daughter of George Jackson, before the organization of Wood County. Perhaps they married outside Wood County. White got a deed for land on Pond Creek in 1831, but may have lived there years before that. He had two sons, to whom he deeded his land before his death, Benton and David White.

A daughter, Prudence White, married Michael Staats Anderson, a son of Edward Anderson.

Another daughter, Harriet, married George W. Flinn in 1834. His wife may have been a sister-in-law of David Lane, whose farm adjoined. He lived below the mouth of Short Run.

James White, married Mary Coleman in 1813. He owned land on Long Run, but I found no deed for it, so I presume his title was not perfected, (Probably a brother of George White.)

Edward White, married Matilda. They lived on Pond Creek at Buffalo Branch, in 1845 or 1846. After his death, she married Allen Davis. Warren and Johnson White were their sons.

Robert B. White married Miriam Powers in 1832.

Prudence White married Michael S. Anderson, in 1832. He was a son of Edward Anderson, and she was a daughter of George White.

Harriett White married George W. Flinn in 1834. She also was a daughter of George White.

Mary White married Alexander Anderson in 1837.

William White married Frances Mitchell in 1838.

William White married Nancy White in 1841.

Elizabeth White married M. McGuire in 1846.

A George Hubbard White bought land on Jerrie’s Run, about 1866 or 1867. These are not all of the White families, but the names of all that I have found.

CROSS FAMILY.

Solomon Cross, his obituary notice states, was born in 1778. He came to Jackson County, where he died August 7th, 1877, at the age of ninety-nine years. He lived on Gavin Fork in 1821. He was a native of the Cheat River Country.

Phebe Cross, married John Flinn, Jr. in 1830. Thus Jack Flinn and Charley Riel were half Cross.

Isaac Cross, married Morgana Bailey, a daughter of Absalom, in 1831. Lucinda Cross married John Clemons in 1834.

Nimrod Cross, married Eliza Richards in 1835. (He was of the Harrison-Ritchie County Cross family, but married in Wood County.)

A grandson told me that Solomon Cross was a noted deer and turkey and squirrel hunter.
Isaac Cross, (a son of Solomon), married Mary Buckley.
Isaac Cross who married Annie Gandee, a daughter of Levi, was a son.
John M. Cross, born in 1840, was in the Union Army.
Solomon H. Cross, was in the Confederate Army.
Isaac Cross, when a boy, was out hunting, and startled a bear, which climbed a snag and disappeared in the hollow. Cross shot at it as it went over, then ran to the house and told "Pap", who went back with him to get the bear. The stream where the snag grew, went by the name of Bear Run. This was where John lived afterward.

BRAHAM FAMILY.

James Braham was married in 1828 to Betsy, a sister of Old Johnny Flinn. He lived on Elk Lick Run at one time, on land bought from Joseph Dewey. No wife signed his deeds in 1830, but in 1856, James and Elizabeth both made marks "X". He had children:
Solomon, perhaps the oldest son, died in Parkersburg, at 110 Seventh Street, date not given, at the age of seventy-seven. He was born about 1830. He married a Freeland, and lived on Pond Creek at the mouth of Pennite after 1850, a few years before his death. George and Ed Braham were perhaps his sons.
I have no marriage record of John Braham.
George Mills lived on the head of Bear Branch, adjoining Burche. They had children George, William, James and Lucretia.
A daughter (perhaps) married Jack Sewell.
Mary married Martin Burche, who owned land on the head of Bear Branch. They were married in 1840.
Christena married George Mills, December 23rd, 1840. The latter two would be sisters of James instead of daughters.
James Braham married Mary Flinn, (perhaps a second marriage of the family founder).
(Someone told me Thomas Sewell, but Sewell's wife was Parmelia Ingles, probably a daughter of John, Jr., who married a Smith in 1824.)

ALLEN FAMILY.

Allen was a name prominent in mid-early Wood County history. There was a Samuel Allen at Allen's Run, below Walker's Creek, who bought his farm from Esther Hempstead (McCreery).
Samuel Allen came from Connecticut, and settled at the mouth of Allen's Run. His wife's name was Mary. Her name before marriage, I have not been able to learn. They raised a large family of children, at least part of whom are here given.
Lydia married a man by the name of Butcher. They had a daughter named Ella R., whom I used to see when a boy on Walker's Creek.
Jason and William were in the War of 1812.
R. C. settled in Morgantown.
Ann Eliza was never married.
Mary Avery Allen, married in Morgantown.
His wife, it is said, was born in 1771. She died at her home in the Kanawha River section, in 1823. This land they purchased from the McCreerys on April 9th, 1811.
I have read a very interesting letter written by Allen back to his father, when he first came to the Belleville colony, in which he describes conditions
at the settlement in a very entertaining manner, and which also gives a very good picture of the life there as he found it.

This man I have never been able to connect with John Allen, who married Elizabeth Anderson, in 1826, and who lived just above the mouth of Little Pond Creek. There no doubt must have been a connection in some way, probably closely.

If she was a daughter of Joel, she did not share in Peter's estate, as did others of Joel's children. She might have been a daughter of Edward, and married very young.

They had one son, William, who married Sarah Justice, in 1842, and lived above the mouth of Jerries Run, on Big Pond Creek. The father was twice married. Major Allen and John Allen were his children.

Major Allen first married a Cross, (or a Buckley). After her death, He married again.

John Allen's wife was a Lowe, probably the "Elizabeth M. ---", of the records at the Court House.

JOEL BUFFINGTON.

Joel Buffington first settled on Buffington Island, which was named for him, it being at that time a part of Mason County.

His son, Philip, married Sarah Hughes.

William married Frances Rowans, in 1813.

Jonathan B. married Mary Ann Keen, in 1833.

Samuel, married Mary Pennybacker, in 1835, a daughter of Abraham.

Solomon married Matilda Romine in 1839.

William married Mary Fought in 1845.

MILLS FAMILY

William Mills came from Belmont County, Ohio, to Pond Creek, in 1840. He married a Boso as a wife of his old age, if I am rightly informed. He had several children.

George Mills, born in Belmont County, in 1819, was four times married. He married Christena Braham in 1840, and Rebecca Boso, in 1853, (She was not a close relative of Mike, etc.)

Lucretia Mills, married Michael Boso in 1841.


Deborah Mills, married John Boso (son of Charles), in 1849.

Mary E. Mills, born in 1841, married Henry C. Williamson, in 1860. He was a son of Samuel Williamson, of the mouth of Pond Creek. Williamson came to the section in 1831.

John Mills, who married Lucy Wood in 1850, may not have been of this family.

WILLIAMSON FAMILY

Samuel Williamson came to Wood County in 1831. His wife's name was probably Louise. He located at the mouth of Pond Creek. Of his children:

Nancy Williamson, married Samuel C. Anderson, (a son of Michael) in 1838.

Lavinia Williamson married John Smith, (a son of John Smith), in 1841.

William Williamson married Elizabeth Smith in 1841.

Sarah Williamson married Caleb Bailey, in 1847.

Eliza Williamson, married Hiram P. Dewey, in 1848.
Anthony Williamson, married Sarah O'Neal, in 1848.
Henry C. Williamson, married Mary E. Mills, in 1841.

DERENBERGER FAMILY

In most accounts, Peter Derenberger is given as the first settler of that name, and is believed to have come before 1800. That the Derenbergers were "Pennsylvania Dutch" is quite likely. In the local parlance, the name was rendered "Durnbooger".

There is little to be gathered about this family. One George Derenberger was taxed with one hundred acres in 1826, and receiving a grant of fifty acres on Lee Creek in 1828 is the first time the name appears on the tax books. These may have been his children.

Mary Derenberger, married James Spencer, in 1811. Probably he was a son of John Spencer.
John P. Derenberger, married Mary Stanford, in 1818.
Catharine Derenberger, married John Dewitt, on August 13, 1818.
Sally Derenberger, married Philip Hetzger on August 13, 1818.
George Derenberger, married Margaret Perine on August 13, 1818.
George Derenberger, (the same, or another), was married to Peggy Anderson in 1831.

There was a Ben Derenberger who bought land of Edward Anderson on the ridge at the head of Short Run.

In September, 1934, I met a man at the City Park in Parkersburg who said he was a son of Benjamin Derenberger, and a grandson of old Charlie Boso.

WIGAL FAMILY

Philip Wigal was another "Dutchman", from Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, coming here about 1799. He does not show up on deed or tax books, until many years later.

Elizabeth Wigal married Peter Sheets in 1811.
George Wigal married Rebecca Sams in 1824. In 1828, he married a second time. His wife's name was Sarah Gill. (I noted a Gill who had married a Pennybacker.)

Catharine "Waggal" married Henry Brookhart in 1817.
Barbara Wigal, married James Sams in 1828.
Nancy Wigal married Roman White in 1842.
Philip Wigal married Elizabeth Stephens in 1843.
Abraham Wigal married Mary Small in 1844.
Joseph Wigal married Martha Tinder in 1852.
Washington Wigal married Rebecca Swindler in 1844.
Barbara Jane Wigal married Aaron Smith in 1853, son of William Smith, of Lee Creek.

A Daniel Wigal, married a Bond, a granddaughter of Joseph, and owned a part of the Elijah Staats farm.

Abraham Wigal was born in Wood County, in 1822.
The first Wigals probably lived well up on the North Fork of Lee Creek.
John Wigal built the first house in Steele District of Wood County. It was a log cabin on Broad Run, north fork of Lee Creek, where George Wigal now lives. This was just above Wadesville.
Barbara Jane Wigal was born in 1839, and married Aaron Smith in 1853. She died in 1899. She was living in 1886, on Willow Run, a couple miles from Harrison Buckley's place. Their children living in 1919 were: James, Frank, Calvin, George, Dillard Smith, Mrs. John Huffman, Mrs. Alexander, Mrs. Dolly, and Mrs. Tebay. George Wigal is a brother of Mrs. Smith.

SHEETS FAMILY.

The name of Sheets is borne by another pioneer family of the southern part of Wood County.
The marriage records for forty years show:—
Jacob Sheets married Mary Chevalier, a widow, in 1812.
John Sheets married Nancy Johnson in 1810.
These may or may not have been in the lower part of Wood County
Peter Sheets married Elizabeth Weigle in 1811.
Elizabeth Sheets married John Gilpin in 1811. He settled at the mouth of Middle Lee Creek.
Harry Sheets married Elizabeth Gorce in 1814.
Mary Sheets married Daniel Justice in 1819.
Nancy Sheets married Henry Lowers in 1825.
Louisa Sheets married William H. Harris in 1829.
Nancy Sheets married Philip Weigle in 1829.
Mary Sheets married Bennett Barton in 1830.
Mary Sheets married John Fleet (Fleak?) in 1834.
John Sheets married Martha Tracewell in 1835.
Henry Sheets married Eliza Jane Buckley in 1836.
Sophia Sheets married Charles Thomas in 1837.
Elijah Sheets married Rose Ann Buckley in 1846.
Moses Sheets married Nancy Ann Sheets in 1840.
Nicholas Sheets married Nancy Wilkinson in 1840.
Michael Sheets married Mary Ann Lewis in 1841.
Other matters concerning the Sheets Family is scraps of information picked up here and there, and loosely thrown together.
On October 12th, 1839, Henry Sheets and wife, Sarah, and Michael Sheets and wife, Barbary, conveyed to George V. Lewis, twenty-nine acres of land on Lee Creek.
I don't note either couple in the list of marriages. Perhaps they were older.
In 1825, John Dewitt bought two hundred acres of land of the Johnson farm at the forks of Lee Creek, for taxes, and sold the same to Henry and Michael Sheets. The twenty-nine acres was probably a part of this, (I did not copy the calls.) The Sheets brother may have been the defendants when the Jameson heirs gained the land later.

MITCHELL FAMILY.

The founder of the Mitchell family is supposed to have been Benjamin Mitchell, who came from Culpeper County, Virginia.
The Mitchell family did not come to Belleville, so far as the deed books show, until 1830, when he bought the farm at the forks of Lee Creek, but the records of marriages show he had been an officiating minister three years
earlier. I did not note what was his creed.

Elisha Timms Mitchell was a Campbellite preacher in 1844. (There had been a William Mitchell, a preacher, as early as 1810.)

Of Mitchell's family, there were several children:

Elisha T., who lived on the south fork, near its mouth. (of Lee Creek).

James W. Mitchell married Elizabeth Pennybacker, a daughter of Abraham. He was prominent in the community, bought and sold lands, etc. Probably he was Henry Mitchell's father.

Anne Mitchell married Hiram Pennybacker.

**FLEEHARTY FAMILY.**

Joshua Fleehart, Fleeharty, or Fluharty, as the name is variously rendered, was an Indian Scout and a hunter and trapper in the vicinity of Belpre, Belleville and Neal's Station forts. He was a native of Pennsylvania, and an expert with the old fashioned flintlock rifle.

The name recurs in Wood County history, when, before October 1st, 1801, John Fleeharty's will was admitted to probate. This John Fleeharty died before October 1801, and willed his property to his children, Joshua Fleeharty, his eldest, John, James, and his daughter Ruth, Jacob, Abraham, Hannah, Martha, and Michael Fleeharty.

Joshua Fleeharty, the Indian Scout, who lived on Blennerhassett Island at one time may likely have been the eldest son, as named above.

**STAATS FAMILY.**

There were four people by the name of Staats in Harrison County about the year 1800, perhaps more.

Abraham Staats, married a Flesher, and moved to Mill Creek (Jackson Co., now.)

Isaac Staats, married Mary Hannaman, probably a sister of Christopher or William Hannaman.

Elijah Staats, married Margaret Alkire, probably a sister of Adam and John Alkire. He moved to Mason County, in 1810.

Elizabeth Staats married Adam Flesher, February 21st, 1792. Isaac moved to Wood County, followed the Hannamans perhaps, being here before 1802. He was taxed with 200 acres on Lee Creek in 1803. He had three sons and two daughters. He died in 1814. Afterward, the widow married Robert Evans.

Joseph was born in 1801, and moved to Western Indiana. He died in 1889. His wife, (Name not given), was born in 1805, and died in 1889.

Elijah Staats married Nancy Anderson, a daughter of Peter Anderson, and lived near Belleville. He died at the mouth of Jerrie's Run, about 1879. His heirs were John H., Peter A., Eliza A., who married William Ball, Alex M., Theodore, and Isaac.

John.

Elizabeth, married Edward Anderson, near Belleville, in 1809.

Dianna married John Lee in 1811.

Elijah Staats, Sr., bought one hundred acres of land from his brother on the north fork of Lee Creek, "paying Two Hundred dollars lawful money of the State of Virginia". He moved to Mason County later, and in 1815 sold this one hundred acres to Joseph.
Pioneers In Wood County, By John A. House.

Joseph raised a large family: David, Noah, William, Peter, Isaac, and the Staatses of the upper end.

David's children were:
- Mary, married a Jackson.
- Rebecca married a Powers.
- Nancy married a Blaney.
- Olivia married a Delaney.

William.

George.

John, lived at Murraysville about 1920.

Guy lived at Belleville.

Randolph.

William was born about 1806.

Peter was born about 1808.

Isaac was born about 1810. He was in the Union Army, and went to Dayton after the War.

Noah married Harriet Bradfield, of Meigs County, Ohio, in 1832. He was born October 23rd, 1804, and moved to Mason County, now Jackson County, W. Va., in 1810. His children were:
- Henrietta, who married a Rardon.
- Rowena married Thomas Rardon.
- Marguerite married a Morehouse.
- Margaret married a Lobdell.
- Eliza married a Smith.
- Rebecca married a Lee.

CROOKS Family

H. N. Crooks is the first mentioned in the Deed Books of Wood County, when, in 1835, he and Sarah Clinefelter, both of whom were from Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, bought from Peter Anderson, two hundred acres below Belleville, on the Ohio River.

LANE Family

David Lane first settled on Pond Creek, where he bought land. His wife's name was Mary. When he died, about 1854 or 1855, he left a widow and nine children, who were:
- William Lane.
- Margareta Lane, who married Samuel H. Williamson, in February, 1845.
- Miriam Lane, who married John Allen.
- Samuel Frederick, who married Eliza (last name not learned.)
- Charlotte Lane.
- Mary Jane Lane.
- Matilda Lane.
- Eliza Lane.

SMITH Family

There were several different families bearing the name of Smith in the Belleville section. Of these, the most prominent was James Smith, who first bought a fifty acre lot on Short Run, perhaps as early as 1820. After recovering possession of the land in the law suit with Willard, James Caldwell confirmed Smith's title to the land.
Smith having sold the fifty acres to Elijah Staats, Jr., bought or moved on to his father-in-law's place at the mouth of Little Pond Creek, in 1828. His wife's parents continued to reside with him.

In later years - perhaps after the war - Smith had a mill at the mouth of the Right Fork. He had several children, among whom he distributed his home farm.

John (Big John), who married Lavina Williamson in 1841. Captain W. A. Smith of the Parkersburg police was their son.

Barnes B. Smith married Sarah Burdett in 1848.
A daughter married James Park.
A daughter married Thomas Swain.
Caleb Smith.
Hylahd Smith.
William Smith was a son of Aaron Smith, who was a son of Aaron, one of the Pioneer settlers of Harrison County.

I note settlers as deeded lands on Pond Creek (of course there were earlier squatters or parties who contracted for land, yet failed to perfect title, etc.), who were:

In 1805, Isaac Hyde on Little Pond Creek, three quarters of a mile from the main creek.
In 1810, John Powers, land joining Hyde on the east.
In 1812, (or thereabout) Absalom Bailey, on Little Pond Creek, at the mouth.
In 1812, John Coleman, on Pond Creek below Short Run.
In 1812, Daniel Hill bought near the mouth of Otter Run, but if he moved on the land, stayed but a little time.

About this time, John Stanley lived on Pond Creek at the bend at Boso's Place, but he never had deed for the land.
In 1819, Joel Anderson, above the mouth of Little Pond Creek.
James Smith had lived on Long Run, perhaps earlier than this, followed by Elijah Staats, son of Isaac, and son-in-law of Peter Anderson, in 1821.
In 1820, Thomas Topping, near the mouth of Bailey's Run.
In 1821, David Rardon, on Pond Creek, above Thomasses' Run.
In 1821, Solomon Cross, Cavin Fork.
In 1822, Thomas Coleman, at the Old John Stanley place.
In 1825, John Flinn, hill land near Otter Run.
In 1827, John Boso, above where Mike Boso lived in 1870.
In 1828, Joseph Dewey, below the mouth of Lick Run.
In 1828, James Smith, the Bailey farm at the forks of Pond Creek.
In, or before, 1831, George White, below the mouth of Long Run.
Before 1834, David Lane, below Thomasses' Run.
In 1859, John Flinn, Jr., near the mouth of Cavin Fork.
In 1844, Edward White, at the mouth of Buffalo Run.
In 1845, E. Staats, Jr., at the mouth of Jerrie's Run.
In 1845, James Lowe, at the mouth of Joshes' Run.
In 1848, Sol Buffington, below Jerrie's Run.
FIRST SETTLERS IN AND AROUND WILLIAMSTOWN (Williamsport)

I have collected a great mass of notes concerning the purchases and sales of land on Big Run prior to 1850, and have given the subject close study. These, in a measure, reveal the family history, and together with a study of marriage records, form at least a background of history.

I shall content myself here with a short account of the earliest pioneers, and as near as I can locate where they lived, not having had much personal contact with the people of the section beyond that of my good friend, Jack Henderson.

No doubt there are many of the present occupants of the community who are descendants of the hardy frontiersman who first settled in this part of Wood County.

WILLIAMSTOWN MONUMENT

The account of the unveiling of the monument to the pioneer settlers of Wood County, opposite Marietta, states, as printed in the papers at the time, that there is on one side of the shaft a bronze plate on which is engraved the names of, with my addition of an occasional maiden name of a wife.

Hezekiah Bukey, wife Drusilla Tomlinson.
Coley Dye, Ann.
John Hazelrigg, Abigail (Kinnaird).
Alexander Henderson, Jane L., John G., and Drusilla (Williams)
David Jameson, Margaret.
John A. Kinnaird, Mary.
Ignatius Ogden, Abbie.
Samuel Pugh, Sarah.
Daniel Rowell, Sarah.
Philip Reed, Mary.
John Sharp, Zidana (Prince).
Isaac Williams, Rebecca (Tomlinson).

This list, as given, only covers a small portion of the territory covered by these notes, namely from one fourth mile below the mouth of Big Run to and including the Tomlinson survey.

There are several names of parties who were never residents of the community, as:

Benjamin Tomlinson, Joseph Tomlinson, first and second, and many others who were in no sense, pioneers.
Isaac Williams and Rebecca.
Hezekiah Bukey and Drusilla.
Ignatius Ogden, dead before 1800, and his wife Mary Ogden (not Abbie).
Eight in all of the thirty-two were in the community before 1800, as also were:
Richard Arnold and wife.
John, Lot and Ephraim Gard.
Daniel Henrie and son, Michael.
Cornelius Hoagland.
Caleb and Jesse Hitchcock.
Jesse Jackson and wife.
Henry and Pleasant Johnson.
Joseph Johnson.
Amara and Richard Jones.
Hamilton Morrison.
Alexander Porter.
Isaac, Joseph and probably Bennett and Nathan Williams, and Rebecca, wife of Isaac.

Bird Lockhart and Charles Howard, and others were also probably of this community when Wood County was organized.

Jacob Bennett, James Compton, Thomas and Hugh Craig, David Dutton, John Fleeharty, Abel James, Francis Kellar, Bird Lockhart, Jr., Isaac Mixer (perhaps Nathaniel Mitchell, William Lowther, Adam, Frederick and perhaps Philip Myers, John Owens, John Pugh, John Pentherer, Ezekiel Thomas, David and possibly Jacob Uhl, Robert Wells, and perhaps others were residents of the section of Wood County lying between Bull Creek and Briscoe's Run when the county was organized in 1800.

As will be seen in the preceding list, there are twenty-one names given of persons or families, residents of the immediate community as considered in the planting of the memorial, persons resident in 1800, all of which were omitted from the tablet.

Of the nine families named who came after 1800, -

Coley Dye married Ann Pugh in 1822. He was one of the Washington County family, and probably came to Williamsport, as it was then called, within a few years before or after that date.

A.D.J., or D. O. Hazelrigg married Elizabeth Kinnaird in 1826, but he was probably later.

John G. Henderson lived up the Little Kanawha, above Chestnut Run, but probably came to Williamstown upon his marriage with Drusilla Williams, about 1806.

David Jameson did not come until after 1800. He was one of the pioneer settlers of the Belleville colony, and sold his farm at the three forks of Lee Creek to Benjamin Mitchell.

John A. Kinnaird married Polly Tomlinson, and got his deed for the upper lot of the Tomlinson survey in 18--.

Philip Reed is first mentioned in 1811. In December, 1813, he leased a piece of land on "a water of Williams' Run".

Daniel Rowell was a son of Daniel Rowell, Sr., and a grandson of Captain Neal. He married Sarah Ogdin in 1831, and probably came to Big Run, or Williamsport, about that date.

John Sharp may have been in Williamsport at one time, but could not have been a pioneer. His father, Spencer Sharp, was a Revolutionary soldier, and came to Wood County, perhaps about 1820. He lived at one time on a part of the Hitchcock patent, on the head of Carpenter's Run. His lease of Talbot land in 1823 may have been before or after this. John Sharp was not married to Zidana Prince until 1830, but was raised—probably born—in the upper part of Wood County.
One of the most outstanding figures in the settlement, and the formation of this part of Wood County, was Isaac Williams. Reading on the subject shows him to have been born in Chester County, Pennsylvania, on July 10th, 1737, but later removed with his father to Winchester, Virginia.

He was perhaps fifty years of age when he came to Wood County, and sixty-three when Wood County was organized, and almost eighty-three years old at the time of his death in 1820.

He served, when a young man, in the Indian Wars of what was the western frontier, namely the Ohio River boundary.

He was supposed to have been with Braddock in his campaign of 1755.

Williams was also one of the scouts who played a valiant part in preparing the upper Ohio valley for settlement by the white people. He was with the Zanes in their explorations in the Wheeling Creek vicinity in 1769.

During his hunting and trapping excursions before this, he is reputed to have descended the Ohio River. Probably it was thus he chanced to become one of the first to make his home in what is now Wood County, West Virginia.

In 1775, he married Rebecca, the widow of one John Martin, who had been killed by the Indians while trapping on the Hock-hocking River in 1770. Her father was Joseph Tomlinson, who lived in Maryland, not far from Will's Creek.

Her father and his sons, Joseph, Jr., and Samuel, visited the mouth of the Muskingum some time after 1770. Later the sons returned and took up a tomahawk claim, built a house and made some improvement on it.

Joseph Tomlinson (son, it is claimed) received a patent for the land, his brother having been killed by the Indians, and he had a four hundred acre tract entered in the name of his sister, Rebecca, who was the wife of Williams.

The records show that Isaac Williams obtained a certificate of entry for the land to include his improvements made in 1775. The patent seems to have been to Tomlinson as an assignee of Williams. The land was deeded by Tomlinson to other parties, but a short time before his death, Williams, for a minimal consideration, re-deeded the same farms to the same parties.

Whether the title for the four hundred acres was ever in Rebecca Williams' name does not appear. It was spoken of as belonging to him, and was taxed to him, but in that day, under the laws of Virginia, a wife and all her property belonged to her husband.

It seems a reasonable conclusion that the Tomlinsons really made the improvement, but owing to his improving and getting a patent for fourteen hundred acres at the mouth of Grave Creek, which precluded his acquiring another tract in his own name.

The Williams family settled at their new home on the 24th day of March, 1787, after the building of the fort on the lower side of the Muskingum, and before the planting of the New England colony on the upper side.

He was thus a man past the prime of life, being fifty years old when he came to Wood County. He was thirty-eight years of age when he married, and an elderly man when his only child, Drusilla, was born.

Isaac Williams died September 25th, 1820. His will was probated at the November term of court next following. That will provided that all slaves over twenty-one shall be emancipated, all slaves under twenty-one shall be set free upon the death of his wife. That those retained in service shall be bound out, and upon becoming of age - the males at twenty-one and the females at eighteen - shall each receive the sum of One Hundred dollars. That Phebe, a
slave be paid One hundred dollars at once.
He gave Three hundred dollars "to the three children of Elizabeth Gill, deceased, the daughter of my sister, Lutetia Keller".
To Lutetia Keller and her daughter "the occupancy of the house where she now lives".
To Nancy, the wife of Timothy Gard "my niece One hundred dollars.
To Thomas Williams and Cynthia Williams "children of my brother John -
To Samuel Davis and Isaac Davis, children "of my half brother James
Davis, and
To Letitia Keller and Catharine Keller "all of the balance of my estate
after the death of my wife Rebecca".
Hezekiah Bukey, of Wood County, and William P. Skinner and Paul Fearing
of Washington County were witnesses of the will.
This will says James Davis was her son, so perhaps Williams' mother had
been married to a Davis upon the death of his father. It says also, that Sam­
uel and Isaac Davis are sons of James, and names sisters of Isaac Williams,
perhaps of the vicinity, Lutetia Keller and Nancy Gard.
A Joseph Williams living on Big Run and Elias Davis may or may not have
been relatives.
He also gave to Samuel Davis a lease for his lifetime on the farm
"commonly known as my back farm where he now lives", (On Williams' Creek).
Upon the death of Isaac Williams, his wife, Rebecca sought to and suc­
ceded in having his will set aside on the grounds that the property belong­
ed to her in her own right.
This was in the courts for three or four years, until, on May 21st,
1824, a decision was rendered in the Circuit Superior Court in Chancery at
Clarksburg, directing the defendants, Samuel Davis, Letitia Keller, Cathar­
ine Keller, Hezekiah Bukey, Thomas Williams, Cynthia Williams and Isaac Davis
to "convey to the defendant the said land and appurtenances".
Rebecca Williams' will was admitted to probate at the May term in 1825,
in which she made over to "my nephew John A. Kinnard" all her estate, both
real and personal.
Williams made no sales of land after the organization of Wood County.
On January 9, 1801, Robert Newman, Attorney in fact for Benjamin Tal­
bott and Rebecca Williams, signed an agreement concerning Talbott's claim
on the four hundred acres "patented to the said Williams in August, 1785, and
said to be supported by the disposition of a Benjamin Tumblestone in favor of
the said Rebecca, and she willing to prevent a tedious and expensive law-suit,
agrees with said attorney in fact that she will pay Seven hundred fifty dol­lars".
He, Newman, agrees to "Establish better, more shure and permanent title
than that holden by Isaac Williams", and to convey to said Rebecca or her
heirs three hundred acres of such lands, two hundred acres gratis, and one
hundred acres for the sum mentioned. The agreement was signed by Robert New­
man and Rebecca Williams.
I have the impression that the other three holders of Tomlinson lands
also compromised with the Talbott claimants. Isaac Williams, a short time
before his death, re-deeded each of them their farms purchased from Tomlin­
son. This was because the land was entered in Williams' name. He signed with
a mark "X", probably because too feeble to write.
I have found no plat of the Williams farm, although the lines of neigh­
boring tracts should show the approximate boundary of all but the river front­
age. Kinnaird sold off this and his adjoining lands without regard to the origi-
inal lines. I think Williams Creek was approximately the back line.

Before 1800, there had grown up quite a village about his place, but I find nothing to show in whom title was vested. Probably Alexander Porter, a hotel keeper, and Daniel Jameson, a business man about that time, were residents of Williamsport, as the place was known until its incorporation in 1875, as stated elsewhere.

Isaac Williams had laid out a little town at his place. A Haymond, of Harrison County, was the surveyor. As Williams sold no lots after 1800, the venture probably collapsed.

Isaac Williams was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania in 1837, and Rebecca Tomlinson was born in Maryland, February 14th, 1754. She was a widow at 16 years of age, and remarried at twenty-one, and the mother of the first white child born in Williams District when she was thirty-three. She died in 1825, at the age of seventy-one.

They raised only the one child, Drusilla, who married John G. Henderson.

**UHL FAMILY**

The name Uhl, commonly called and often written "Owl" was often met in the settlement of this section.

The founder of this family was one David Uhl, who was born in Holland, and came to Wood County with the Holland Dutch colony several years before the organization of the local government. There is no record where he lived for some years, but he finally located on land bought from Adam Wires, a part of the lower end of the Blake Patent, where he remained until his death in 1818. He is buried in a family burying ground on his farm. By his side sleeps his wife, Ursula. The inscriptions beyond the names are illegible.

I have never found much that is definite in the way of a biography of the founder of the Uhl Family, nor has it been my good fortune to talk with anyone who knew much of the early life of the family. He may have been married twice, as I have seen the statement that his wife's maiden name was Wilhelmina De Steiger. David Uhl must have been a man well up in years when he first came. Jacob, who married in 1808, bought land (received deed) in 1813, was probably a son. George Uhl, said to be born in southwestern Pennsylvania, was probably the oldest son.

Sally Uhl, who married John Casey in 1814, was his daughter, and another daughter married Frederic Cradlebach.

I have seen the name of John R. Uhl and Charles D. Uhl mentioned in biographies as brothers of George. I believe however, that they were more likely his sons.

George Uhl was in the War of 1812, serving in the northeastern Ohio, under General Harrison. He married Eleanor, daughter of James Hiett, another of the early Dutch settlers. He was born August 8th, 1794, and died September 28th, 1887, when past ninety-three.

Jacob Uhl, Sr., who may have been a brother of David, married Sarah Owens in 1808. He lived on Briscoe Run, and raised a large family. Eleven years later, Jacob Uhl married Catharine Dye. I have no means of knowing whether this was the same man or not. John V., David V., and a Jacob were sons of Jacob, Sr. (I shall not attempt to place the following persons).

Ann Uhl married Willard Green in 1822.
Sarah Uhl married John McAtie in 1824.
Elizabeth Uhl married Benjamin Athey (or Benson?) in 1825.
John Uhl married Sarah Casey in 1836.
Eliza Uhl married Thomas Hawkins in 1843.
Ignatius Ogden came from the Grave Creek Settlement to this land, at the mouth of Big Run, where he continued to live until his death. His wife was Mary Riggs. Family tradition says that it was she who, taking a skiff, brought Lewis Wetzel across the Ohio River into Virginia when he escaped from the jail at Marietta, after the killing of the Indian. He probably bought the land of Joseph Tomlinson. Ignatius and Mary Ogden had five sons, whose names were given to me as: Alvin, who lived in Meigs County, Ohio, and Noah married Elizabeth Jameson in 1812, and lived at Ogdinsville. They raised ten children. Absalom married Mary Leachman. Hugh married Mary Earl in 1812 (as per marriage record.) Greenburg died when he was a child.

TOMLINSON FAMILY

There are conflicting accounts of the Tomlinson Family in Wood County. It is sure that Joseph Tomlinson who owned the land opposite the Muskingum was never a resident of Wood County, although he may have assisted in making that "first improvement". He may also have had the four hundred acres patented to Rebecca Williams (The patent was issued ten years after her marriage). Joseph Tomlinson deeded the lower part of the land to Joseph (3) in 1806, and the upper to John A. Kinnaird.

Following is an outline of the family as I have been able to get it together. Joseph Tomlinson, Sr's. children I learned were: Rebecca married Isaac Williams. Joseph married Elizabeth Hart.

A copy of the family record shows that:

Joseph Tomlinson, 2nd, was born October 12th, 1745, and died May 30th, 1825. He married Elizabeth Hart who was born March 2nd, 1757 and died May 3rd, 1841. Their children were:

Robert, born October 24th, 1775.
Drusilla, born April 17th, 1777, married Hezekiah Bukey.
Samuel, born in 1799, and married Lavina Purdy.
Joseph, (3rd), was born April 7th, 1781, and died October 4th, 1864. He married Susannah McMahon April 24th, 1808.
Mary was born September 17th, 1785, and married J. A. Kinnaird.
Lucy was born March 27th, 1789, and married Samuel Riggs, first. Later, she married Isaac Hopkinson.
Elizabeth was born October 23rd, 1790, and married Joseph McMahon.
Nathaniel was born June 7, 1793, and married Margaret Ransom.
Jesse was born June 12th, 1797, and married Mary Martin.
Isaac was born May 26, 1783, and married a Miss Dement. He went to Kentucky. His descendants are around Fairland and Indianapolis. (None were ever here.)

Of the family of Joseph, the second:

Rebecca Williams, sister of Joseph the second.
Drusilla Bukey, daughter of Joseph the second.
Joseph Tomlinson, the third, son of Joseph the second.
Polly Kinnaird, daughter of Joseph the second.

They are the ones living in Wood County.
The family tradition - or history - of the family in Wood County is that Joseph Tomlinson was born in Ireland, October 12, 1712, and came to America. He married Drusilla, daughter of Van and Elizabeth Walker Swearingen, of Little Meadows, about 1740, and was living there at the time of the Braddock campaign. He removed to the Ohio River settlement in September, 1793, and died on the following December 1, at the age of eighty-one.

He and his sons, Samuel and Joseph, visited Wood County in 1770. The boys returned the next spring, and built a cabin and cleared some land, returning each year until the title was acquired.

Samuel having been killed by the Indians at Yellow Creek, the patent was given to Joseph alone, who lived at Grave Creek. As a matter of fact, the entry was in the name of Isaac Williams for the year 1775. The patent was in the name of Joseph Tomlinson, assignee of Isaac Williams, the claim wholly in the boundaries of the Talbot patent.

Tomlinson was never a resident of Wood County, He gave the land to:

His sister, Rebecca Williams.
His daughter, Drusilla Bukey.
His daughter, Polly Kinnaird.
His son, Joseph Tomlinson.

All of these lived on the land so apportioned until their death.

Joseph Tomlinson received a deed for the lower side of the Tomlinson survey in 1806, which is probably about the date of his settlement in Wood County.

HENRIE Family

One of the most prominent figures of the community was Daniel Henrie. I find nothing to show where he was from, but he was probably one of the Holland Dutch colony which came to the community some years before the county was formed. He died in 180—.

His wife's name was Sarah, and after his death, she was married to Jeremiah Brown.

They lived on Big Run, perhaps a mile below the forks, but may have been in Williamstown, or elsewhere when he died. He had a large family, including Michael, Benjamin, Margaret and Rachel.

Sarah Henrie, his wife, may have been a second wife, and not the mother of the children. She was married to Jeremiah Brown in 1804.

Benjamin Henrie was deeded a tract of land, probably about the head of Dry Run, a little stream entering into Big Run, on the other side of the ridge. Later it became a part of the Henderson farm. It was deeded to Benjamin in 1809.

Michael Henrie lived in 1809 on a tract just west of his brother, Benjamin. In 1800, he had been deeded land on or near Big Run, below the mouth of Lick Run.

Margaret Henrie married Joseph Pugh, and lived above the Blake patent, and back of Ogdens.

Rachel Henrie was not married. She owned land on the waters of Jackson and Miller's Run.

William Henrie sold his share in his father's estate to Margaret and Rachel, in 1829. It is possible that he did not remain in this vicinity, as I find nothing of him later.

The PUGH Family

The Pugh family came to Wood County as early as 1798, perhaps a year or so earlier.
Samuel Pugh received a deed for the upper share of the Blake patent in 1800, and lived about a quarter of a mile below the mouth of Big Run. He bought several other tracts of land in this section, and settled his children around him.

He was born in Holland, I think, or perhaps he was born after his father had come to the upper Potomac. He came to Wood County from Western Maryland. It is not very clear as to his family. He had four sons to whom he gave farms:

- Joseph Pugh, who married Margaret Henrie in 1824.
- Evan Pugh.
- Robert Pugh, who married a Davis girl.
- Enos Pugh.
- John Pugh, who married Nancy Keller in 1804, and lived down below, must have been a brother or a cousin of Samuel Pugh.
- A John Pugh, probably a relative also, had a son, Jesse Pugh, who married Hannah, a daughter of Richard Arnold, in 1838.
- There was a James Pugh, who married Mary Rawson in 1810, and lived on or about the Bull Creek settlement.
- A Joseph Pugh married Elizabeth Gill in 1815.
- There are numerous others of the name on the marriage lists of a later date.
- There is also mention made of a Samuel Pugh, Jr., conveying land on Bull Creek to Samuel Pugh, Sr.

**Athey Family**

The first time the name Athey appears on the Land Books of Wood County was when James Athey received a deed for a farm lying on the east side of Big Run, some where in the neighborhood of Jackson's Run, in 1812.

He bought the land from Nathan Gard, and may have been in possession a few years before that date. He came from northern Virginia, probably not earlier than 1810, and is supposed to be the founder of the family in Wood County. He was a member of the Athey family to which belong the wives of George Creel, John Dawkins, sisters whose parents lived in western Maryland. Some of the family were in Greene County, Pennsylvania, and the name occurs in Washington County, Ohio, but these have drifted over from Wood County, no doubt.

There were two brothers, Walter Athey and William Athey, both of whom married daughters of John and Esther Douglass, and lived on a part of the Douglass farm on the left fork of Big Run, Walter and his wife, Hannah, below the mouth of Plum Run, and William and wife, Zelia, north of Walter.

They were there in the early 1820s, and are supposed to have been the sons of James. Both of these still have numerous representatives in the Big Run community.

**Locker Family**

Another name very common on Big Run about the bigbend and above was that of Locker. There are three names: John, William and Thomas Locker, who were living at an early date in the settlement along the Big Run below the bend.

They may have been a father and two sons, or three brothers. Be that as it may, there were none of them married in Wood County. In 1819, a Jeptha Locker, of Big Run, married a daughter of Edward McPherson, and in 1830 he settled in the woods on the hill between Dry Run and Berry's Run. He literally carved a home
out of the forest, and raised his family.

There still rest the pioneer father and mother, and five of the seven children, in the family cemetery. There today are the crumbled foundations of the chimney and fireplace of his old log cabin home. On one side is a row of the blasted skeletons of five massive cherry trees, which shaded and sheltered that cabin seventy-five or eighty years ago. In the other margin of the flat, across the old garden, lies a row of seven mounds.

There are several other Lockers listed among the first half of the twenties, and these may all have been grown up children of these three families here named.

GARD Family.

John Gard settled on the west side of Big Run, and was living there when Wood County was organized in 1800. He may have been in Wood County a few years before that date. He may have been of the Holland Dutch colony, and came with the Hietts, Pughs and Uhls, about 1796, 1797 or 1798. He was one of the first settlers on upper Big Run, preceded by Henry Johnson, the Henries, and perhaps Cornelius "Hoglin" (should be Hoagland), and a few others.

Gard bought one hundred acres from Henry and Pleasant Johnson, and later four more acres from Joseph Johnson, lying on the creek above him.

He was married before 1800, but I do not have the wife's name.

He willed his property, at his death in 1831, to his five sons,

Richard Gard.  
Ephraim Gard.  
John Gard.  
Jeremiah Gard.  
Samuel Gard.

There were two girls, Ann Gard and Rachel Gard, but, following the custom of the time, they were supposed to marry their living.

Rachel Gard, who married Joseph Williams, and lived on the other side of the creek a mile and a half above has been a sister for whom his child was named.

Matthew Gard bought a tract from Daniel Henrie in 1802, which lay on the left fork of Big Run, above the mouth of Plum Run. He sold this to Nathan Gard. This land reached to a corner of the famous "Oglesby line", and had one line over a mile long. It was, however, a part of the Henrie land, which a deed by Mrs. Douglass some years later pronounces "in disputation". I never traced the sequence of the "disputation". Matthew sold the land to Nathan Gard, and Nathan to James Athey in 1812.

The names of Ephraim, Lot and Lemuel Gard also occur in the earliest history of the county.

There were also several of the family in the Marietta colony.

HENRY JOHNSON

Henry Johnson had several small entries of land on Big Run. He was in Wood County before 1800. When he made that last sale, I have noted, which was in 1812, he was living "in Dover County, Ohio".

Johnson sold to Richard Arnold in 1807 a piece of land lying on the west side of Big Run, next below Hamilton Morrison's two hundred acre entry. Perhaps this was his home place. It was on the right fork of the creek, above the forks.
MORRISON Family

Hamilton Morrison lived on the creek above Johnson. He was there before 1800. He had a small entry on the head of Pond Run, and bought the hinterland remnants of the Blake Survey.

I find nothing much concerning the personality of the man, but his name occurs frequently in the affairs of the county. He had three sons, William, Hamilton, and Cornelius, and his descendants are still living in the County. He was a native of Ireland.

HENRY FAIL

Henry Fail was living on Big Run in the first decade of the nineteenth Century. He owned three or four different tracts of land, apparently buying and selling, and buying again.

I have nothing showing where he came from, or what became of him, nor connecting him with any other of the early settlers.

JOHN BROOKOVER

John Brookover was here in the latter part of the first decade of the county. He may have been here as a renter several years before the date of January 7th, 1811, when he rented a farm from Sarah Brown for several years, he had to give one third of all crops.

There is nothing to show the site of the land. It may have been the old Henrie homestead. Sarah Brown was the widow of Daniel Henrie.

There is nothing to show where Brookover came from. He was here a few years earlier than 1810, and had several sons who lived on the waters of a stream which heads over the hill south of the head of Pond and Briscoe's Runs, and enters Big Run about a half mile above Lick Run. The John Brookover who bought land there in later years was probably a son of the pioneer.

ARNOLD Family

Richard Arnold came from the Marietta colony to Big Run before Wood County was organized. He lived about the mouth of Jackson's Run, on the west side of the creek.

He, like his neighbors, Henry Johnson and Daniel Henrie, patented some nearby tracts at a comparatively late date. Probably they had been included in patents formerly laid, and perhaps forfeited or lapsed.

One of Arnold's surveys on the head of Jackson's Run overlapped a patent made to Daniel Henrie, leaving one hundred twenty-five acres claimed by each. The dispute was taken into the courts by the heirs, but ultimately compromised, the title going to the Henrie heirs, upon payment of a sum of money.

The deed was made in October, 1828, and was signed by John Arnold, David V. Uhl and Sally, Levi Arnold, Elias Keller and Rachel, Letitia Newbanks, and William Brown and Mary A.

One could presume the children of Richard Arnold at that time to be:

John Arnold.
Sally Arnold, who married David V. Uhl.
Rachel Arnold, married Elias Keller.
Letitia Arnold, married a Newbanks, husband deceased.
Mary A. Arnold, married William Brown.
JOHN HARRIS

John Harris was living on Big Run near or below the forks as early as 1800. He bought land of Daniel Henrie. I have never tried to place him, and his land may have been of the tract "in disputation" with John Douglass.

INGRAHAM Family

The name of Ingraham is not among the Pioneers of the Big Run Community. The first land deal I seem to find is a purchase by Uriah Ingraham (generally written "Ingram" in the early days and - presumably - always so spoken), from Henry Fail, in 1817, of ninety-six acres of land "situate in the waters of the Big Run", and joining John Gard.

This would be on the west side of Big Run, and would cover in part lands sold by Henry to Joseph Johnson.

Uriah sold the same to Benjamin Ingraham in 1820.

Besides Uriah and Benjamin Ingraham, there were Job and Abraham, both of whom lived at one time on the waters of Big Run. In 1826, Abraham was "Living on Carpenter's Run, when a son, Rufus P. (Putnam) Ingraham was born". This name might indicate the Marietta Colony.

Abraham Ingraham was born in 1803. His wife was Nancy McAtee, whose family came, it is said, to Wood County in 1811. The marriage was in 1821. Benjamin Ingraham, probably a brother of Abraham, married Margaret Carpenter, in 1826.

Sarah Ingraham married Levi Arnold, a son of Richard, in 1862.

REED Family

The earliest mention I find of Philip Reed is his leasing of a fifteen acre plot of land of John A. Kinnaird, in 1812. The land probably opened on Williams' Creek, and it was stipulated that Reed was to build an eighteen by twenty-four foot cabin, one and one-half stories high, with upper and "under" floors "rough laid with boards", (that is sawed timber instead of puncheons). He was to build "a good and sufficient wood and clay chimney", to fence "all the land" contained in these bounds and courses before described, and to have it all completed by the end of five years.

The lease lasted for ten years, Reed paying one-third of the crop raised during the last five years.

Robert Marshall, William French, and Warren Reed were witnesses signing the paper.

Philip Reed came from near Leesburg, in Loudoun County, Virginia, and was probably here as early as 1810. His wife was a Miss Mary Richards. They had two sons, Parkinson and Warren Reed.

Parkinson Reed grew up to be an abolitionist, and was supposed to be a conductor on the underground railroad. He was active in the organization of the State of West Virginia, and served as a Justice of the Peace. His wife, Eliza Crane, of Marietta, was a Connecticut Yankee. He owned a farm on Big Run, but may have lived in Williams-town, where he was in business.

Warren Reed was also a Union man. He was a business man in Williamstown, and is credited with being the first postmaster at the Post Office, "Dunbar", when it was created.
Warren Reed married Dolly Kinnaird. In later life, he removed to a farm on Lower Sandy Creek, in Jackson County, West Virginia, where he continued to reside until his death. He lived near the mouth of Copper Fork, and was the first postmaster at Sandyville, West Virginia.

William A. M. Reed, also a prominent Union Man, was from Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, and does not appear to be connected with the family just given previously.

MORRIS Family.

William Morris was, in 1815, the owner of land on Hoagland's Run, or French Creek.

A Thomas Morris, probably a son, was paying taxes on land in the vicinity some years later, but I have so far, discovered nothing to show Morris to have been here earlier than 1812 or 1813. This Thomas Morris at one time purchased a part of the French lands, and he was probably either married into, or otherwise related to the French family.

Probably the most of these are descendants of William Morris.

James Morris married Richena Owens in 1815.
Deborah Morris, married Daniel Tierney in 1818.
Aaron Morris married Mary Bell in 1822.
Philip Morris married Sarah Beall in 1825.

ESKRIDGE Family

Hector R. Eskridge lived on land on a run which received his name. His farm was wholly included in the Talbot survey, otherwise mentioned. In 1817, a compromise was effected by which Eskridge deeded to Humphrey Peake, as Talbot's agent, his farm was in turn leased to him and his wife, so long as he or his wife should occupy the same.

In 1830, Abraham Vandiver, who had married Ann Eskridge in 1815, bought one hundred fifty acres of land of McClain, Talbot's assignee, lying on the Ohio River above Kinnaird's.

HENDERSON Family

The Henderson family is thought to have come from Prince William County, Virginia, in 1797.

Alexander Henderson, locally and familiarly known as "Sandy" Henderson, was one of the wealthiest and most cultured of Wood County's pioneers. His father, whose name he bore, lived at Dumfries, Virginia, near Alexandria. He was a large purchaser under the Treasury Land Warrant System of Virginia, in 1792, and owned numerous five thousand acre blocks lying on the Little Kanawha River and tributary streams in Wood County. Many of these became the property of his three sons, Alexander, John G., and James, who also each did a goodly amount of land-brokerage in his own right.

One account makes the settlement in 1799, and a family tradition makes it eight or ten years earlier. There is no doubt that they came some years prior to the close of the century.

Alexander Henderson came out with a number of slaves, and founded a home on the Little Kanawha River, just above the later village of Enterprise. He afterward returned to Alexandria, where he was married to Jane Hutchinson Lithgow, also of Scottish descent, and brought her to the new home in the woods. He was a member of the first County Court in Wood County, in 1807.
He was an intimate friend of Harman Blennerhassett, had inside information of the conspiracy, and was the principal witness against Aaron Burr in his trial.

Henderson raised a large family, and, as the children grew up, removed to Marietta to give them better educational facilities than Wood County then offered. Afterward, he located on a large tract of several thousand acres, extending from Cow Creek up the Ohio River. He died about 1822.

James Henderson came to Wood County about the same time his brother did. He owned a farm on the east side of the river, perhaps opposite that of his brother. He was never married, and it is not apparent whether he lived on the land continuously or not. He did not figure largely in the civic life of the community.

John G. Henderson lived on the Kanawha River, below his brother James' farm, and above the mouth of Chestnut Run. He was a member of the County Court when it first met in 1799, and continued in that body for many years. He was one of the first Delegates from Wood County to the General Assembly of Virginia, and again in 1803 and 1804. John Glassford Henderson was married to Drusilla, daughter of Isaac and Rebecca Williams, but it is not a part of the Wood County records.

Henderson owned some of the property in Parkersburg, but probably never lived on it. Another Henderson brother, Richard H. Henderson, was an attorney in Leesburg.

KELLAR Family

Francis Kellar was born in the Northern part of Holland, in 1778. Tradition has it that he settled on the Ohio River, near the head of the Muskingum Island "about 1790", but this date may be too early. He owned a large body of land extending back to the waters of Big Run, three quarters of a mile from the river. Kellar received this deed for his land in 1795, but that is no proof as to the time of his settlement, for he may have been in possession several years earlier.

His title seems to be based on a "Patent" to one John Selger, in 1785. One may wonder if this was the same man who planted the Dutch Colony in Wood County. His patent antedates the Treasury Warrant sales by seven years. The coming to Wood County, which probably has been by way of the settlements in southwestern Pennsylvania, would seem to have been at least before the Indian War, in 1794, as it is claimed he assisted in the building of a blockhouse opposite Fort Harmar, for defense against the savages.

He was married after coming to Wood County, but probably before its organization, either that, or else the couple were wedded at Marietta, or other outside point. The bride was Rachel, daughter of Richard Arnold, who lived on Big Run, in 1800. Arnold came to Wood County from Winchester, several years before.

The Kellars had a son, Elias, who was born in 1802, on the old homestead, which he inherited, although his father had during his lifetime sold a large part of the grounds. His log house was still standing on the river bank in 1882.

Martha Kellar, who married John Goldsmith, in 1819, was a daughter. Nancy Kellar married John Pugh in 1804. She was probably a sister.

PIONEERS IN PARKERSBURG VICINITY

In presenting the outlines of these pioneer families who were represented in Parkersburg and vicinity at an early date, it must be understood that I am not presenting these families as all who were in Wood County at an early date.
Neither must it be taken to mean that because all the pioneer families are not discussed that any of these families whose histories are here given are in any sense considered of more importance than others.

No matter how small a part some person has played in a community, there is no means of measuring what importance that part may assume until out in the future the last waves have at last reached shore.

On some of the family genealogies, I feel that I have not been able to gather more information than has already been presented by able historians before me, and so have omitted them.

**NEAL Family**

(Captain James Neal)

Wood County's first permanent settlers were Captain James Neal and the party who accompanied him, who located and built a blockhouse near the bank of the Little Kanawha River, a mile or more from the Ohio River.

I have seen nothing in the records - nor out of them - telling the names of the members of the party.

The time of the settlement was late in October, 1785. The site was on the south side of the river, between the East Street bridge and the mouth of the little stream which rises on the old Scarlett Foley farm, at Two Mile Hill, and empties into the Kanawha, below the mouth of Worthington Creek.

The exact site of the blockhouse, which was known to pioneer history as Neal's Station, cannot now be determined, but it was probably halfway up, or more. The old building stood for many years, but was finally carried away in a flood. Whether this was the memorable flood of 1832, or some head-rise on the Kanawha, does not appear.

Neal himself returned to his home in Greene County, Pennsylvania, after building of the fort. The presumption is that a party remained at the station.

If they did not, Captain Neal's was not a permanent settlement, and the honor, if honor it be, goes to Judge Woods' settlement at Belleville, a few weeks later, but be it remembered that Belleville was at that time in Kanawha County, where it remained for fifteen years before being transferred to the new county just organized. Neal's Station was in Harrison County from the time of its planting until the organization of Wood County.

At the time of this settlement, 1785, there was an "old deadenin" nearly a half mile above the mouth of Neal's Run, which no doubt marked the location of Joel Reed's improvement. About a half mile or more above the station, in the large bottom on the Westfall farm (back of the Shovel plant) was another "Deadenin of Timber", marking William S. Stewart's "improvement", made a year before the coming of Robert Thornton.

I find nothing as to how Neal and his companions secured title to their lands. One would have to consult the old Land Books, Tax Books, and other records at Clarksburg, as well as the copies of old surveys and patents, which, I am told, are kept in the State Archives at Charleston, before he could write an adequate or satisfactory history of Wood - or any other county that does not date back to the middle 1780's.
Neale could not have obtained his lands by "Settlement Right" at that late
date, and it was before the time of the Treasury Warrant System by several years.
The old tradition that he stopped here instead of continuing down the river to
Kentucky as was his intention, is hardly tenable. It is, however, a demonstrable
fact that he, or he and relatives who were with him, did at one time own the
whole Kanawha river-front from Avery Street to the Geiger Bend above the locks.
The story of Captain Neal and his activities are told so differently by
different writers that it would be impossible to arrive at a complete account-
ing of the facts. He was a son of Hugh Neal, said to be a reduction of the name
"O'Neil", by some of his biographers.
Captain Neal is reported to be one of several brothers who came to America,
and to be of Irish descent.

His monument in Mt. Olivet Cemetery carries these figures, "1738 - 1822". 
This fixes the date of his birth as sometime in 1738.
He is said to have been in the army, and a Captain of the "Thirteenth
Virginia, under Col. Russell, but his name does not appear in the list of pensioners. However, this might be due to the fact that he was dead before the Pension Act was passed, or he may have been a "Regular", instead of the Militia, who alone were pensioned by the state.

Neal was a resident of Monongalia County, as formed from the District of West Augusta, in 1776, when he served as one of the three Commissioners appoint-
ed under the Virginia Land Office Act of 1779, to examine and pass upon the
claims of the various parties seeking to obtain titles under Homestead settle-
ment and pre-emption laws. He is said to have been in that part of the county
now included in Greene County, Pennsylvania. These Commissioners held sessions
at Redstone Old Fort, at Cox's Fort (now Washington, Pennsylvania), and at the
court house of Ohio County. They issued thousands of Certificates of recommenda-
tions during 1781. (It will be remembered that this was two years before the
close of the war. The service must have been earlier.)

Captain Neale was, in 1783, the closing year of the Revolutionary War,
a deputy surveyor for Samuel Hanway, of Monongalia County, and was sent by him
to survey a tract for Robert Thornton, which lay at the mouth of the Little Kanawha River.

The 28th day of December, 1784, his son, James Harden Neal was born.
Late the next fall, October or November, 1785, he led a party, the number
or names of which was not preserved so far as I know, and planted a settle-
ment on the south side of the Little Kanawha, about a mile from its mouth.
Here they at once proceeded to build a stockade fort and cabins for defense
against the inclemency of the winter, and protection from the savages.

It is impossible at this date to say just where was the site of this fort,
which was known by the name of Neale's Station, but enough is shown in the re-
cords to prove conclusively that it stood somewhere in the vicinity of the railroad tracks in the bottom above the East Street bridge, probably well up
towards Hannaman Run.

After the close of the Indian war, and the scattering of the families who
had been herded for safety inside the palisades, Captain Neal lived in a cabin
just below the stream named Neal's Run, for him, which rises in the low gap
at Two Mile Hill, and is the lower of the twin streams emptying into the river
nearly opposite the mouth of Worthington Creek. He had a large orchard on the
river bank at this place, but sold it to Hugh Phelps in 1804. Ten and one
half acres he had kept for his home. The site of the same is well defined. The land reached fifty-one and one half poles down the river from the mouth of Hannaman's Run.
Neale owned at one time all the land from forty-seven rods below the mouth of Neal's Run, to above the Lock at the mouth of Mill Run. Descendants say he once owned to the Ohio River.

I have seen nothing indicating how or when he acquired a title to these lands, probably it was before his settlement. Four hundred acres had been a settlement right of his brother-in-law, Mark Harden, and parts had been given (or sold) to his children, John Neal, Hannah Phelps, and Nancy Rowell, before Wood County was established.

Captain Neal held patents for numerous tracts of Virginia lands west of the mountains, and it is a perfectly logical conclusion that these were among his holdings, and that he visited them to see whether he wanted to colonize them or not. The reader will note that if the tradition is correct, he had colonists, implements, and supplies, with him, ready to make a settlement.

On the 16th of January, 1791, there had been born a daughter to Captain Neal and his wife, which is claimed to be the first white child born in Wood County. (Not a very reasonable claim in view of the fact that it was five years after the founding of this settlement, and also of the one at Belleville.)

The mother died in 1796, (five years later.) The child grew to womanhood on the farm, and was married to Scarlett G. Foley, on March 25th, 1811, and lived all her life on the "old Foley farm", at Two Mile Hill, on the old Elizabeth Pike. She died on the first day of September, 1870. She was loved and respected as "Aunt Polly" by all who knew her.

James Neal married Hannah Harden. The date is not given. Some say she was a sister of Col. John Harden. Others say a daughter. The first seems the most probable. (Others say Mark Harden.)

They had six children, three boys and three girls. The oldest date given is 1769.

Hannah, born November 15th, 1769, died September 15th, 1824. She married Hugh Phelps, March 15th, 1787.

John Neal, born May 10, 1776, and died March 24, 1823.

James Harden Neal, born December 28, 1784, and died March 24, 1850.

Henry Neal, was killed by the Indians in 1792. (One writer puts it 1790.)

Nancy Neal, married Daniel Rowell, no dates given. Her name is sometimes given as Nancy in deeds, and sometimes as Anna.

Catharine Neal, married Joseph McCoy, and no dates given.

Henry Neal was a young man when killed in 1792, probably was born about 1772.

Catharine may have been one of the younger children, and married after the close of Indian hostilities.

There have been other children who did not reach maturity.

Captain Neal is commonly stated to have been a member of the first County Court, but the records do not show him to have been a member at any time. He would have been sixty-one years of age when the County was organized.

In 1817, Col. Phelps deeded Neal three and one-half acres of the upper end at the orchard, under an agreement that the land go to Phelps' son, John Phelps, at Neal's death. The records show to a certainty that the site of the "Station" was back from some point on this river line. The old blockhouse stood for many years, being carried away by a flood, perhaps that of 1832, or maybe by some sudden outflow of the Kanawha.

Tradition says that Captain Neal was in a company which included Col. John Harden and others of his wife's people, who were on their way to locate homes in Kentucky. By some means, they had camped on the south shore of the Little Kanawha River, and Neal was so favorably impressed with the country that he decided to go no further, and stopping, began work on a dwelling.
The inference is that there were several who stayed with him, but I have never seen any statement in regard to the number or names of such colonists. There are, however, differences as to detail between the various versions of the tradition.

Neal remained with the party until spring, when he returned to the old home. Some time in 1786, he was again married, the bride being Mary Phelps, a sister of Hugh Phelps, who had married Hannah, a daughter of Captain Neal.

Early in the spring of 1787, Neal came with his wife and children, to the station, and became a permanent resident of the county of what is now Wood County. Captain Neal’s military record is summarized in the D. A. R. records as:

Captain 13th Virginia, December 19, 1776.
Regiment designated 9th Virginia, September 14, 1778.
Resigned January 3, 1779.

About this time he appears to have gone to the Monongahela, in Greene Greene County, Pennsylvania, and later acted as one of the Commission for examination of Land Entries.

John Neal was born in Greene County, Pennsylvania May 10, 1776. He was about eleven years old when his father brought him to Wood County. He grew up and remained for the rest of his life a resident of Wood County and this community.

He was married to Ephlis Hook in 1796, and when he was twenty years old. From her name, one would take her to be a New England Yankee of the Marietta colony. There were a few persons of the name of Hook in the county in later years.

She was always known to her friends and relatives as "Aunt Eva", the name on her tombstone is "Elizabeth". They raised a large family of seven sons and five daughters. Several of these sons were among the leading business men of Wood County in their day.

Neal sold his farm above the mouth of Neal's Run, at the beginning of the century, and moving down to Newport, embarked in business. He was a Deputy Sheriff, and kept a hotel in 1801. He qualified as a member of the County Court on May 13, 1800, when but twenty-four years old, and a member of the General Assembly at thirty. He was Sheriff of Wood County in 1807 and 1808. In later life, he was a merchant in Parkersburg, and died while yet a young man of only forty-seven, in the epidemic of the summer of 1823.

PHelps FAMILY

Hugh Phelps came from the same vicinity with Captain Neal, whose daughter, Hannah, was his wife. Whether married before or after the immigration does not just appear. The names of Phelps or Rowell neither occur in Haymond’s list of Marriage licenses issued in Harrison County, of which Wood was then a part. The birth of his second child is given as May 13, 1791, in the records.

Hugh Phelps and Hannah raised a family of seven children, four sons, John, Jefferson, Henry and Henderson; and daughters, Priscilla, wife of Thomas Creel, Hannah, wife of Mason Foley, and Delilah, who married John J. Sutherland. All of these are identified with the life of Wood County, except Henry, who married and presumably lived in Kanawha County.

Jefferson was born in 1801, and died in 1843. He was an educated man, studied law, married, and perhaps lived for a part of his life in Harrison County, but was interested in Wood County real estate in the thirties.

Hugh Phelps died September 6, 1823, and his wife died September 15, 1824. Presumably they are buried in the old graveyard near his home, but there is no monument or inscription, so far as I have ever found.
It is unnecessary to attempt here even an outline history of Col. Hugh Phelps, even if material were obtainable, and is utterly useless with his origin and ancestry shrouded in — not mystery — but a complete lack of information. It is supposed that he was a native of Pennsylvania. The name is common in Pennsylvania as it is also in Massachusetts and Connecticut, but I have seen nothing whatsoever to connect Hugh Phelps with any one of those named in records I have seen. Some speak warmly of his ability, make up, and merits, even while others may be secretly puzzling over the opportune severance of his relations with Burr and Blennerhassett, and his part in the suppression of their fiasco.

Suffice it to say he was easily the Master-mind of the Kanawha colony, and the Master-spirit of the new county.

Phelps was probably too young for service in the Revolution, and I see nothing to show that he took any active part in the War of 1812, although he was long at the head of the Wood County Militia. He came with Captain Neal from Greene County, Pennsylvania, but may, like Neal, have come as a Virginian, dissatisfied with the final solution of the boundary dispute.

Two sisters are mentioned, Mary, who became the second wife of Captain Neal, and another who was the wife of one of the Barnes men; and two brothers, Elijah and John. There was also a James Phelps who was here in 1800.

Hugh Phelps died during what has been termed "the sickly season", on the 6th day of September, 1823. His widow died the next year. They were the parents of:

John Phelps (Gentleman John).

Jefferson Phelps.

Henry Phelps.

Hugh Henderson Phelps

and the parents-in-law of:

Thomas Creel (Senior).

Mason Foley.

John J. Sutherland.

Elijah Phelps was a brother of Colonel Hugh Phelps. James Phelps may have been also the same. Doubtless they were closely related, as they bought jointly on the south side of the Kanawha River.

Both were here in 1800.

Rezin and Sylvanus Phelps also bought land on the south side of the little Kanawha River. They were residents of Wood County in 1800. Their land lay in the bend of the river below Tucker's Creek.

John Phelps, another brother of Hugh, was here also, but little is known concerning him.
Elijah, Hugh, James, John, Rezin, and Sylvanus Phelps were residents of the county when it was organized. Oliver and Robert may have been of a later generation.

JOHN STOKELY

John Stokely was one of the shrewdest business men in the colony. Like Hugh Phelps, Isaac Enoch, and several other early residents of Wood County, he kept up a sort of brokerage in wild lands, patented by entry on Treasury Warrants; in lands forfeited to the State for taxes or otherwise; lands sold by decree of the Courts for any cause; as well as any or all odd-bits and scraps that might for any reason be offered for a merely nominal amount. A specialty with Stokely was the securing of a patent for millsites, small patches of one to five acres lying on both sides of and including a stream at a narrows, "riffle", or suitable place for the building and operation of a water-power mill. He had several claims of this kind, and his other patents and claims of all kinds were scattered all over the country. These, however, were often for less and one hundred acres each, rarely exceeding one thousand acres.

I find no account of Stokely's first appearance at the mouth of the Little Kanawha, or just what part of southwestern Pennsylvania he came from. The name is common in the early annals of Connecticut, and they had a goodly representation on the roster of Massachusetts men in the American Army in the Revolution. The reading of his Deed of Emancipation is very strongly indicative although not conclusive, of New England origin.

It is probable Stokely had been here for several years, as he was already the owner of numerous tracts of land, and stood high enough in learning, in ability, and in the respect and esteem of his neighbors and fellow citizens to be chosen Clerk of the County Court at its first session in the abortive attempt to affect an organization of the new county of Wood in August, 1799. He was continued in the position at the final organization — not without opposition, it is true, but that opposition was sectional, not personal, the result of the contest between the upper and the lower ends of the county for the site of the county seat. Phelps was the winner, and Stokely served as Clerk until 1806.

In 1812, he was elected a member of the House of Delegates of Virginia General Assembly, and was five times re-elected to succeed himself. This is probably the longest term of continuous service entrusted to any one man from Wood County, to the Legislature at Richmond.

On November 16, 1818, Stokely "Believing as I do that the holding of any part of Humanity in perpetual bondage is a Moral evil and a great political sin", he consequently proceeded to "Emancipate and set free from the Bonds of Slavery my man York Jones and his wife Sukey, also their five children".

This was after the close of his last term in the Legislature, probably it was soon after this that he went to Indiana. The last glimpse we get of him is when, on July 22nd, 1822, John Stokely, of Greene County, Indiana, conveys to his nephew, Samuel Stokely, of Steubenville, Ohio, all his remaining estate in Wood County. This included numerous tracts of varying dimensions.

Samuel Stokely proceeded to sell these lands as rapidly as he could find purchasers. Samuel Stokely was at one time the Representative of his District in Congress.

Shepherd Conwell, who was once a part of the Bolie Patent, and Yates S. Conwell, a member of the County Court in 1807, it is said, were his nephews.
John Stokely would appear to have been an eccentric sort of person, and round the memories of his ways has grown up a sort of myth to transform him into the Paul Bunyan of Wood County legends and folk tales. It is told how he used to reside by himself out somewhere in a rude hut in the hills, and trudge to and from his duties at the court house, carrying his records under his arm. One writer speaks of a cabin at Snakeville, then a couple of miles from the Newport village, as the real seat of justice.

This Snakeville home was a tract of about six acres lying on Worthington Creek, about fifty rods, says a deed (it is probably farther), above the old Dils mill, at the crossing of the Northwestern Turnpike. This land, says Samuel Stokely, in his deed, was conveyed by William Dils to his uncle, and is duly on record. I have never found any trace of such a document.

Stokely, who was a bachelor, is said to have once lived on this land, also at the Dudley place, where the Catholic School now is.

It is probable that while Clerk of the Court, he lived in a house he had, about a hundred feet from the court house.

DILS FAMILY

Diltz or Dilz would be the German rendering of the name of this family. Later the spelling was anglicized to Dilts, and still later the sound of the "t" in these forms was dropped entirely, and the name spelled and pronounced Dils. Originally, they came from Bavaria. They lived in New Jersey during or a part of the Revolutionary War. Later they were living in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, whence, in 1797, they migrated to Wood County, Virginia.

Philip Dils, the founder of this branch of the family, had purchased the Thomas Clere patent or survey of land, including the claim of John Calhoun, on a tract of seven hundred acres at the mouth of Worthington Creek.

All of this would have been covered by the Mark Harden patent - if it ever existed - much was also covered by a patent to David Gray, and a part by a patent for fourteen hundred acres given to William Smith, assignee of John Briscoe, Jr. The Smith claim also included a part of the middle section of the Clere land, all the upper end of which was covered by a patent to David Griffin, which reached down over a part of the Clere - Smith tangle. Also, one Alexander McCray claimed title to a strip of ground in dispute between Clere, Griffin, and Smith. It took long and tedious legal proceedings to get the matter straightened out, but in the end, Dils' title held good for the whole boundary claimed.

The Dils farm reached from the river at the mouth of Worthington, to the mouth of Holmes' Run, and was four hundred forty-nine poles wide, on a line eastwardly from Broad Street. Dils, who was an old man, soon divided much of this land among his six children, five of whom came with him. The children were all married before coming out from Fayette County, Pennsylvania. The oldest, perhaps, was William, who died in 1810, not quite fifty years of age.

Philip built for himself a house near Worthington Creek, a short distance above the mouth of Berry's Run, and on a gentle slope by the side of a spring of clear water, and where it would be up out of the way of any floods or back water that, even in that day, would occasionally creep out among the trees, which covered the low boggy bottoms. There were three other springs within easy carrying distance of his house. By the side of his spacious "yard" was a rather high perpendicular bank built up to within a few feet of the surface in layers of rock, and crowned with trees, elms, maples, and copper birch, which leaned out across the dark waters of the stream, mingling their
branches with the giant sycamores standing on the narrow strip of low, filled in, alluvial bottomland on the other side. Just the place to set a saw and grist mill for the benefit of the community, and such mill was immediately planned and ultimately planted. It filled a real need, too, as is shown by the fact that inside of about three years after its completion, the Court had opened roads — mostly pack-trails, of course — "to Diltzes Mill", from the mouth of the Kanawha River, across the hill by "Holmes' Run", from the Beeson settlement, up Worthington Creek, to Jim Glaspies, to Lee's Ripple, above Newark, to Vienna, and to Wolfe's Ferry (at the mouth of Rowell's Run.)

Every possible way of getting out with a road, except up Berry's Run, and for some unexplained reason, the head of the stream and Red Hill was not settled for a good many years after the completion of the Northwestern Turnpike, in 1838.

Philip Dils lived here on Worthington for about four years. Four of his children lived on farms adjoining, and the fifth, who had not come out with him, was then probably living in the vicinity of Marietta, Ohio. The sixth, Mrs. Anna Lyons, never came to Wood County to live, though probably some of her children did.

Dils was prospering, his children were all fitted with a competence, his home farm was being developed, and his new mill was well under way. There was three hundred acres or more of the hinterlands still held as a reserve fund for future emergencies, when, in April, 1801, he was called away. His grave was perhaps the very first in the little country graveyard nearby.

A writer informs me that Philip Dils' mother's name was Kayes (Kīze), and his wife was Mary Hoffman, and that he came from New Jersey to Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. This would make the date of migration earlier than that of Fayette County, Pennsylvania. He came here from George's Creek near Uniontown.

About Henry Dils, son of Philip, I have little information. He came from Fayette County, Pennsylvania, when his father did, settled on the farm given to him by his father, and remained there until 1817, when he sold the place to Moses Pilcher, and removed to the vicinity of Rising Sun, Indiana. His brother-in-law, John Dean, probably went with him. His wife's name was Christena, and they had children, and the name of one of them, Hoffman Dils is a witness to the probability of the claim that his grandmother's maiden name was Hoffman.

The Henry Dils farm lay on both sides of the future Northwestern Pike, and from the Thornton line to the second of the twin streams (apparently nameless) which drain the region on the western side of lower Worthington Creek. While the site of his home cannot be placed, it may have been at the spot by the bank of the stream, where many years ago were still to be seen scattered stones and a low mound with foundation rocks of a pioneer "chimney" (as a chimney was called in those days). Nearby was a fertile spot around which still grew hollyhock, chicory, and other of the hardiest of the old fashioned garden flowers the grandmothers loved. This cabin site helps in tracing the first route of the Snakeville Road of 1800, between the house of Dean and William Dils, and the mill above the ford at the mouth of Berry's Run.

I have nothing to show what became of Henry Dils, or whether the different parties of the name who appear later on the records of any of his family.

Of John Dils, son of Philip, like his brother, Henry, little is known. His father gave him a tract of land, fifty acres of largely river bottom, lying immediately below the mouth of Worthington Creek. His deed was dated April 1st, 1801, a few days before his father's death. He sold it to his brother-in-law, Edward Stephenson, on the 8th day of December, following, for four hundred dollars.
The next spring he bought a lot in Newport, on the south side of the Kanawha River. He was probably engaged in some kind of business. He was a saddler by trade, as is shown in an inventory of personal belongings on which he gave a deed of trust in 1802, in which we find listed:

- 1 set of saddler's tools
- 2 sets of men's stirrup irons
- 11 saddle trees
- 4 sets of bosses
- 12 papers buckles
- 1 bolt of straining web
- 9 pairs of saddle skirts

John Dils may or may not have lived on his land at the mouth of the creek before he got his deed, or after either, for that matter. He does not appear to have taken kindly to farming, which may account for his receiving fifty acres while Henry got one hundred ninety-six and William two hundred thirty-six. He may have had help in other ways, or the others may have had money invested in the original purchase.

Of John Dils' family, I have found nothing. I do not have his wife's name, though a search among the records would probably reveal it. Some of the half dozen Dilses mentioned who were not descendants of his brothers, may have been his children. His name is common on the court records as juror, appraiser, administrator, and the like, until 1833.

William Dils was the oldest child, probably, of the Dils family. He came to Worthington about 1797. His wife's name was Ariantha, and they are both buried over next to the back part of the old Dils graveyard. He was born in 1761, and died in 1810. His wife died on July 26th, 1843, in the eighty-sixth year of her age, hence born about 1757. I have nothing to show her father's name.

William Dils, it is said, raised a family of twelve children:

- Polly Dils, married Jesse Murdough, the blacksmith of the community, in 1803.
- Tunis Dils.
- Philip W. Dils.
- William Dils. These last three were the older ones.
- Hugh P. Dils, one of the leading men of Wood County, 1850 to 1865-70.
- Henry Hamilton Dils, another leading man in Wood County, 1850-1865-70. These last two were his youngest sons.

William Dils owned two hundred thirty-six acres, extending from the Snakeville road to the top of the hill beyond Worthington. His residence was perhaps on the broad flat on top of the hill, where Twenty-sixth Street intersects Fairview Avenue, or may have been down on the lower flat and between Twenty-seventh and Twenty-eighth Streets. The proximity of the "Big Spring" would indicate the probability of the latter being correct. Both were on the widow's dower lot when the farm was partitioned among the heirs.

During the period up to his death, William Dils was the principal manager of his father's estate, the sawmill, and the care of his mother.

Peter Dils, who lived on the Lyons land, Henry Dils, perhaps the son of Peter, and some others I have never been able to place definitely.

An interview with Mrs. Charles Fleming, who was a daughter of W. Smith Dils, and a very unassuming, pleasant person, much interested in the events of her family ancestry, yielded the following information concerning the Dilses.
Philip W. Dils, son of William and Arantha Dils, was born in 1788, and was nine or ten years old when his father and grandfather came to Worthington Creek. He married Lucy Foley in 1810.

His wife was a member of a large family that came to Worthington soon after the beginning of the new century, and bought land adjoining the Dils property. The father of this family, James Foley, was an old man who had been a soldier in the American Army during the Revolution.

Of Philip W. and Lucy Dils's children, she says Milan Dils, the oldest was born in 1811. He married Lucinda Murray. He was a carpenter and cabinet maker in Parkersburg. (He died June 10, 1871, and is buried in the Cook Cemetery.)

W. Smith Dils was born on June 9, 1876, and died in 1898. He married Belinda Wilkes, a daughter of Samuel Wilkes. (They may have been residents of Kentucky, as Smith Dils appears to have been enlisted in the Union Army, Company "A", Thirty-Fifth, Kentucky.) After the war, he was in business in Wood County.

A pleasant little romance told to me by Mrs. Fleming in this connection is worthy of preservation here. There is a tradition that when the Foleys first came to Worthington, some five or six years after William Dils came, the boy Philip, then a husky lad of about twelve or fourteen, happened to be present at the stopping of the covered wagon of a new neighbor a half mile away. The neighbor, as the story goes, seeing him standing near, handed to him a little girl yet too small to look out for herself, with the remark, "You take this girl and take care of her while we unload, and when she gets big, you can have her". The boy, it is said, accepted the charge, and some years afterward, claimed, and received, the promised reward.

Tunis Dils, another son of William, married Mary Cain, in 1811. They had four children, John, Lewis, William, and a daughter who married a Callihan. (the Marriage Records show, that on June 30, 1835, Lovina Dils married Robert D. Callihan.)

She said that Henry H. Dils, the sheriff, had a son, Eugenius Dils.

To those who might like a clearer picture of the holdings of the Dils family, as related to the section as it now is, the following outline may be of interest. The land, as first held by William Dils, began at the Kanawha River, included the Worthington Creek Valley from a line which would lie beyond what is now Park Avenue, and reached above Worthington Creek far enough that a line extended well over the top of Lee's Hill. On that line, it reached above the mouth of Berry's Run, then still in the direction from which Worthington Creek comes. It included all the valley section, its lines somewhere beyond the creek on the hillside on the east, and its west line among the flats between Mt. Olivet and the new Catholic Cemetery. Thus, it took in the St. Marys Pike section and extended to the flat lands beyond Holmes Run.

Please remember the word "approximate" was used at the beginning of this statement, and that those are in no wise exact lines of the plot of this land, which I have made from deed calls.

Of the residences and buildings upon the land, the mill stood on the west side of Worthington Creek, just above the mouth of Berry's Run and Philip Dils' house was not far away. There was said to have been a blacksmith shop near or by it, which would be a logical place for one. Those who came to the mill in the early days of slow machinery could, while waiting, have other necessities of horse, cart, or home equipment attended to.

The old road at that time crossed the creek at a ford at the mouth of Berry's Run. Henry built his house by the old Snakeville Road. There were, twenty-five years ago, traces of an old blackwall and burned rocks, which
probably marked the spot.

John lived on a high bank of the Kanawha River. His house would have been included in what is now the Standard Oil Company grounds, (in 1922). Later, he sold his farm to John Stephenson.

Polly and John Dean had a section toward the western side of the property, and their house was at the corner of the present Fairview Avenue and twenty-third street, in what is now the Catholic Cemetery.

William Dils had his house, probably over on the Dudley Avenue side of the Snakeville spring, and west of Fairview Avenue.

Elizabeth never lived on her land, but it was the section beyond the creek, and included the part of Lee's Hill which belonged to the Dils'. The man Richard Lee, who finally bought the land and made his home upon it, built his house below where Staunton Pike now is, and between the Tile Plant and the bridge.

DEAN FAMILY

Not much is preserved concerning John Dean. He married Mary, a daughter of Philip Dils, and died on the farm she was given by her father. He came with the Dilses from Greene County, Pennsylvania, in 1797, so nearly as can be ascertained. Dean does not appear to have lived continuously on his farm, for in 1808, he was keeping a tavern in Caleb Bailey's house at Newport, or "The Point", as it was commonly called. He sold the lower half of the farm to Joseph Cook, on February 2nd, 1811, (the other half had been sold to Mason Foley previously.)

Dean was conscripted for service in the War of 1812. After the war, Dean went west, that is to Indiana, probably with, or soon after Henry Dils in 1817.

John Dean's cabin stood on the knoll in the Catholic Cemetery at the corner of Fairview Avenue and Twenty-third Street. It stood by the side of the path, which, following the lines between the farms of Dean and William Dils, was, in the first year of Wood County's existence, developed into the Snakeville Road. Barker Cook later lived at this place until 1825.

THORNTON FAMILY.

Robert Thornton is another man who has been so surrounded with a glamour of tradition, making it difficult to trace the real character, as to sift fact from fable.

Thornton is commonly accepted as the first settler of Wood County, even by historical writers, though a very slight investigation would show the claim a myth. There is the fable that he traded his land for a trifle, the amount depending on who tells the story, and how they tell it, with a jug of whiskey or so, a jack-knife, perhaps, these and possibly many other minor articles, either single or in such combinations as might seem fitting. (Some said a rifle and a jug of whiskey!)

Stripped to bare facts, we find the little concerning Robert Thornton, briefly summarized, is:

He was in Pennsylvania at some date a few years prior to Captain Neal's settlement on the Kanawha River.

He entered several large tracts lying in Wood County, under the Virginia Corn Law, some in his own right, some as assignee of others.

One of these entries was the nine hundred fifty acres lying above the mouth of the Little Kanawha. This he claimed to have been settled in 1773. (According to the law, he must swear that he built a house and raised a crop of corn.) He claimed a boundary of four hundred acres "settlement right", and a pre-emption claim on one thousand acres more, but the parcel only measured nine
hundred fifty acres in the survey.

He sold his claim on all these Wood County lands to Alexander Parker, a Pennsylvanian, receiving several casks of rum, as apparently part payment. This deal was made against the advice of friends.

Thornton had the Kanawha tract surveyed and platted to Parker by James Neal, as deputy surveyor of Monongalia County. The patent was issued to Parker as assignee of Thornton.

Thornton became dissatisfied, and talked of bringing suit in the courts to recover title. (If he did so, it came to nothing.)

There were five other patents or claims which covered in part the same ground as Thornton's. This claim was bounded by the two rivers, Park Avenue, and Nineteenth Streets.

Thornton being deceased, his heirs sold his claim to Phelps and Stokely, who contested the matter with Parker in the courts, and lost their case.

A similar suit prosecuted by the assignees of John Beeson, Jr., more successfully gained possession of all that part of the Parker patent claimed, lying beyond Prospect Hill, and above Twelfth Street, including eight hundred acres or more of the original Thornton entry.

Robert Thornton was a resident of Wood County in 1800. He lived on a large body of land occupying the most of the "Bend" of the Kanawha below the mouth of Walker's Creek—Thornton's Bend, and later, Butcher's Bend.

I find nothing to show how he acquired title, when or from where he moved to it, or whether he ever lived on the tract where Parkersburg was built.

The land up the river may have been one of the tracts claimed before coming to Wood County. Like all large patents of land in this section, this piece was plastered several deep with contesting claims, but Thornton held quite a bit of the original bounds.

Before coming to Wood County, during the Indian War, he was a resident of the Grave Creek settlement. He probably from there to here in Wood County. He had eight children, two sons and four daughters, two of whom were married. It is not known about the other two.

Robert Thornton died some time during the spring of 1800.

Of the children, Thomas Thornton was the oldest. He appears to have been unmarried, and lived with his mother. He was a mature man, and was mentioned several times in connection with jury service, or road work.

Henry Thornton was a son of Robert. He lived at the home for a while, then married and continued to be a citizen of Wood County, perhaps for the rest of his life. There were numerous persons in the next generation bearing the name of Thornton, who were probably children of Henry or Thomas Thornton.

DYER FAMILY.

(This name is sometimes spelled D—y-a—r. I do not know which form is correct.) Andrew Dyer bought land from Hugh Phelps under title bond, and was living on it and paying the taxes on it before he received his deed, which was dated April 2nd, 1802. The farm lay on the south side of the Little Kanawha River, yet on the north bank of that stream. It was immediately below "Happy Hollow", and directly across the river from the old pioneer Methodist Church at Elizabeth, Wirt County, West Virginia.

Edward Dyer was the father of Andrew F. Dyer, and lived on a fifty acre lot adjoining him on the east, or down river side. He lived there until his death. There were one or more other sons, but nothing showing that they were of the age of twenty-one years when Wood County was formed.
Andrew F. and William Dyer probably were in the Virginia Militia. They were both present at the seizure of the Blennerhassett mansion by the Wood County troops in December, 1806. (Under the law of Virginia, they were both subject to military duty, and to the periodical drilling as militiamen. I find nothing that shows definitely who were present at the disgraceful looting of the Blennerhassett home, nor is it directly apparent whether the perpetrators were acting as the militia of the state, or in the capacity of patriotic emergency volunteers in answer to the call of the meeting at Newport, on the sixth of November preceding. Their names both appear on the roll of volunteers, which may be taken as accounting for the statement above given, so may not have been regular militia.

COOK FAMILY.

Following is a sketch about the Cook family, and its relation to Wood County history. If this is a longer article than that of some other early pioneers of the community, and the history given in more detail, it is attributable in the main to two factors. First, the kindly collaboration of a good friend, Mrs. Maria Amos, and second, that it was a large family, and actively engaged in the affairs of the community.

In 1795, there came to the New England colony, which General Putnam had planted at the mouth of the Muskingum a few years earlier, a typical New Englander of that period, by the name of Joseph Cook. He was of good English stock, and the family is traced back to Essex, but had been in eastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island since 1635.

Captain Joseph Cook, so called from having been a seafaring man in his early manhood, was born at Long Plain, Massachusetts, in 1755. He grew up there and was married, probably in the 1770s. By some accounts, the name of the wife is given as Elizabeth Barker, but from the fact that prominent among the Pilgrims of the colony northwest of the Ohio, were the Barkers from the same section, and one of the Cook sons was named Barker Cook. I consider it quite probable that the mother's name was Barker instead of Parker, as printed. Joseph Cook was a man in the prime of life, when, in the fall of 1795, he first brought his family to Marietta. The family consisted of himself, his wife, and eleven children, the youngest a child of four or five years of age, and several of the eldest almost, or quite, grown up.

The trip was made by ox-team, and the cows and any other stock there may have been were driven behind.

After one or two seasons at what is spoken of as the "Goodenow farm", near Belpre, Ohio, Captain Cook followed his friend, Dr. Spencer, to the fertile bottomlands on the Virginia side of the Ohio River, purchased two hundred eight acres of land, and hewed himself a home out of the primeval forest, a home in which he lived until after the death of his wife, about 1820. Later he divided this land between his two younger sons, Tillinghast and Pardon, and recrossed the river to Belpre, where he died, on July 28, 1824, and was buried in the old family burying grounds on his Virginia farm.

Joseph Cook, the founder of the Cook family in Wood County, was born at Long Plain, Massachusetts, in 1855, and died at Belpre, Ohio, July 28, 1824. He is buried at the old family cemetery above (now in) Parkersburg.

Cook is said to have married Elizabeth Barker, in 1783. The date of the marriage is probably 1773, as the birth of a son was in 1776.
The father of this Joseph Cook — also Joseph Cook — was born in Massachusetts in 1712, and married Mary Bennett in 1733. He lived at Long Plain, Massachusetts, and raised a family of nine children. His father was Thomas Cook, and his grandfather was John Cook, who lived at Tiverton, Massachusetts. His grandfather, John Cook, came from Essex, England, in 1635, and lived in the Rhode Island colony.

Joseph Cook was the youngest of the nine children. He married in Massachusetts, and eleven of his twelve children were born at his home in Long Plain.

There are still preserved original documents which tell of many incidents of this journey by ox team across the country. Joseph Cook is spoken of everywhere as being a very thrifty, temperate and conscientious man. These documents show him to also have had a generous mixture of humor in his disposition.

The following outline of Joseph Cook's family is taken from an old newspaper clipping, dated 1883, which was kindly furnished me by a descendant of the Cook family. These names, I am told, are given according to age.

Phebe, married Moses Hewitt, the Indian scout, and removed to the area of Athens, Ohio. She died September 15th, 1834.

Nancy, married John James, Jr., and raised eight children. She died May 31st, 1849. Many descendants are living in Jackson County, Ohio.

Bennett married Hannah Johnson, January 1st, 1806. (She was a daughter of John and Esther Denison James.) He was born October 3rd, 1776, and died October 16th, 1845.

John Cook married Margaret Protsman, of Marietta, Ohio.

Sarah Cook married first, Levi Johnson, of Wood County, and married second, Louis Abrams, of Illinois, in 1850.

Joseph Cook married Clarissa Devol in 1812. He died at Belpre, August 3rd, 1823. Charles D. Cook, of Belpre, is his son.

Bathsheba Cook married James Foley. Her descendants were living in Kentucky in 1883.

Prudence Cook married Samuel S. Spencer, of up above Vienna. Hon. S. S. Spencer was her son.

Tillinghast A. Cook married Elizabeth Russell. He died August 20th, 1869. He was the ancestor of Spencer S. and Horace Cook, of Mrs. J. L. Devol, and Mrs. W. H. Wolfe.

Barker Cook married Mary McClintock, of Harmer, Ohio. W. A. Cook, a Deputy Sheriff in 1883, was a son.

Pardon Cook married Mary Russell, then of Union, Ohio. He lived in Wood County in 1852, and then removed to Marietta, where he died in 1880. He was born at Belpre, in 1795.

Elizabeth, who married a Darling, is given in another biographical list. There were six sons and six daughters at the time he made his will, September 2nd, 1820. (There may have been others who died before that date.)

Joseph Cook was married two or three times. His oldest son, Bennett Cook, was born, says the inscription at the cemetery, October 3rd, 1776. This would be seven years before the marriage of Joseph and Elizabeth Cook, and John Cook, the second child was born April 20th, 1778. I therefore presume that they were children of a former marriage, if the marriage date of Joseph Cook is correct.

I do not find the date of birth of Cook's other children, so cannot tell at present whether these two, and perhaps others - were only half brothers to the younger children, or whether there is a mistake as to the date
of marriage of Joseph and Elizabeth Cook. Her tombstone is so crumbled the inscription is illegible. The marriage may have been about 1773, or Elizabeth Barker, one would judge from the name of a son - may have been a second wife.

Joseph Cook was married after her death, as in 1820, in his will, he bequeathed "to my wife, Rhoda, one half of the house in which I now reside, with privilege of using a part of the cellar, of one fourth acre for garden, a good cow, and a feather bed, etc., etc."

Joseph Cook bought two hundred eight acres of land of Joseph Spencer, receiving his deed March 13th, 1804, but being on the land several years earlier, probably after 1797, when he is said to have come to Wood County.

This land lay immediately north of Twelfth Street, as the city is now divided, and had a frontage of ninety poles on the Ohio River, and ran back about a mile and a quarter. In 1813, it was taxed as two hundred eight acres. Cook lived on, and opened up the front of this farm, until some time before 1820 - probably after the death of his wife. Then he returned to Belpre, Ohio. August 28, 1805, he received a deed for another tract of land, one hundred eight and one half acres, for which he paid four hundred thirty-two dollars. This lay above the Beeson farm, and about the head of James, or Neal's Island.

On February 4th, 1801, Joseph Cook bought and later willed to Barker, one hundred ninety-one acres of the Dils survey from John Dean. This lay on the west side of the old "Snakeville" road, and included a part of the Hugh Phelps, and a part of the Mason Foley farms.

At some time, he had also purchased a boundary containing six thousand six hundred sixty acres, probably somewhere on Hughes' River.

Joseph Cook's will was written on September 2nd, 1820, and put on record after his death, July 28th, 1824. By it, he bequeathed:

To his wife, Rhoda, "one half of the house I now own, and occupy in Belpre, Ohio, with privilege of using cellar, and use of one fourth acre of land (for garden), one good cow, one feather bed, and proper furniture".

To Bennett Cook, one half interest, as tenant in common, with Barker Cook, in six thousand six hundred sixty acres, lying in Wood County, and bought for taxes.

To John Cook, another son, one hundred acres in Wood County "on which he lives, which I hold by deed from Joseph Spencer".

To Joseph Cook, another son, all the lands and buildings in Belpre, Ohio, bought from John Bennett and Rhoda Cook, his wife to hold an interest as above. (Was this Rhoda Cook his wife, nee Bennett?)

To Barker Cook, the farm of two hundred fifty acres on which he lives, lying near Dils' mill, also one half interest in the six thousand six hundred sixty acres.

To Tillinghast and Pardon Cook, "all and every part of the farm lately occupied by me".

On April 21st, 1823, Joseph Cook had deeded to Pardon Cook, the lower side of his "home tract", with a "jog" in the line, leaving a strip four poles wide and six poles long, on which was a large spring, out across the bottoms at the foot of the hill, ninety-seven poles from the river. This strip was included in a deed made on April 20th to Tillinghast A. Cook.

Another deed the same day, April 21st, made a short line through the farm, and left a spring on the lower share.

The three deeds and will are all on record at the Wood County Court House.
To his daughters,

Nancy James
Bathsheba Foley
Sally Johnson
Prudence Spencer,
Twenty-five dollars each ($25.00).

To Elizabeth Darling, another daughter, One hundred dollars ($100.00).

Phebe Harriet, a writer says, married Moses Hewitt, the Indian scout, and
Nancy, another daughter married John James, also a celebrated scout of the
Marietta Colony.

Joseph Cook was appointed a Justice of the Peace, for the new county, and
was sworn in on May 12th, 1800. He served for six years, resigning on October
8th, 1806.

He was not in the American Revolution, but had the title of "Captain",
as before said, from having been a commander of ships on the sea.

Bennett Cook was born at Long Plain, Massachusetts, on October 3rd, 1776.
He was, says one note, the third child. He spent his early life on the seas,
and in travel.

About 1820 - some think at an earlier date - he built the oldest brick
house now standing in Parkersburg city limits.

This house stands on Murdoch Avenue, near the foot of the hill, and
is across the avenue from, and above, the DeSales Heights Academy. It is said
to have been built of materials obtained near the place of its erection, the
brick being made from clay found in the nearby bank, and the mortar from sand
found in the neighborhood. In any case, it was a job well done, as it still
stands at the end of more than a century.

Bennett Cook was a leading citizen of the community. He is credited
with having assisted in the frustration of the plot which Aaron Burr had formed
against the government.

He is said by some to have had a contract for the building of the
new court house, in 1811. However, this must be a mistake, as others say
Caleb Bailey was the contractor. It was Bailey who had the trouble in
securing the settlement with the County Court. He may, however, have been
associated in the building, as he and Bailey were brothers-in-law, their wives
both being daughters of John James, the Indian scout.

Bennett Cook was a member of the County Court in 1808, and for years after,
and Sheriff of Wood County from 1827 until 1830. He contributed largely to
the building of the Baptist Church at the corner of Ann and Washington Streets.

Bennett Cook married Hannah, daughter of John James, and widow of
Benjamin Johnson, in 1806. Their children were Paul, Bennett, James, etc.,
sketches of all of whom are given below -

Paul Cook, son of Bennett, was born on October 2nd, 1809, and married
Julia Kincheloe, on December 21st, 1831. He died on May 28th, 1881. Their
children were:
Harriet, born in 1833, married George A. Wells.
Sarah, born November 14th, 1834, married Rathbone Van Winkle. Their
children were:
Munson C., born in 1860, married Mary Schell.
Henry N., born in 1862,
Juliette, born in 1866, married Col. Charles E. Morrison.
Henrietta, born in 1868, married Ralph E. Finnell-
Maria, daughter of Paul and Julia Cook, was born on November 11th, 1836
and married Henry Amiss, son of M. P. Amiss. Their children were Betty, who
died as a child; Adelaide, who married Ralph C. Wandle; and Sarah, who
died while yet a young woman.
Henry was born in May, (the 11th,) 1839, and was killed in the Confederate Army.

Mary Frances was born on October 30th, 1841.

Hannah was born November 8th, 1853, and married Walling W. VanWinkle, in 1868.

Laura was born on January 15th, 1853.

Bennett Cook, Jr., was born at Parkersburg, February 8th, 1812, and died on September 23rd, 1883. He was married to Julia Maria Devol in August 1841. She was a daughter of Francis Devol of Washington County, Ohio. Their children were given as:

Frances Virginia, married John Robert Ebert. She was born in September, 1843, and married in 1863. They had one son, Charles Ebert.

Bennett, the third, was born on July 10th, 1846, and died July 19th, 1902.

Letha, born March 10th, 1848, married George H. Gordon.

Charles Hildreth, born June 6th, 1850, and died September 6th, 1852.

Frank is a son mentioned by Mrs. Amiss. She speaks also of a Bennett Cook the fourth, who is a son of Bennett the third.

Probably due to the influence of his wife and her family, who were on the side of the Union, Bennett Cook, Jr., was a northern man, while the sympathies of the remainder of the Cook family were staunchly with the south.

He is spoken of as being a very honest and reliable man.

James Cook was born on January 18th, 1814, and died on May 4, 1870. He married Sophia, daughter of Jeptha Kincheloe, in 1840. He lived at or near Parkersburg, and was a business man and real estate dealer. Of their children:

Jeptha K., died as a child. He was born in 1840 and died in 1850.

Bennett was born October 9th, 1843, and died June 25th, 1845.

Emma Marie married Frank L. Hammond.

Laura was born in 1848, and died in 1852.

Sophia was born in 1852, and died in 1869.

Mary James was born on April 6th, 1855, and died September 21st, 1906.

(Uncle Jim's Molly)

Julia was born in 1863, and married Smith D. Turner on January 6th, 1898.

Clara Betty married John G. McCluer. She was born on January 29th, 1854. Horace was born in 1831, and died in 1907. He married a sister of Charles Rhoades, the editor.

James Cook, says James' Genealogy, was a member of the House of Delegates of Virginia in 1849-50, "acting Sheriff in Wood County for many years", President of the Northwest Virginia Railway Company in 1851-2; President of the Northwestern Bank of Virginia; President of the Council of Parkersburg.

It is to be noticed that the James Genealogy gives James Cook's name as "John James Cooke", and says he married Sophia, daughter of Jeptha Kincheloe.

James Cook was a man of business and political prominence, being a member of the House of Delegates of Virginia for a time, before the separation of the states. After the organization of the county, he was Sheriff of Wood County for a number of years.
He at one time was president of the Northwestern Bank of Virginia, which was located on Third Street, where the Salvation Army now is, and prominent in the affairs of Parkersburg.

John Cook was born on April 20th, 1778, and died on March 27th. Margaret, his wife, was born October 12th, 1783, and died June 26th, 1864. His will was made on March 21st, 1827, and gave his property one third to his wife, and the remainder equally to his children who were then living. They are named as:

Elizabeth.
Prudence (was this the Prudence who married George A. Creel)
Mary.

Tillinghast.

Catharine.
Ann, married James B. Knotts in 1851.
Royal, married John Kelley, in 1850.
John, born November 10th, 1819, and died January 4th, 1861.
Rhoda.
Joseph, born October 20th, 1823, and died November 18th, 1891.

(To the list of children, it is to be noticed that I have added such other information that I could gather.)

Tillinghast A. "Till" Cook, was born at Long Plain, Massachusetts, on January 23rd, 1790, and died at Parkersburg, August 20, 1869. His wife, was born in Washington County, Ohio, on May 30, 1799, and died July 31st, 1773. Of their children, I find in the Cook Cemetery:

Joseph Dudley Cook, 1828 - 1839.
Sophia Cook, married Rufus Kinnaird, 1841.

On November 27, Tillinghast, Jr., willed to his children:
Victoria Stone, one third interest in the Samuels' farm
Kate Cook, the 'home place', east of the County Road. (Meaning either the Bull Creek Road or the St. Mary's Pike.
Joseph Spencer Cook, the sixty acres between the County Road and the Ohio River. This would seem to be the St. Mary's Pike.

Joseph Cook, Jr., lived in Belpre at the time of his father's death. He was born in 1795, and died in 1833. He was probably married in Ohio, as I find no record in Wood County. His wife was Clarissa Devol.

Maria D., their daughter, died in 1845, in her thirtieth year.
Charles D. Cook, of Belpre, (in 1883), was a son.

Pardon Cook was born in Belpre, in 1795, and was brought with his father's family to Wood County, Virginia, in 1797. He grew to manhood and was married in Washington County, Ohio, to a Miss Mary Russell, and settled on the lower half of his father's farm, which was, by promise, or expectation, to be his inheritance, sometime in 1821, where he continued to reside for many years.

His son, Jonathan Russell Cook, was born in Washington County, Ohio, in 1821, but in September, 1821, when he manumitted a slave given him by his father, he was a resident of Wood County, as also when his father deeded him the land in April, 1823, and on January 10th, 1823, when his son, Pardon Cook, Jr., was born.

A further examination of the records at the Court House show him to have been in Wood County in 1843, when the first provision was made for a permanent public graveyard, through the conveyance of the grounds by Pardon and Tillinghast Cook, to a Board of Trustees for the use of the public.
Nine years later, in June, 1852, when he disposed of his Wood County farm he is listed as a resident of Washington County, Ohio. In 1825, Pardon Cook was licensed as a local preacher in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in 1827 was given a circuit.

Being an itinerant Methodist preacher, he probably did not live continuously on his farm. He had crossed the river before his sale of the farm on June 18th, 1852.

Rev. Pardon Cook was the youngest son of Joseph Cook. The children of Pardon and Mary Cook were:

Pardon Cook, Jr., born in Parkersburg, January 10th, 1823. His parents moved to Ohio in 1832, and lived there from that time on.

Pardon Cook held his land - the lower side of Joseph Cook's Wood County farm - until June 18th, 1852, when he sold that part west of the "Bull Creek Road", now Murdoch Avenue, to A. G. Leonard, and George Deming, and that part east of a point ninety-seven poles east of the Bull Creek Road to Daniel R. Neal and George A. Welles, fifty-three acres.

Barker Cook married Mary McClintock, of Marietta. He lived for a while on the John Dean farm on the Snakeville Road. Selling this to Henry Logan and Mason Foley, about 1825, Cook moved south of the Kanawha, where he owned land.

Barker Cook had a son, David S. Cook, who married Juliana Phelps, in 1840. Some of his descendants are still living on Neal's Run. In December, 1846, John J. Phelps and Sarah, his wife, sold to David S. Cook, forty-six acres on the left fork of Neal's Run.

In 1852, David S. Cook bought one hundred acres on the north fork of Lee Creek. He was then a resident of Washington County, Ohio.

In 1858, William T. and Martha, his wife, sold a lot for a church, to the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

There is quite a number of other persons by the name of Cook, both in the marriage records and in the Cook Cemetery, who are doubtless of the same "lineage", though I have as yet failed to place them, and Mrs. Maria Amiss, a Cook of the fourth generation, and ninety years old, does not know what their connections are.

Paul Cook, 1746 - 1826, probably is a brother of Joseph Cook.

Elizabeth Cook, aged sixty-nine, and buried by his side, is his daughter.

A Rhoda Cook married Dr. S. P. Hildreth, the historian of the Marietta Colony.

There were several papers left by Bennett Cook.

A deed dated April 1st, 1807, from Joseph Spencer, for one hundred eighteen acres, lying on the Ohio River, adjoining Joseph Cook, and sold to Edward Sparrowhawk, in 18--, but title not confirmed. Cook paid four hundred seventy dollars.

In March, 1815, an agreement with Alexander Henderson to take a six year old negro girl named Esther, for nine years, to furnish her with suitable food and raiment, to "cause her to be taught to spin and weave, and do ordinary housework, about a farmer's house," to pay all fares that may be legally demandable against the girl during her period of service, and to return her at the end of nine years or at such time as he moved out of the county, if he should do so." Both parties gave bond in the sum of Five hundred dollars for the faithful performance of the contract. On February 12th, 1845, Bennett Cook and Ann, widow of Presley Woodyard, went into an agreement that - "Whereas marriage between the same is intended and whereas said Ann Woodyard has property, consisting of slaves, household goods, debts, legacies and money, real and personal estate, the name is to be subject solely to the said Ann Woodyard".
In March 1829, Bennett Cook bought from Peter Dils the eastern part of
the Lyons farm, on Worthington Creek, and on September 15th, 1843, he gave it
to his oldest son, Paul.

In 1837, Paul Cook, who had been in possession of the farm, bought from
George W. and Mary Sparling, their interest in the Sutherland farm, which
still belongs to the Cook - now Smith - farm.

Bennett Cook's will was made in 1842, and probated October 21st, 1845, six
months and one day after his marriage. It provides for payment of all debts
contracted by himself and Hannah; the emancipation of a negro boy, Harry, and a
negro woman, Sally. He gives George, a negro boy to his son, John I., to be
held as a slave until 1861, and then set free.

Who was, and what became of John I. Cook?

BAILEY FAMILY

Caleb Bailey was of New England birth, and came to the Marietta Colony,
and thence to Wood County.

He had the contract of building the Wood County Court House at Parkersburg,
and had quite a difficulty with the court over its acceptance. Bennett
Cook may have assisted.

Caleb Bailey built the Bell Tavern, and owned several lots in the new
town.

He owned most of the Kanawha River front above Juliana Street, under
Stokely's title, also once owned the tannery lots. He went to Cabell County
before 1820. He married Anna James, a daughter of John James, the Indian Scout.

Abigail James, who married Paine, and Polly, her sister, who married Seth
Bailey, are also spoken of as daughters of John James, Sr.

Charles P. Bailey, who married a Harwood, was a son of Caleb, as also
was John A., who married an Edelen.

Bailey was not married under the records of Wood County, as the first
mention I find of him is when he purchased a lot in Newport, from John Stokely.

Below is an interesting incident concerning Caleb Bailey, quoted from
Mrs. Ohler (1912).

"More than a century ago, (1912), he made a visit to England, and while
there purchased three silk dresses. One was a sky-blue brocade, which he pre-
presented to his fiancee (?) Ann James. A green brocade which was given to her
sister, Hannah (James) Cook, and the third one, of black, to Polly, wife of
Seth Bailey.

Ann wore hers as a wedding gown, and sixty years later it was again used
for the same purpose by her granddaughter, Emma Humphrey."

This would indicate this marriage occurred after that of Hannah and Polly,
and that his wife was a resident of Ohio.

Of Caleb Bailey's children:

Charles P. Bailey, married Elizabeth Harwood, in 1819. He inherited
many of the lots his father owned in Parkersburg. His children were:
- Gassaway; Nancy, who married Benjamin Butcher; and a daughter
  who married William Stout; James; Charles; Henry; and
  Elizabeth.

John A. Bailey was a son of Caleb and Ann, and was born at Parkersburg.
He married Catharine, a daughter of Robert Edelen in 1829.

They had a daughter, Kitty, who married Whitten Dooe. (Dewey??)
The daughters of Caleb Bailey are given as:
Sallie; Emma; Nancy; and Polly.

Martin Bailey, who owned a lot, and lived in Parkersburg, and later moving to Marietta, was probably a brother of Caleb.

The children of Seth and Polly James Bailey, who lived in Ohio, between Marietta and Parkersburg, at what is now Constitution, Ohio were:
Maria, born April 6, 1803, in Vienna, or James Island, married Frederick Shipman. She died September 16th, 1889.
Elizabeth was born September, 1804, and died January 10th, 1872, unmarried.

Seth was born September 9th, 1806. He married first, Sarah Devol McClure, and second, Mary Ann Scott, of Wheeling. He died May 27th, 1884, at Coolville, Ohio.

Charles Pease Bailey was born in 1808, and died in Virginia, in 1879. He married Harriet, a daughter of Isaac and Sarah Parks Chapman.

John James Bailey was born April 15th, 1810, and died on May 9th, 1849.
In January of 1836, he married Mary Chapman, sister of Harriet.
Bennett Cook Bailey was born on November 28th, 1831, and died in 1890.
William Dennison Bailey was born in 1816 and died at Marietta, in 1894.
He married Arnetta Ward.

George Washington Bailey was born on December 12th, 1817, and died in 1903. He married Sarah Jane Stapleton, a daughter of Joshua Stapleton, of Wood County.

Augustus Stone Bailey, was born November 19th, 1819.
Many of this Bailey family emigrated west.

On February 7th, 1820, Bennett Cook deeded to Seth Bailey, of Washington County, Ohio, for One dollar, "a certain island in the Ohio River known by the name of James Island, being the first island below the mouth of Briscoe's Run, and containing eighteen acres, more or less", "But merely conveys to the said Bailey such right for the said island as I acquire from a deed from the sheriff of Wood County".

Obviously the result of a tax sale, I could not find that the title held, or that Bailey ever disposed of it or other lands in Wood County.

Captain John James seems to have had claim on and possession of the island for several years, hence its early name of James Island.

JAMES FAMILY

In studying the history of the James family, I found, as one so often does, especially if the family is large and intermarried with a number of other families, that there is a discrepancy in the records, or traditions, of the different families, which, like so many of the old patent boundaries, will not plot – do not check out together.

I have reconciled this as best I can, and will leave the remainder to the reader.

There are many of the pioneer families of the northern border of Wood County who crossed the river from the Marietta settlements, and located on the wide and fertile bottom lands of the Virginia side, where their descendants are still to be found. Among these was Captain William James, who, with his family, a wife and children, occupied the Farmer's Castle in the Indian Wars, beginning in 1790, and lasting until Wayne's Treaty, after the Battle of Fallen Timbers.

The children, as given on the roll of the garrison, are: Susan, Anna,
Esther, Hannah, Abigail, Polly, William, John, Thomas, and Simeon.

In trying to unravel a discrepancy in the family records, I wonder if part of the children listed above may have been of the family of John James, or, if that were not true, if John might have commanded the fort.

There is nothing to show whether or not the names are given in order as to age.

Of these, William was one of the party killed by the Indians at Big Bottom on the Muskingum River, in January, 1791.

Abigail married David Paine, March 26th, 1801. Theirs was the first marriage license and the first wedding in Wood County.

On November 15th, 1801, the third wedding in the country was that of Polly James, who married Seth Bailey. Seth and Caleb were brothers, and married sisters, daughters of Captain James.

David Paine was a prominent man at Columbus, Ohio.

On January 1st, 1806, Hannah Johnson, the daughter of Captain John James, and widow of Benjamin Johnson, married Bennett Cook, also of Wood County, but like the Jameses of New England birth, John James, Jr., the "Spye" was her brother.

Ann James married Caleb Bailey, either in Washington County, Ohio, or if on this side of the river, before the organization of Wood County. (She was the daughter of Captain John James, and sister to John James, the "Spye", and of Mrs. Bennett Cook.)

As to the John James who was a scout during the Indian wars, he may or may not have been the son of Captain William James. If a son of his as some say, he must have been much older than some of the others. If not a son, he was probably a brother.

He was on Blennerhassett Island at the beginning of hostilities, by squatter's right, I think—when he returned to the colony north of the river, and in 1802, his executor deeded to his heirs, sixty-six and one half acres on the second island below the mouth of the Muskingum River. His heirs paid taxes on the same for several years. This was on Neal's Island — then called James Island. The Neales bought it in 1833 (Heirs of John James, Sr.).

If John James was a brother of Captain William, then Hannah Cook and Caleb Bailey's wife were his daughters, as I have it in one note. Mrs. Maria Amos, a granddaughter of Bennett Cook, told me that her grandmother was a sister of John James, Jr.

The settlement of the estate of John James on April 5th, 1802, shows conclusively that Hannah and Ann were heirs of John James.

On a trip up the Little Kanawha River, October 20th, 1922, I stopped for a while at a beautiful homestead on the southern side of the Staunton Pike, and some distance away from the river. It was on the old James farm, above the mouth of Stillwell Creek.

A Mr. Bee, the present resident, told me that the house (now weather-boarded and painted white, with doors, windows and porches of the best farm houses of sixty years ago), is built of huge hewed logs, and dates back to the pioneer days, and that tradition says it was once a sort of blockhouse and has "port" in the upper story for defense against the Indians.

Presumably it was the home of Captain James, who may have lived here for several years before the formation of Wood County, though he did not get his deed until November, 1808, if this is a part of the land referred to in the following deed:

November 1808, John and Phebe Spencer, of Loudoun County, Virginia, to William James, of Wood County, six hundred acres, being "a part of thirty thousand acres granted to Israel Lacy, and formerly in Harrison, but now Wood County". The land is conveyed, "together with all trees, woods, underwoods,
tithes, commons, and common of pastureways, watercourses, profits, commodities, advantages, hereditaments and appurtenances belonging or in anyways appertain ing", etc., etc. Deed Book Number Six, page three hundred fifty-four.

This land has all been in the woods, and may be a different tract from the one on which James lived.

Israel Lacy and John Spencer were taxed in 1801 with two tracts, one of forty thousand acres, the other of twenty-five thousand acres, valued at ten cents per acre, but the location was not given.

On January 16th, 1808, John Spencer and Phebe, his wife, sold to Benjamin James, one hundred fifty acres, lying on the Ohio River, above Avery's Belleville lands.

In 1830, Benjamin and Mary James were taxed with one hundred fifty acres of land "On the waters of Bull Creek".

In 1833, William James was taxed with Redman's Island, in the Ohio River, fourteen miles southwest of the Court House.

In 1828, Benjamin James was assessed with the one hundred fifty acres. Abel James was not assessed as a landholder in 1828, but in 1832, he deeded to Daniel Kincheloe, Jr., forty-eight acres and to the Baptist Church one acre "joining Hamit's Line", for a church lot. The location was not given.

(The Trustees were George Compton, Hugh Ferry, David K---, and Hubbard Prince.)

In 1833, Abel James was taxed with two tracts "on the Ohio River", one of one hundred twenty-six acres, the other of one hundred forty-seven acres. (Abel is not one of William's children, as given.)

Thomas James (son of Captain William James) died in 1809. Bennett Cook was the administrator of his estate. Thomas James would appear to have been an "old field schoolmaster".

The Inventory shows notes against Seth Bailey, John James, James Gillespie, and others. Also:

7 Books with writings of no value...........................$ .25
Small box of trumpery...................................... 1.00
Slate and pencils........................................... .60
Sun G assest .............................................. .37½
1 Chest...................................................... 4.00
Saddlebags and lock....................................... 2.00

Total......................................................... $8.22½

Hugh James was a native of Virginia (probably of Wood County). He married Mary Coffman, who was a resident of Parkersburg. Hugh James died in Belpre, in 1856. He had seven children.

Marion, killed in the Union Army.
Lizzie, married Captain Miles Brown, of Gallipolis.
Carrie, married Charles T. Alcock, of Marietta.
Andrew Clark, of Ironton.
Sarah, wife of Henry Schwartz, of Cleveland.
Mary, wife of H. D. Eggleston, of Brooklyn, New York.
Charles, married Emma Tuttle.

There were others by the name of James, citizens of Wood County, of whom there is nothing to show whether or not they had any connection with Captain John James. Among these, I noted:

Abel James, who, in 1829, bought from Weston Thomas, and Maria, his wife, and David C. Skinner and Eliza P., his wife, for sixteen hundred dollars, one hundred forty-seven acres, being lots number 8 and nine,"formerly occupied by John Griffiths, and now by Abel James".

In 1832, Abel James sold one acre to the Baptist Church, lying on the ridge road near the top of the hill where he was then living.
When he died in 1848, he willed land on Carpenter's Run and on Wolfe Creek, Ohio.

A Thornton James bought land from Jacob Cork, says the Index, in 1866. (In the deed, the name is Janes).

There is a William James (place of living not given), who gave Sam Kibler a deed of trust on some personal property in 1857.

In 1819, John A. and Eliza James deeded to Abraham Vandiver lands lying on Bull Run, One hundred thirty-two acres, bought from Allen Davis two years before.

In 1849, Jesse and Frances Lazear bought from D. R. Neal for J. F. Snodgrass on Stillwell.

In 1866, Thornton B. James (no wife signed) had a deed for a wagon, harness and personal property now in the hands of William G. James.

**CREEL Family**

One of the most prominent families on the northern side of the Little Kanawha River in the pioneer days of Wood County was the Creels, who bought some land and located at the Bald Eagle Riffle (later Bald Eagle Mills in 1804, then Claysville, and still later, Davisville), in the last years of the eighteenth century.

The time of settlement cannot be definitely told. There is an old family tradition which makes the date as early as 1775. One account - probably as accurate as can now be had - places the actual date of settlement at 1798.

The land may have been purchased some years earlier, as was not uncommon in that day. Perhaps it was held under title bond or agreement, and the deed completed on the 18th of November, 1803.

George Creel, the founder of the family in Wood County, was a native of Prince William County, Virginia. He was born in 1745, and married a Miss Mary Athey. He died in 1824.

George Creel bought one thousand acres of land lying on the north side of the Little Kanawha River, about seven miles from its mouth, about the year 1795 or 1796 (probably). The land was patented to one Nathaniel Wickliffe, Wickliffe being dead (probably after the contracting of the agreement), the deed was signed by—

Joshua Ferguson and Mary, his wife.
Robert Wickliffe and Sarah, his wife.
Cornelius Kincheloe and Dorcas, his wife.
Daniel Kincheloe and Jane, his wife.
William Kincheloe and Elizabeth, his wife.
Elizabeth Whaley.
Henry Davis and Mary, his wife.
Presley Smith and Nancy, his wife.
Annington Wickliffe.
Charles Wickliffe and Lydia, his wife.

Presumably these are the names of the then living heirs of Nathaniel Wickliffe.

The land is described on the Wood County records as - Beginning at a Buckeye on the east bank of the river, thence up the river with its meanders five hundred twenty-two poles, etc.

On the same day, George Creel received a deed from Charles Wickliffe, of Warrington, Kentucky, for four hundred acres of land lying on the south, or west, side of the river.
On December 5th, 1803, soon after the perfection of his own title, as above shown, George Creel made deeds to some of his children for lands previously assigned to them.

"For love and affection", to:
Mary and Bartlett Leach, seventy acres of the Charles Wickliffe four hundred acres on the west side of the Little Kanawha River.
To Thomas Creel, part of the same tract (amount not copied).
To Sarah, wife of Nimrod Saunders, one hundred acres, situated somewhere on the upper line of the one thousand acres.
To Thomas Creel, two hundred acres of land on the lower side of the river.
To George Creel, Jr., two hundred acres at the lower front corner of the one thousand acres, and including the present village of Davisville.

In the spring of 1804, George Creel, Jr., built a dam across the Little Kanawha River, at the foot of Bald Eagle Riffle, and erected a saw and grist mill, known as the Bald Eagle Mills, which was for many years a prominent feature in the early pioneer life of Wood County.
Creeel continued to operate the mill until his death in May, 1804.

After Creel's death, the mill was the property of his heirs, and upon the marriage of his widow to Jeptha Kincheloe (1811), was operated by him until in 1822. He and his wife deeded the same, with the George Creel farm, to Bushrod Washington Creel, youngest son of George Creel, Jr., now eighteen years of age, and Turner Boulvare (Boler), who married Bushrod's only sister, in 1829.
On February 1st, 1837, Boulvare and Creel divided the land held in common and sold the mill, with one acre of ground, to Peyton Butcher, of Butcher's Bend, opposite the mouth of Walker's Creek.
Bald Eagle Mills continued in the ownership of Butcher until 1852, when he sold the saw and grist mill and carding machine to George Thorpe, a member of the new elective County Court.
George Creel, the founder of the family, was born in Prince William County, Virginia in 1745. (He died in 1824). His father's name was David.
A family tradition says George Creel was born near the spot where, in 1861, was fought the first Battle of Bull Run.
In 1770, he was united in marriage with a Miss Mary Athey, of Maryland. They raised nine or ten children, who grew up to be men and women. So far as I know, all of them came with their parents to Wood County, about the last of the eighteenth century.
George and Mary Athey Creel’s children were, so nearly as I can find –
Margaret, married Bartlett Leach. And she died in 1825.
Mary, born September 7th, 1773, married Robert Kincheloe, September 2nd, 1790.
George, born December 21st, 1778, married Clara Buckner in 1798, a daughter of Anthony Buckner. She died in May, 1807.
Sally Creel, born on October 16th, 1783, married Nimrod Saunders. She died on April 19th, 1883, at the age of ninety-nine years, six months.
Thomas Creel, born May 20th, 1780, married Priscilla Phelps. He died in 1871 at Davisville, West Virginia.
"Sandy" (A. H.) Creel, was born October 8th, 1788, and married Lucy Neale.
He died about 1871, in Missouri.
James Creel married Elizabeth Vandiver, in 1814.
David Creel, born June 20th, 1786, married Elizabeth Neal, in 1814.
He died in Kentucky, perhaps.
Frances Creel was born in 1793, and married Dr. James Riggs.
An article in the Pioneer Daughter, by Mrs. Emma D. Whiting, gives the name of the oldest child as Ellinor, who was born on May 20th, 1777.
She also gives the name of John, born on August 14, 1776, and omits the name of James - probably a mistake in writing, or printing, the name.

There was a James Creel, a son of George.

I have never noted the name Ellinor Creel elsewhere. The name does not occur in George Creel's 'will', nor in any deeds for land that I have found.

Margaret Leach may have been a relative he had raised, and has granted a farm to; perhaps the correct name of the oldest child was Margaret instead of Ellinor.

To summarize the children:—

Ellinor, born May 20th, 1771.
Mary was born September 7th, 1773.
John (James?), was born August 14th, 1776.
George, (Jr.), was born December 21st, 1778.
Thomas, born May 20th, 1780.
Sarah, born October 16th, 1783.
David, born June 20th, 1786.
Alexander H., born October 8th, 1788.
Francis E., born in 1793.

It seems probable that George Creel bought his magnificent plantation in the middle of the nineties - accounts differ as to that date. It may have been as early as 1795.

It is pretty well authenticated that in 1797, he sent a body of slaves, under the direction of George, his son, a youth of nineteen, to build a cabin clear some land, and make the wilderness plantation ready for occupation, a task well and efficiently performed.

Having prepared the plantation for occupation, George, Junior, returned to his father's home in the East.

George Creel is described as "six feet in height, quick in motion, with black, penetrating eyes, and soft silky hair". He was born in Prince William County, Virginia, in 1745, and died in Wood County, in 1824. This makes him twenty-five at the time of his marriage, and seventy-nine at the time of his death.

His father's name was David Creel. The mother's name is not given.

A family tradition makes him a "direct descendant of Pocahontas".

George Creel was an active dealer in lands in the county. He built his old plantation residence "Bacon Hall", a two story hewed log-house, about 1799. The house stood by the head of a spring branch which flows into a small stream emptying into the Little Kanawha River, one third of a mile above the site of the Old Bald Eagle mill.

George Creel was active in the industrial and political activities of his adopted county.

He served as Commissioner of Revenue, six terms, from 1801 to 1806, inclusive. (This may have been George, Jr.). On May 9th, 1820, he purchased the Hotel at the western side of Court Square, in Parkersburg, probably moving to it. It was perhaps Bailey's old Bell stand, and the lot is taxed in 1820 at Four hundred dollars, and the building at Three thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars, higher by more than One thousand dollars than any other building in the town.

The 'will' of George Creel was admitted to probate in March of 1825. Alexander H. and David Creel were named as executors.

By its provisions, the widow, Mary Creel, got one third of his real estate, and of his slaves for her life.
Nimrod Saunders was owing him the amount of Eight hundred dollars, which was willed to his grandchildren, Cyrus, Clementina, Drusilla, and Mary Saunders. The balance of his estate was to be divided equally in one-seventh shares:

- To Mary Kincheloe, for her life, and at her death, going to her children, John, George W., Almira and Alcinda Kincheloe, and Emmaline Neale, daughter of Lewis Neale.
- To John B., Bushrod W., and Mary J. Creel, children of George Creel, Jr., deceased.
- To Thomas Creel.
- To David Creel.
- To Alexander H. Creel.
- To Arthur, Mary, Sarah Ann, and James, children of James Creel, deceased.
- To Frances Riggs, to be invested for her use, and after her death, to go to her children.

The sales bill of the Creel estate, as reported to the court, contained a long list of varying items of household and farm equipment, spinning and weaving implements, saddles, horses, cattle, sheep, etc., which prove that those who resided at Bacon Hall were not called upon to feel the deprivation of the average frontier home.

On August 7th, 1825, the executors, A. H. and David Creel, after advertisement, sold to George Neale "the Tavern stand, including two lots, a brick house, log house, stable, etc."

- To W. H. Neale, house and lot now occupied by H. H. Phelps.
- To the same, vacant lot adjoining the tavern.
- Mary Athey Creel, the widow of George Creel, died soon after he did, and the sale of personal property was held on June 17th, 1825. A. H. Creel was executor of her will.

Creel must have owned the tavern stand, and rented or leased the same, as the sales bills indicate a home on a plantation, rather than in town. I would feel safe in the entry "Built Bacon Hall in 1799, and continued to reside there until their death, in 1824 or 1825".

George Creel, Sr., died in 1824; as early as 1803, he gave two hundred acres of the Wicliffe one thousand acres to George Creel, Jr., and one hundred acres to Sarah, wife of Nimrod Saunders. Also he sold Jeptha Kincheloe one hundred thirty acres. Creel is still taxed with five hundred fifty acres at the time of his death. This was divided among his heirs as listed below:

- To Thomas Creel, with No. three of dower lands. He later bought the Riggs heir's shares.
- To James Creel's heirs, as also No. One of the dower. They sold it in 1843 to Bushrod Creel.
- To George and Jeremiah Riggs, with dower lot No. Seven.
- To Alexander H. Creel, with No., Six. This was sold to Thomas in September, 1847.
- To George Creel's heirs, with lot No. Two.
- To David Creel, with dower lot No. Five, sold to Thomas in 1847.
- To Mary Kincheloe, with lot No. Four.
- The land and the dower lot, which had been subjected to partition by the death of the widow, were divided by lots among the seven heirs.

Of these, as given, I find no further account of the eldest, than as there given - Ellinor, born May 20th, 1771. Probably she died when a child.

Margaret Leach, if a child, had died in 1824 or 1825.

Sarah Saunders lived for many years, but her name does not appear in these settlements.
Mary Creel was born September 7th, 1773, in Prince William County, Virginia, and married Robert Kincheloe, of the same county, on September 2nd, 1790.

The name of John Creel is next on the list as given, with the legend, "Born August 14th, 1776". I see no further mention of any son John, but George and Mary Creel had a son "James", whose name does not appear in the list. I think it probable that James Creel is the correct name.

James married Elizabeth Vandiver, May 12th, 1814. She was a daughter of Lewis Vandiver, and sister of Thomas and Abraham. The Creels had four children: Arthur, Sarah Ann, James and Mary.

Mrs. Mary E. Creel mentions in a letter to the Pioneer Daughter, from St. Louis, Missouri, July 1902, that she was born in Wood County, April 15th, 1817, on the old State Road (Staunton Pike), four miles northeast of Parkersburg. (It was on the farm the Cedar Grove Church stands on.) She lived there until 1829, when the family "moved west" by flatboat to Cincinnati, thence by steamboat to St. Louis, thence to Hannibal. She described it as "a little hut of a place", so disappointing that they would have returned had not the river been frozen so they could not.

There were five men in the party:—
Abraham Vandiver, her uncle.
Elias Kincheloe, whom married Joyce Vandiver, her mother's sister.
George Saunders.
Arthur Creel, her brother, who died in Missouri, August, 1835. They lived forty miles west of Palmyra.

In January, 1836, she married Samuel Scott Matson. They lived on Salt River, Missouri, and raised eleven children. He was a member of the Missouri Legislature in 1842, and a judge in the County Court in 1844. He was long a pilot and Captain on the Mississippi River Steamboats. He died in 1867.

George Creel, Jr., the second son, as given on the list, was born in Prince William County, Virginia, December 21st, 1778. He died in May of 1807. He was about grown when his father purchased the lands in Wood County, and nineteen when he came out as overseer of the gang of slaves who started the plantation in the heavy beech and sugar forests of the Little Kanawha bottom lands.

After his return east, he was married to Clara, daughter of Anthony and Seal Buckner. He was married sometime in 1798, and came to Wood County with the family. They raised three children:—
John Buckner, 1799 - 1838.
Bushrod Washington, 1804 - 1875.
Mary Jane (Boulvare), 1807 - 1892.

George Creel, Jr., was a surveyor by profession, and served as Deputy County Surveyor under Robert Triplett, being sworn in November 11, 1800. The same day, George Creel, (Jr. or Sr.?), produced a certificate of his having been commissioned as a commissioner of the Revenue for Wood County. The same was ordered placed upon the records, and he assumed the duties of the office. He continued to serve for six years, from 1801 to 1806, inclusive.

I have taken this to be the father, but others credit the position to George, Jr.

George Creel, Sr., for some reason, did not secure a deed for the Wickcliff land until November, 1804, and at once made deeds to several of his children for tracts previously given to them, and on which they had their residence. Of these, George, Jr. received two hundred acres near the lower end of the one thousand acres, lying opposite the Bald Eagle Riffle, and with a river frontage of one hundred sixteen poles, and extending from the present village of Davisville to the mouth of a small stream below.
The next spring, George, Jr., built a dam across the river and commenced the construction of a saw and grist mill.

On May 4th, 1805, Creel sold one hundred acres, the lower half of the tract, to his father-in-law, Anthony Buckner, expressly reserving the mill and lands adjoining.

There is nothing I have noted to show whether or not Buckner had become a resident of the vicinity before this time, probably, though, he had, as he was one of the Wood County men summoned as a juror in the trial of Aaron Burr.

Creel continued to operate the mill until his death, which occurred in May, 1807.

The accident which caused his death, happened during a high water in the Little Kanawha. Creel, who was one of the best swimmers on the river, was out with another man in a boat. The boat was caught in a whirl, and capsized. The man who could not swim succeeded in getting a hold on the boat, and was later rescued. Creel attempted to swim to the shore, but was hit on the head by a log, which was floating in the whirl, and drowned. The body was found at the head of Blennerhassett Island.

Thomas Creel was born in Prince William County, Virginia, on May 20th, 1780, so was about eighteen when the family came to Wood County. He married Priscilla, the eldest daughter of Hugh Phelps.

In December, 1803, his father made him a deed to two hundred acres of land lying west of the river, perhaps opposite the home plantation. He seems to have lived there most of his life, though he owned lots in Davisville, and two or more shares after the division of the Creel plantation. He was living at Claysville, I think, at the time of his death, in 1871, or perhaps at "The Seven Mile House", on the Staunton Pike.

That part of the home plantation on which the mansion "Bacon Hall" stands is still in the hands of his descendants, and he may have been living there when he died in 1871.

He is buried in a private cemetery on the farm.

The names of his children have been gathered from various sources, for the most part, Mr. Elias W. Creel, and his daughter, Mrs. Mehen. They are not given in order of their age.

George A. married Prudence Cook, in 1831. He owned a farm on Worthington Creek, at the mouth of Chancellor’s Run, about this time, but sold it to a son of Presley Woodyard, in 1836. In 1841, he leased a part of the old Creel plantation, from his father, for twenty years, and was still living there on it in 1854.

Elias W. Creel said, "He used to be called 'Big George', and was at one time the jailer of Wood County.

Drusilla married Jesse Pixler in 1834. ("We called her Aunt Drusy") (E. W. C.). She was married May 1st, 1834.

John N., married Calista Parmister in 1849. Later, he was again married, to a woman named Drake.

Lovena A. Creel married James Robinson, Jr., on September 18th, 1834.

Priscilla Creel, on March 2nd, 1841, was united in marriage with Hugh P. Foley, a son of Mason Foley.

Hugh P. Creel was married to a sister of his sister's husband, Delila, a daughter of Mason and Hannah Phelps Foley, in 1849. He served in the Union Army, and died at Claysville about the close of the Civil War.

Sarah Creel married George Phelps.

Thomas H. (Black Tom) married Mary Phelps in 1847. One of their sons was Thomas Hardin Creel, who lives on the old Creel plantation, where the Staunton Pike crosses Spring Run. It was built for entertainment on that road, and known"
as "The Seven Mile House". He owns a part of the heart of that farm, including the old "Bacon Hall" mansion house built in 1799, and still standing (1924).

Sarah Creel Saunders was born on October 16th, 1783, in Prince William County, and was fifteen at the time of the immigration. She was married to Nimrod Saunders, also of Prince William County, but probably after coming to the Kanawha, though they were not married in Wood County, therefore were married before its organization.

Her father deeded her one hundred acres of land in December, 1803 (she was then twenty), in the name of Sarah Saunders. She was married before that date. This land lay on the upper line of the one thousand acres, and did not come to the river, probably it lay in the southeast corner of the tract.

Sally Saunders died on April 19th, 1883. Had she lived five months and twenty-seven days longer, she would have been one hundred years old.

Captain Nimrod Saunders, as he is styled on his headstone (perhaps he was an officer in the War of 1812 - or in the Virginia Militia), was born in 1774, and died in 1843. They were buried at the Cook graveyard - now Riverview Cemetery.

It will be noticed she received nothing in her father’s Will, but her children were to have Eight hundred dollars. Those children, as given by Mrs. Mehan are -

Cyrus.
Ann Clementina, who married Alf Neale in 1834.
Drusilla, who married Mr. Kirby.
Mary.
Tom (Thomas E., who married Mary Smith in 1845).
George.

The first four are named in the Will. The others probably were born later.

A note says T. E. Saunders, who lived by the Phelps Memorial Church, was Nimrod's son, the youngest.

David Creel was born in Prince William County, Virginia, June 20th, 1786, and was a lad about twelve years old when the family located in Wood County.

He grew to manhood at the paternal home, being twenty-eight years old at the time of his marriage, May 18th, 1814, to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of George and Sarah Lewis Neale, who owned a large tract of land at Washington Bottom.

(Some other weddings in the county at near the same time were -

Joel Anderson and Elizabeth Welsch.
Joseph Board and Margaret Horner.
Henry L. Prentiss and Rebecca Mayberry.
James Creel and Elizabeth Vandiver.
Edward Johnson and Ellinor Dils.
Samuel S. Spencer and Prudence Cook.
John Boiseaux and Jinsy Coleman.
Jesse Gandee and Nancy Hutchinson.)

Dr. David Creel was a leading practicing physician and business man of Parkersburg during his career.

In 1845, he bought two hundred acres of land of Samuel Stokely, and built a two story house on a charming rise near a fine spring of water. I have been told he lived there for a time. On November 24th, he sold the land to Lysander Dudley. The house stood until 1923, when it was pulled down to make room for the buildings of the Catholic Chapel.
David Creel went "west". (Elias Creel told me to Kentucky. He also said they once held a reunion, with one hundred fifty Creels present.)

Mr. Elias Creel gave me the names of four children of Dr. David Creel. Sarah married William A. Tefft, son of William Tefft, one of Parkersburg's early business men, in 1839.

Pocahontas (Ann M. Pocahontas), who married Judge William H. Safford, a Parkersburg school teacher and lawyer, and later a historical writer and-as his title indicates - Judge, residing at Chillicothe, Ohio. He was son of Dr. Safford who was the leading physician of Parkersburg for years.

Alexander H. Creel (Hamilton presumably) was born on October 8th, 1788, and was about ten years old when he came to Wood County. His wife was Lucy Neale, sister to Dr. Creel's wife, and youngest daughter of George Neale. The date of his marriage I do not find on the Wood County marriage licenses. He died about 1871, in La Fayette County, Missouri.

Their children are given as:

Sarah E., married William L. Jackson. He was an attorney of Parkersburg in the fifties.

Henry Clay Creel, who married a Miss Lewis. He is spoken of as "Captain Henry Creel, who was the youngest member of the Virginia Legislature in 1861", and as in the Confederate army on the staff of his brother-in-law, Gen. William L. Jackson. Henry Clay Creel had three sons -

Wylis married in St. Louis in 1916.

Dr. Richard of the U. S. Public Health Service.

George Creel, the magazine writer.

George Creel, son of "Sandy", was killed in the Mexican War.

Lucy Creel "married a man named Lafflins".

Alexander H. Creel acquired a large body of land on the Ohio River, of which, about the spring of 1834, or a little later, he sold the upper side of the boundary to Hugh L. Pickens. On the lower part, he laid out a village which he called Vancluse, which was about two miles below the mouth of Middle Island Creek. "Here he stayed for a time, but was burned out by one of his slaves, and soon after sold the land and left the place". In 1847, Creel returned, repurchased the Pickens farm, and in 1849, laid out the town of St. Marys. Pleasants County was organized in 1851, and St. Marys became the county seat.

Henry C., father of George Creel, the writer, was a resident of the town.

Alexander H. Creel willed -


To Sarah E. Jackson, the house in Louisville, in which she now resides.

To his granddaughter, Mary M. Lafflin, Five hundred dollars, to be spent for her education with the Sisters of the Visitation in Parkersburg.

To Lucy N. Creel, his wife, One thousand dollars, to be used by her during her life, and to go at her death to said Mary M. Lafflin. (Mrs. Amiss pronounces the name "Lofflin".)

He releases William L. Jackson and Henry Clay Creel of all moneys due to his estate.

All the balance of his estate to be divided between the children of Henry Clay Creel, Lucy A. Lafflin, and Sarah E. Jackson.

Frances E. ("Fanny") Creel, youngest child of George Creel, Sr., was born in 1793, and was five years old when he came to the Kanawha River. She married Dr. James Riggs. They had children -

G. A. A. Riggs, born March 12th, 1818.
J. F. Riggs, born March 12th, 1818.
J. F. Riggs, died 1901, aged nearly eighty.

She was visiting relatives at Grave Creek when she died of fever. She had three children, Jeremiah, George, who went to Texas, and James.

George Creel, Jr. and Clara had but three children at the date of his death.

The oldest of these was John Buckner Creel, a very prominent citizen of the Claysville section, and long a Colonel in the Virginia Militia. He was married to Anna W., daughter of Daniel Kincheloe. She was born in 1803, and died the year after marriage, February 24th, 1824. Hers is the only tombstone in the old Creel graveyard.

Three years later (April 5th, 1827), Creel was again wedded, the second bride being his cousin, Parmella Saunders, whose father, Abner Saunders, was a brother of his uncle.

By the first union, he had one son, George Creel, who grew to young manhood.

By the last were four children -
Battelle W. was twice married, his first wife being Harriet West, and the second a daughter of Bird Pennybacker. (Elias Creel says "Bat" was a "jockey" at the old race track.)
Laura married Charles Rockhold in 1861.
Charles P. married Mary Forbes. (E.W.C. says "married a sister of Mark Rockhold, the editor at Elizabeth").

John Anthony Buckner Creel married Nancy Frazier. He died (from inventory) the spring of 1837 - probably the latter part of May.

Bushrod Washington Creel was the youngest son of George Creel, Jr. He was born on February 10th, 1805, and died June 11th, 1875. He married his cousin, Alcinda Kincheloe, May 3rd, 1832. She was born on June 15th, 1813, and died in 1859, says one account. (The tombstone says she died on March 4th, 1857, aged forty-four years and eight months. If this is correct, she was born on June 21st, 1812.) Their children were:

George R., 1833, married Catharine Harris in 1879. They lived, in 1895, on a little stream flowing into Little Stillwell on the west, about two miles northeast of Davisville.

Lucy F. Creel, 1835, married Marcellus Clark in 1853. He was six years her elder, and served in the Mexican War, and was in the Confederate army. The Clarks lived on West Twelfth Street, in Parkersburg. They raised four children -

Marceline married Frank Smith, the jeweller.
Mary Elizabeth, born in 1838, married Dr. Erwin D. J. Bond. He was surgeon in the Eleventh W. Va. Infantry. He was in the House of Delegates in 1882 and 1883, and in the State Senate from 1885 to 1887 inclusive. They lived south of the road near Davisville, in 1886.

John B. died in childhood.

Clara Kincheloe Creel married Ezra Phelps in 1881. He was a son of George W. Phelps, and grandson of "Gentleman John". They lived at Hartford City in 1895, and at Davisville in 1886.

John Alexander Creel was born on May 10th, 1843, and married Isabel Foutty in 1872. They had two sons, Bushrod W. and Spencer K., and eight daughters. They lived near Davisville in 1895.

Eleanor Sophia Creel was born in 1846, and married W. J. Zimmerman.

Hannah Jane Creel was born in 1848, and married James W. Ross in 1878.

They lived in Charleston in 1895.

Bushrod Washington Creel, Jr., was born in 1845. He went to Texas and was never heard from.
Elias Wickliffe Creel was born in September, 1850, and married Ella S. Triplett. (He once told me he was named for his uncle Elias Wickliffe - this may be some "long distance relationship", or that his mother's sister married Elias Wickliffe.)

Henry A. Wise Creel was born in 1856, and married Alma Smith. They lived at Davisville in 1924.

Monroe T. Creel, born in 1860, was named for "Mon" Jackson (E. W. Creel).

William H. Creel, born in 1863.

Old Mr. Bickel once told me that Billy Fout was a son-in-law of Bushrod Creel, was the Claysville blacksmith, and was no relation to the Fouts of Wirt County.

Bushrod Creel was a very extensive land speculator in his day, buying and selling farm and woodlands. He was always chary as to property in Parkersburg, saying it would never make anything. He was only two years old when his father died. He inherited a part of the home place, bought adjoining lands, and lived there all his life, except a few years in Marietta, whither he went to give his children the benefit of the schools.

He built the "California House" on Hughes' River the same year gold was discovered in California. When it was suggested to him to go to California and make a fortune, he replied "I'll stay on Hughes' River and make my fortune". It was on his land (says his grandson) petroleum was first discovered. A black bubble came up through the water. When rubbed, "it was greasy". It was followed by others in succession.

A basin ten or twelve feet deep was dug in the sand, and the water turned in through a trench from the river. Blankets were saturated with the oil on top of the water, and wrung out into a barrel. This oil Creel sold to Bosworth, Wells and Company of Marietta, at Twenty-five dollars a barrel. They bottled it and sold it under the name of "Seneca Oil", for One dollar per quart.

Kincheloe Family

The Kincheloe family came to Wood - then Harrison - County, as nearly as can now be ascertained, about the year 1795. They came from Prince William County, Virginia.

There were two brothers, Robert and Daniel, each with a wife and two or three small children. Both of these brothers were prominent factors in the pioneer history of Wood County, in both civil and military life.

They bought - or entered - a tract of land lying on the east side of the Little Kanawha River, about five miles from its mouth, and immediately below the Wickliffe tract bought by George Creel.

They lived on this land until their death, Daniel below, Robert above. The two farms were probably of one original patent, though they might have been separate. Mr. Shears once told me that it was patented by McCall, but McCall owned land adjoining.

In 1801 and 1802, Daniel Kincheloe was assessed with eight hundred ninety-six acres. Robert's name was not on the books, but a John Kincheloe is charged with two hundred ninety-six acres. Probably he was a brother who never became a resident of Wood County. The name is mentioned in other places in connection with Wood County pioneer days.

William, Daniel and Cornelius Kincheloe and wives, Elizabeth, Jane and Dorcas, are signers of the deed to Creel for the Wickliffe land. Presumably they were, in some way, heirs of Nathaniel Wickliffe.
There are two other early settlers, members of this same family, that I am unable to place at this time. William Kincheloe, who bought four hundred acres of Hugh Phelps, adjoining Daniel Kincheloe, who lived on upper Worthington Creek, about 1831 or 1832.

Robert Kincheloe settled on the Kanawha River "about five miles from its mouth" (near Nicollette), "in the unbroken wilderness", about 1795, and lived there until his death in 1820. He was a captain of the Wood County Militia, in 1801, and later promoted to major. He was a Justice of the Peace, and a member of the County Court in 1812.

Robert Kincheloe was born November 3rd, 1762, married on September 2nd, 1790. He was married to Mary, daughter of George Creel. Their children, as copied from the family record, by Mrs. Mehan, were:

- Eleanor, born September 23rd, 1792.
- Elias, born March 13th, 1795.
- Elizabeth, born February 2nd, 1797.
- John, born October 24th, 1799.
- Mary, born in 1801
- Frances, born in 1803.
- George, born March 26th, 1806.
- Elmina, born April 19th, 1810.
- Alcinda, born June 15th, 1813.

Ellinor, or Eleanor, Kincheloe was the eldest of the children of Robert and Mary Kincheloe. She was born on September 23rd, 1792, and died in 1875. She married John Phelps, July 24th, 1811. They lived at different places, I think, near the old site of Neall's Station, near Claysville, and on or adjoining the old Richard Neale farm between the Gihon Church and the old Tavenner farm. They had thirteen children, of whom six were living in 1876.

Elias Kincheloe was born March 13, 1795. He married Joyce Vandiver in 1815.

Elizabeth Kincheloe was born on February 2nd, 1797. She married Lewis Neale in 1815. Elizabeth Kincheloe was born on February 2nd, 1797. She married Lewis Neale in 1815.

John Kincheloe was born October 24th 1799. He married Lucy Edelen in 1826. In 1831, he bought fifty acres of land below the mouth of Lee Creek, of Lewis Neale, his brother-in-law. Later, he added farm to farm, and was an influential citizen of the lower part of the county for twenty years. He was commissioned a member of the County Court of Wood County January 11th, 1839. (His wife signs her name "Sarah" to deeds made for lands. Perhaps he was twice married.)

Mary Kincheloe was born in 1801, and died in 1876, in Jackson County, (West) Virginia. On August 14th, 1824, she married Hugh Henderson Phelps, the fourth son of Hugh Phelps. He was born July 7th, 1808, and died at Claysville in the winter of 1875. They had eight children, five sons and three daughters.

Frances (Fanny) Kincheloe was born in 1803. She married William Mann. Their children were:
- Edward.
- Lewis.
- Jeff.
- Bob, went to Texas.
- Mary, married Charles Sawyer.
- Emmaline, married a Dr. Bailey, of Jackson County.

William.

Virginia, married Epple Bartlett.

George W. Kincheloe was born March 26th, 1806, and died May 22nd, 1840. He married Hannah Pennybacker, daughter of Derrick and Elizabeth Pennybacker, who was born in 1816, and died in 1891. I assume that Lucy Mayberry, daughter
of John P. Mayberry, born July 28, 1817, and died July 24th, 1835, married George W. Kincheloe July 3rd, 1834, was was a former wife.

George W. Kincheloe was one of the leading business men of Parkersburg for several years.

Elmira, or perhaps correctly, Almira Kincheloe, was born April 19th, 1810. Alcinda Kincheloe was born June 15th, 1813, and died on May 3rd, 1832. She married Bushrod W. Creel.

Daniel Kincheloe, in his 'will' gave:-
To Nestor Kincheloe "land whereon I now reside. Beginning at a sugar tree opposite the mouth of Tygart's Creek, down to a small drain above the Riffle where Badgley's mill stands".

The balance of the farm, he bequeaths to his wife for her lifetime, and to then be divided between Daniel and Elijah. His personal property to his wife, and after her death, it is to go to his son, Daniel.

To Elijah and Daniel, all slaves, except Lewis and Morgan, and two especially conveyed to Nestor.
To Daniel, one slave Lewis.
There is another man who was long a very prominent citizen in the affairs of the county, whom I have learned of from various sources - one, his granddaughter, Mrs. Maria Amiss. He was a son of Major Kincheloe, and his name was Jeptha Kincheloe.

Jeptha Kincheloe was born on May 17th, 1778, and died on November 25th, 1857, at the age of seventy-nine and about six month. He was married in October, 1811, to Clara, widow of Anthony Buckner. She was born on January 8th, 1778, and died on March 9th, 1858, aged eighty years and two months. They raised six children, four daughters and two sons. Some of his descendants have for the last seventy-five years been high among the leaders of Parkersburg affairs, both industrial and social.

These children were:

Julia Alexander, born in 1812 and died in 1867, was married to Paul Cook, (a son of Bennett Cook and his wife Hannah Johnson, a widow of William James). Paul Cook was born in 1809, and died in 1881.

A daughter, Maria, who recently (November 1924), celebrated her ninetieth birthday, married Henry, a son of M. P. Amiss, a Parkersburg attorney of sixty to seventy years ago.

Harriet married George A. Welles. She was born in 1833 and died in 1868. Maria, born in 1836, married Henry Amiss in 1867. Henry was killed in the Confederate Army. He was born in 1839.

Mary Frances was born in 1841, and died in 1881. She was married to Edward Lyman Welles.

Hannah, born in 1843, married Walling W. Van Winkle in 1868. He was from New York, a son of Adolphus and presumably a nephew of Peter G. Van Winkle, with whom he studied law after coming to Parkersburg.

Sophia Kincheloe was born in 1814. She married James Cook, a son of Bennett Cook, on January 2nd, 1840. He was a business man of Parkersburg, a City Councilman and once Mayor. He was in the House of Delegates in 1850. He was an extensive owner of real estate in Parkersburg and "laid out" one or more additions to the city.

The Cook children were:

Jeptha, 1840 - 1850.
Bennett, 1842 - 1845.
Laura, 1848 - 1852.
Sophia, 1852 - 1869, (All of whom died as children).
Maria Cook, married Frank Hammond.
Clara Betty Cook married James G. McCluer.
Mary Jones, 1856
Julia Mayberry, 1862 – 1863.

Robert Buckner Kincheloe was born in 1817, and died in 1888. He married Rowena Clark in 1848.
Frances Elizabeth Kincheloe was born in May, 1823, and died in 1863. On October 14th, 1841, she was married to George Mayberry, a son of John P. Mayberry. George was born in 1817 and died in 1865.

Clara, married George Stealey, who died.
In October, 1826, Anthony Buckner deeded to Clara and Jeptha Kincheloe, and Mary and Abner Saunders, Edith, Easter, James, Milly, Mary, Charles, Hannah, Maria, Caroline and George:-
A large sorrel mare.
A small sorrel horse.
A Bay mare and colt, and all stock, cattle and sheep, and household and kitchen furniture to "share and share alike".

I have seen it stated that Robert Kincheloe was living on the Kanawha River when Wood County was organized. Indeed, his name appears on the Court records in its earliest years, but the first entry I find on the tax books is in 1811. In that year he was taxed with three tracts – two hundred acres on Stillwell, three hundred thirteen acres adjoining, and one hundred ninety acres on the Laurel Fork of Worthington Creek.

He may have been then holding the one hundred acres below Claysville, and having his residence on it, but the deed was made to his heirs and the land taxed to his estate in 1824.

Daniel Kincheloe was born in 1750, and died on August 4th, 1834, aged eighty-four years. He came to Wood County about 1795, and lived on the lower end of the Kincheloe farms. In the War of 1812, he was a captain in the Third Regular United States Rifles, appointed in March, 1814, and was a recruiting officer stationed at Clarksburg, (West) Virginia. Mathias Chapman was his First Lieutenant. He was a member of the County Court when Wood County was organized. He may have been a member of the County Court of Harrison County before 1799.

Daniel Kincheloe married Jane Whitecotton Chinn, who was born in 1769, and died in 1829. Their children were:-
Elizabeth, born in 1794 and died in 1824. She married Thomas Vandiver in 1818.
Daniel, Jr., was born in 1797, and died in 1868. He married in 1824, Hannah Butcher, who was born in 1805, and died in 1882. They had six children:- Elijah was never married. He lived with his brother, Daniel, and at his death, left him his property.
Nestor was born on May 27, 1800, and died on January 1st, 1874. On September 10th, 1818, he was married to Elizabeth "Betsy" Pilcher. They lived (at one time) near the Badgely mill, on the Little Kanawha. Their children were:-
Ann Caroline, who died when a child.
Daniel Z., 1821 – 1893, married Lodenia (or Lodema?), daughter of William and Cynthia Hill, in 1844.
Huleelah was born in 1822, and died in 1860. (Probably should be Huldah)
Moses Pilcher was born in 1824, and died in 1863. He married Angeline Thorpe in 1846.
Sarah Elizabeth was born in 1827. She married William O. Fought.
William B. Kincheloe was born at Davisville on July 24th, 1865. His father died when he was very young. He moved to live on a farm, and later kept a store.

Ann W. Kincheloe was the fourth child of Daniel, Senior. She was born in 1803, and died in 1824. She married John B. Creel in 1824.

Unfortunately, the original lines of the Daniel Kincheloe lands are not on record at the Wood County Court House, the title having been perfected while this was still a part of Harrison County.

There are some deeds from Kincheloe, dated variously in 1800. One of these, I noted, was dated April 14th, 1800, to William Prince, one hundred acres adjoining Robert Kincheloe, and "a part of the land on which I now reside", and extending up the river one hundred poles, and back one hundred sixty poles.

In 1844, Robert N., Elizabeth, John H., Benjamin G., Frances S. G. Hite, and Additton Hite deeded to Daniel Kincheloe their share in the one hundred acres.

There are two or more other early settlers bearing the name of Kincheloe, who are undoubtedly of the same family, although I have been so far unable to tell just what the relationship to Robert and Daniel is.

One of these, Wileman Kincheloe, bought four hundred acres - or the remaining land of a four hundred acre tract, lying on Mill Run, and joining lands of Daniel Kincheloe. This was deeded to Kincheloe by Hugh Phelps on April 4th, 1808. I never tried to trace Phelps' title.

Kincheloe held the land, or a portion of it, for many years, and was presumably a resident. His name occurs frequently in the annals of pioneer doings and happenings, and I was once told by an old man, who was a boy of that neighborhood, that "a Kincheloe man bought two hundred acres on Mill Run. He lived above the bridge. His title proved defective, but the party who got the land allowed him to keep possession of his house, while he lived, and his sons stayed there a while after". He did not recall any names.

I have never learned much of the history of the Kincheloe family before their coming to Wood County. Daniel and Robert may have been brothers, as may have been Jeptha.

Jesse Kincheloe's grandson claimed his grandfather was "some kind of a cousin" to Daniel and to Wileman.

Robert was born in 1762.

Jeptha was born in 1778.

Jesse was born in 1772.

John Kincheloe was probably a brother of Robert and Daniel. He bought two hundred ninety acres of Hugh Phelps, lying above the mouth of Mill Run, on September 10th, 1804. He and his wife, Anne, made a deed re-conveying the same to Phelps, for the same consideration.

After this transaction, John Kincheloe drops out of view. Perhaps he was never a resident of the county.

There was a John Kincheloe who bought fifty acres of Alkehart Glaze, on the south side in 1831, selling the same to Jared Fugate in 1832. Probably this was Robert Kincheloe's son.

Elizabeth Kincheloe, of Claysville, in 1870, willed to a son: "The farm my father gave me", he being required to pay to Bettie McCardie, George Fought, Huldah Fought, Maggie Fought, Arthur Logan, Nestor Logan, Anna Marie Logan, Randolph Logan, Jr., Clara (either her daughter or a granddaughter), and to William and Josephine Kincheloe, the two youngest children of Moses Pilcher Kincheloe, to each of all of these, One hundred dollars.

To Josiah, son of Moses, One hundred dollars.
To V. B. Fought, a lot in Claysville.
To V. Fought, a good bed, side saddle, and a set of china ware.
To Ann M. Shaw (nee Logan) bed and bedding.
To Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel Kincheloe, a set of china ware.
This Elizabeth Kincheloe was the daughter of Moses and Sarah Pilcher. The beneficiaries of her will were her grandchildren.

Another of the Kincheloe family I have been as yet unable to place, is Jesse Kincheloe. He was born March 22nd, 1772, and died August 3rd, 1856. Doubtless he was a close relative of the other Kincheloes previously noted, and from the same part of the old state. (Virginia)

This would make:-
Daniel Kincheloe, born 1750, twenty-two years older.
Robert Kincheloe, born in 1762, ten years older.
Jeptha Kincheloe, born in 1778, six years younger.

Mrs. Jesse Sutherland told me on Decoration Day, 1925, that she thought Jesse and Daniel Kincheloe were brothers, and that Jesse always called Wileman Kincheloe "Cousin Wileman".

Jesse Kincheloe's children, so far as I have the names were:-
Robert Kincheloe, married Catharine McPherson in 1824.
Mary Kincheloe, married John J. Sutherland.
Sarah Kincheloe, married Benjamin Foster in 1818.
Lawrence Kincheloe, married Violetta Stagg. (The license was for Lillie Stagg.)
Susanna Kincheloe, married Edward McPherson in 1824.

Elizabeth Kincheloe, married Hubbard M. Prince. She died on March 29th, 1874, aged sixty years, five months and four days, hence was born on May 4th, 1803. Hubbard M. Prince was a son of Hubbard Prince. They lived about the mouth of Gillespie Run.

Of Jesse Kincheloe's children:
Mary married John J. Sutherland, who lived in the old home of his father, John Sutherland, (the Lyons place), on Worthington Creek. He was born in April, 1803. She died on May 5th, 1883, aged seventy-four years and two months. They raised eight children, and he had six by a prior marriage with Delilah Phelps. Among these fourteen children were:-
Jesse L. Sutherland.
A daughter who married R. P. Inman.
Oliver Sutherland.
Eugene Sutherland, married Margaret, a daughter of James Johnson.
Webster-Sutherland.
Goodenow Sutherland.
J. J. Sutherland was a Whig and a Republican, and had three sons in the Civil War in the Union service.

Susan Kincheloe married Edward McPherson, a son of Edward McPherson, of Dry Run, who came from Prince William County, Virginia. They were married in 1824, and lived on Dry Run for several years, then moved to the Griffin land on Worthington Creek. Of their children:-
William McPherson was born in 1842, and is living on his father's farm on Worthington Creek, at the Mount Moriah Church.
Angeline McPherson was born in 1829, and died in 1896. She married John A. Baxter, who was born in 1824, and died in 1886.
Elizabeth McPherson was born in 1832, and died in 1904. She married Austin B. Wells, who came to Wood County from somewhere in Ohio, about 1850. He was in Company "D", Eleventh West Virginia Infantry.
Mary Jane McPherson married John S. Bailey, from Tyler County, and lived on Worthington Creek near Boreman.
Susan married a Bowen from "Old Virginny".
Erissa married Harvey Spencer, also from the old state. He bought land on the Northwestern Turnpike, near Red Hill. (Mrs. Sutherland said he married a Badgely.)

Cordelia married a Hoover from about Williamstown.
Monroe was born in 1840, and died in 1912. He married a Kibler. He was in the Union Army. At the time of his death, he lived on the old Kibler farm, on the Northwestern Turnpike, at the foot of Red Hill.

A John L. Bailey figures on the deed books of that time and place.
Hannah, daughter of Edward and Susan Kincheloe McPherson, married Zachariah Turner.

Robert Kincheloe, a son of Jesse Kincheloe, married Catharine McPherson, in 1834. They lived at Red Hill.

Mrs. Sutherland says he raised two sons. I did not get the names. I think she said he went west.)

Lawrence Kincheloe was willed the greater part of his father's farm on Worthington Creek. Later he bought other adjoining lands, the eastern end of the Griffith survey. The license record says he married Lillie Stagg, in 1843.

William Stagg, who married Catharine Johnson in 1816, was probably her father, as well as that of Jeremiah.

Elizabeth Kincheloe married Hubbard M. Prince.
Sarah Kincheloe married Benjamin Foster. They were both dead in 1856.

One son, the only child of whom I have any trace, received his mother's portion of the estate. This son, George W. Foster, was probably raised by his grandfather. He was willed (or deeded) the upper part of the Kincheloe homestead, lying just below the mouth of Gillespie's Run, which he sold in 1851 to John Strong.

Martha Virginia Kincheloe, who was twenty-six years of age when she died, married Albert H. Johnson. He was born on March 10th, 1841, and died June 8th, 1870, at the age of twenty-nine. They were buried in the old Jesse Kincheloe private burying ground.

Mrs. Maria Amiss told me in October, 1924 that a daughter of Jesse Kincheloe married a George Holliday.

ICHABOD GRIFFIN

Ichabod Griffin was an outstanding character in the Vienna Colony. I have never seen anything like a biographical sketch of the man, but he is prominent in the records of the early history of Wood County. He was a member of the first County Court of Wood County, in August 1799. Like the other members of the upper part of the county, he withdrew from the deliberations when he found himself one of a hopeless minority. This left that body without a quorum to do business. Each faction met and organized a court of its own.

Neither of these were legal, and neither got anywhere. The difficulty lay in the conflicting interests of the two settlements, the one at Vienna, the other in the neighborhood of Neal's Station. The one faction was led by Col. Hugh Phelps, and the other by Dr. Spencer. The village of Vienna was geographically much nearer the center of the county, much the most accessible, and much the best ground to build a town on. On the other, Monroe was on the Kanawha River, the only feasible and practical means of communication with the settled portion of the backlands of the county. Each was determined to secure the county seat, the court house and a dominating influence in the control of the affairs of the county. Eventually, the General Assembly at Richmond had to intervene.
They re-organized, and the matter was compromised by building the court house at "The Point", at the mouth of the Kanawha, and extending the lower line so as to include the Belleville settlement in Kanawha County. Griffin continued in service of the Court, and was sheriff of Wood County for the years 1805 and 1806. He lived at one time, below Vienna, on the Ohio River. He died in Licking County, Ohio before 1822, leaving his property to his brothers. Hence, it is probable he was never married.

He had brothers Lemuel, Zebulon, Asabel, and perhaps others. There is nothing to show whether these were residents of Wood County.

Griffin was a New Engander, and came to Vienna by the way of the Marietta Colony, as Spencer, the two Lords, and perhaps Hitchcock came.

Regarding other members of the Griffin family in Wood County, I have only scrappy information.

From the Marriage records, Zebulon Griffin married Hannah Beaumont, in 1803.

Julia Griffin married Samuel L. Kenney, in 1825. (She could be a daughter of Zebulon.)

In searching the records in regard to land sales of upper Worthington Creek, I find a tract of land was being partitioned at the death of Reverend David Griffith, where the assignment of the Griffith heirs was to Camillus Griffin. The deed was made in 1838. In March, 1818, Camillus Griffin gave to John Roberts, President of the Bank of Alexandria, and Robert Taylor, a deed of trust on the undivided one fifth of three tracts of land. This seems to have been redeemed, but later the title passed into the hands of these same parties.

At the partition in 1829, one fifth was assigned to each of the following: Sallie W. Griffin, Camillus Griffin, heirs of Llewelen Griffin, and Elizabeth Thompson.

**BIBBEE.**

John Bibbee is credited by the family tradition with having come to Wood County in 1802, but he is shown to have been here at least two years earlier. Probably he came in the late nineties, but little is preserved concerning him. His wife was Elizabeth Spaight, and he lived up the Little Kanawha, probably in the vicinity of Leach's Mills. The name of Bibbee (with several different forms of spelling) is not uncommon in the old records of New England and Virginia, and occurs here on both sides of the Ohio River. John Bibbee probably came to Wood County from a county farther east.

**BEAUCHAMP Family.**

William Beauchamp is credited - probably correctly - with being the first settler in Wirt County.

He came from Kent County, Delaware, and settled at the site of the lower half of Elizabeth, (before Wood County was established) about 1794.

Beauchamp had a mill at the mouth of Tucker's Creek, before 1800. He had large holdings of lands in the upper parts of Wood County in the Kanawha Valley, and it was stated he was a local preacher in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a leading citizen of his community until his death, which occurred at the comparatively early age of sixty-five years. He had not the ambitions and aspirations of some of his compaers, the name being conspicuous by its absence from the rolls of State legislators, Members of the Courts and other county officers, lists on jury services, etc., nor is it to be found among the names of
"parties indicated", though it is not uncommon to so meet the names of several of the more prominent of the county, the charge generally being "profanely swearing" or fighting.

William Beauchamp was taxed in 1801 with sixteen hundred acres of land, and in 1802, his sons Manlove and David Beauchamp were taxed with one hundred acres each.

William Beauchamp was born in 1743 or 1744, and hence was about fifty-seven years old when Wood County was organized, and it is highly probable that his sons were all past twenty-one at that date.

Manlove Beauchamp lived in the vicinity of Elizabeth. He married Rebecca Rigg in 1804.

David Beauchamp lived on the home place at Elizabeth, where he built a large mill, from which the place was long as Beauchamp's Mills. As before stated there had been a mill at the mouth of Tucker's Creek, almost "from the beginning". David Beauchamp married Elizabeth Woodyard in 1806. (Jesse Woodyard must have come to Wood County several years before his brother, Presley Woodyard.)

William Beauchamp, Jr. was a Methodist preacher, and an educated man and author. I see nothing to indicate that he was ever a resident of Wood County.

LOWTHER Family.

Elias Lowther is said to have been the fourth of the five sons of Colonel William Lowther, and his wife, Sudna Hughes, a sister of Jesse Hughes, the Indian scout. He was born at the old homestead on Hacker's Creek, in 1776. He was a resident of Wood County in April, 1800, when he received a deed for land from Hugh Phelps. Later, he owned lands on the Kanawha River, above Hughes' River. His wife Rebecca Coburn, and he died in 1845.

Both he and his brother Jesse have been named after the famous Hughes brothers, their uncles. He was appointed to a position of Deputy Surveyor of Wood County, at the May term of 1800.

Jesse Lowther was also a resident of Wood County in April, 1800, when he received the deed from Col. Phelps. He was first taxed with land in 1802, a tract of one hundred fifty acres.

He was born on July 21st, 1773, and is credited with being the first white male child in Harrison County. (William Lowther and Sudna Hughes were married before the migration to Hacker's Creek. They were all from the South Branch of the Potomac River.) Jesse "moved to Neal's Island". He is said to have come in 1797, and later to have returned to Harrison County. Both of these propositions may be correct, but it is of record here that both Jesse and William Lowther were Justices, and resigned on the 4th of April, 1802. He married Mary Hagan, in Harrison County, August 18th, 1791. He was paying taxes on lands in Wood County as late as 1817, but may have been a non-resident holder. He, his father, William Lowther, and his uncle Joel, were all members of the Wood County Court in 1800.

Joel Lowther was one of five sons of Robert Lowther.

Robert Lowther and Aquella came from Ireland, to Albemarle County, Virginia, some four or five years before the birth of their son, William, in 1742.

The names of these five sons are given as Thomas, and Jonathan, who were killed by the Indians; Henry, who lived for a time in Harrison County, where the family had come in the late sixties and then returned to Albemarle County; William was one of the most prominent citizens of the western settlements, and a leader both in military and civil affairs.
Joel Lowther, the other son of Robert Lowther, lived for the most of his lifetime in Harrison County, Virginia (now West Virginia), but, like his illustrious brother, was for a time a citizen of Wood County, where in 1800, he served as a member of the first Grand Jury of the new county, at the May term of the County Court. He was also qualified as a Justice of the Court at the same session. He lived on the Little Kanawha River, at the site of the Rayon Plant. (American Viscose Plant).

William Lowther was born in Albemarle County, Virginia, in 1742, hence was twenty-five years of age when his father's family moved to Harrison County. Prior to that date, he had gone to the head of the South Branch of the Potomac River, where he met and later married Sudna Hughes, a sister of the celebrated Indian Scout, Jesse Hughes. They appear to have been living for a while in the vicinity of his wife's people.

Meanwhile, his wife's brother, Jesse accompanied a party of adventurers to the waters of the West Fork River, and returning later, was married to a lady by the name of Grace Tanner, and built a cabin in 1771, at the mouth of Jesse's Run, on lower Hacker's Creek. Lowther's father had settled on the river at the mouth of the creek, and in 1772, William Lowther founded a home for himself, between the two.

Here he appears to have remained through the Indian Wars, and later to have made his home near West Milford, (now Harrison County, West Virginia).

In 1797, (August 22nd was the date of the deed) he bought from Samuel Craig and his wife, Ann, a tract of land a part of the Blake patent, lying on the Ohio River about the head of Muskingum Island, and two hundred by forty-two poles in size. This land he probably moved to about that time.

At the organization of Wood County in 1799 and 1800, he was made the first sheriff of the new county, and it would seem probable that he removed for convenience to Newport.

On April 1st, 1813, he sold the land on the Ohio River (fifty-three acres) to Adam Hickman, Jr. At that time, he had returned to Harrison County, of which he was a resident when the deed was made. He died October 28th, 1814. This would make him at marriage, twenty three years; removal to Hacker's Creek, thirty-three years; Sheriff of Harrison County, forty-two years; removal to Wood County, about fifty-five years; Sheriff of Wood County, fifty-eight years, and at his death, seventy-two years of age.

HANNAMAN FAMILY.

The Hannaman family came to Wood County from Harrison County, several years before the organization of Wood County in 1800. Perhaps the first to come were the brothers, Christopher, and William, to whom John Stokely made deeds for several tracts of land dated August 16th, 1798. They may have been here some years before receiving the deeds. As early as April, 1796, John Stokely, who had prior to that date and before the county seat controversy, laid out the village of Springville, at the mouth of the Kanawha River, conveyed jointly to the Hannamans, Lots Number Four and Five, and one "smaul Lott", sixty-eight feet long by thirty feet "Broad, and "Layable to a quit-rent of one dollar a year".

The following August, they bought two other lots in Springville. In 1795, Chris Hannaman bought from Captain Neal, thirty-eight and one half acres, lying on the Kanawha River, below Neal's Run. This was afterward the Bradford homestead. Also, on the 26th of May, 1795, he bought from Neal, eighteen acres of land lying on Hannaman Run, and a half acre of ground with "one samll cabbin". These last were a part of the tract on which had
been built the fort at Neal's Station, the first permanent settlement in Wood County.

Hannaman later sold the eighteen and one half acres at the station to his son, Peter Hannaman. Apparently Christopher Hannaman had been the oldest of three brothers, Christopher, John and William. I have nothing to show that John Hannaman ever came to Wood County.

Christopher Hannaman's wife's name was Mary, and they were married before Harrison County was organized, in 1784. I have never seen the name of her family. John Hannaman, in Harrison County married Susan Bibbee (Bibi, it is registered), February 15th, 1787.

Peter Hannaman was probably born in Harrison County, and came to Wood County with his father's family about 1795. He married a woman named Lee. This was not in Wood County, but she may have been one of the Lees at Newark. Their oldest child, John Hannaman married Elizabeth Gibbens, an aunt of Hon. A. F. Gibbens, the Wood County Historian, in 1825.

His wife being dead, Peter Hannaman married to Matilda Ann Robinson, on January 30th, 1825, (five days after his son's wedding. On the 28th of the following September, he died, and one month later, his son, Peter Thomas Hannaman was born. He sold the Fort Neal property to Hugh Phelps in 1805, and lived up the Little Kanawha River, adjoining Samuel Jackson's property.

William Hannaman married Mary Flesher in Harrison County, in 1788. He came to Wood County about 1795. He and Christopher bought lots in Springville, as given above. He figured prominently in the public life of his day, and was frequently selected for jury service or laying new roads.

He was one of the additional justices added to the County Court at its re-organization, May 7th, 1804. He, with his family, is said to have left the community about the time of the Blennerhassett - Burr affair. Where he went is not known.

Peter Hannaman was a prominent citizen of the section of Wood County lying below the mouth of the Little Kanawha when the county was established. He came to Wood County by way of the Washington County settlements, where he was during a part of the Indian Wars. He was a resident of Belpre in 1795. He and John Armstrong, who came to the Belpre Colony from Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, some time in the fall of 1793, had built a floating mill upon the plan of one Captain Devoll and Griffin Greene had made a few years before. This mill was anchored at the upper end of Blennerhassett (then Backus) Island, and the men who had spent the winter of 1793 and 1794 in a blockhouse
built by Isaac Barker, were living in cabins on the Virginia side of the river, about a half mile above the island.

On the night of April 24th, 1794, the Armstrong cabin, which was lowest down the river, and stood near the site of the later Gandee-Hutchinson farm, was attacked by the Indians, and Mrs. Armstrong and two small children were killed, and three other children carried into captivity. Armstrong and two grown sons escaped, the boys had been sleeping at the mill.

(Tradition has it that the youngest of the boys taken prisoner, Jeremiah, then eight years old, is the same Jeremiah Armstrong who sold James Gillespie the land claim at the Thornton Bend on the Kanawha River. If this is correct, then the father's name was Paul, and not John. The records prove this conclusively. Moreover, a child of eight years in 1794 could hardly have conveyed land in 1801).

The organization of Wood County in 1800 finds Misner living on John Stokely's land, at or near the site of his former cabin, and operating a little mill at the mouth of the run below the Kanawha, where Marrtown road leaves the river. In 1807, after litigation, Stokely made him a deed for two hundred acres at this place. About the later teens, Misner became financially involved, and in 1820, his home was sold to satisfy a mortgage. Jacob Currier buying the river front which was one hundred four poles wide, and Morton Holliday bought the remainder.

Misner's wife - whose name I do not have - had, in her earlier days in Pennsylvania, been a captive among the Wyandot Indians.

Zebulon Misner was one of the purchasers of the one thousand acres from Hugh Phelps, on April 15th, 1800.

Little, if anything else, appears concerning him in the records.

These four Misners all lived in the same vicinity on the South side of the Little Kanawha River, in 1800. Whether they were brothers, father and sons, or of other relation, does not appear.

VANVLARA FAMILY (Van Lear)

These people were Holland Dutch, but little is known of their beginning in the colony at Neal's Station. The first year of the new century finds them clustered about the first fort of Neal's Run, known at that time as Smith's Run, and on the stream above Niceleyville. They were probably from Randolph or Pendleton Counties.

There were three of the Vanliras who owned land here in 1800, Adam, Andrew, and Cornelius, and there were two or three others living in the vicinity.

The name, at first "Vanlira", became in a few years, "Vanolear" and "Vanolera", with a choice of several other variations if desired, but in later years, it is usually written "Van Lear".

Adam Vanlira evidently lived in the vicinity of the Gihon Church. Andrew Vanlira owned the land at the forks of the stream. He also patented other adjoining lands at a later date. He married Mary, a daughter of Uriah Gandee, and was thus the brother-in-law of Jesse Gandee and Uriah, Jr. who married "Messie" Hughes and moved to Roane County.

Cornelius Vanlira lived in the same vicinity, and joining land with Andrew. He was an older man with children grown, and may have been the father of the others. He died about 1800, and left a widow, Susannah, a daughter
Susannah, and a son, John are mentioned.

Jeremiah Vanvlera lived in the community. He bought land from Hugh Phelps.

John Vanvlera, Senior and Junior, were both members of the group, the latter a son of Cornelius. One of these had a mill on the north fork of Lee's Creek, as far as opposite Mustapha Island. Either this, or another Vanvlera's Mill was in operation before 1800. Probably this has been only a little corn-cracker at the settlement on Neal's Run.

GATES FAMILY.

Elijah Gates was a notable character in the Newport settlement at the beginning of the century. He bought land of Dr. Spencer before 1800, and was living at (present) Nineteenth Street. He was licensed to keep a ferry across the Ohio River to Jonathan Stone's farm, before 1800. The ferry was in operation until his death, on April 11th, 1802, when only fifty-eight years of age.

Elijah Gates was probably from the New England States, through the Marietta Colony, and bore the title of "Captain". This naturally may be taken as indicating that he was an officer in the American Army in the War of Independence. However, I find nothing definite to prove such was the case. It is possible the title came from service at sea, or in the local militia of Harrison County. The first hypothesis seems the most probable.

His burial at the Spencer family burying ground, rather than at either of the four or five closer graveyards, may have indicated a connection with the Spencer family. Eunice Gates, who married Philip Cole in 1802, was probably his daughter.

There were Gates families in Washington County, and one Nathaniel Gates was Town Clerk of Marietta in 1804, but I find nothing definite to connect the two.

Elias Gates was one of the sons of Captain Elijah Gates. He lived on a part of his father's farm after the death of the latter in 1802. This farm consisted of ninety-five acres of land lying below Nineteenth Street, and running back almost to Plum Street on the east. In 1822, he bought a strip of land off the Beeson survey, across (present) Nineteenth Street. This was all river bottom, and was fifteen poles wide and ran back to the foot of the hill. Years later, the farm was known as "the Dutchman's place", then in the possession of two Germans who raised grapes and made wine, (Becker, Fricke, and "Dutch Henry")

Elias Gates was born in 1776 and died in 1854. His wife's name was Hannah and she died in 1823.

Jasper Gates was a son of Captain Elijah Gates, and lived in Wood County in 1800.

Hezekiah Gates was on a Wood County jury in 1805. He may or may not have been in the County when it was organized.

Nehemiah Gates was in the Vienna community in the first years of the century.

SUTHERLAND FAMILY.

Most of the information below was the result of several talks with Mr. Jesse Sutherland, whom I visited on several occasions, and with whom I liked to talk.
It was a bright morning early in September, 1916, that I first visited the hospitable home of Mr. Jesse L. Sutherland, who was one of the old fashioned country farmers still clinging to the broad acres of their old homesteads, even up to the edges of the expanding city.

He was at that time an elderly man, probably somewhere in his seventies, and built after the Scottish pattern - tall, without surplus weight, and slightly stooped. Mr. Sutherland was of pioneer stock, and a grandson of one of the early settlers of Wood County. He was born in the house in which he was then living, and in which he died a few years after, and seemed more than a little proud of the fact that he himself still carried a "visible admixture" of the backwoods element in his make-up.

Mrs. Sutherland was much younger than her husband. Her father was Rufus Putnam Inman, whose mother is said to be a sister of Mrs. Monroe McPherson. If there were children, I have no remembrance of ever hearing of it.

The Sutherland house was on the lower side of the Core Road, and about a mile beyond the mouth of Holmes' Run. It stands a few rods away from the road, which was built later than the house. The house is nestling in a beautiful little grove of trees, mostly I think cedar, cherry and plum trees, making it a homey and exceedingly lovely spot at least twice a year - once in early springtime, and the other all the time. There was an old path literally worn in the turf under the trees down to the porch.

The house stood with the end toward the road, and consisted of two parts. The main, or living-house, was of hewed logs, a story and a half in height, and had a wide porch, low of eave, and with massive hewn posts. It was built by John J. Sutherland, perhaps in the 1840's or 1850's. In this "new" house, the logs were hewed to eight inches in thickness, and faced fifteen or sixteen inches, and both houses had whip-sawed poplar floors planed smooth, and laid so close and tight that the old man was proud of his statement that they "turn water".

The old part was perhaps sixteen feet by eighteen feet in outer dimension, and built by John Sutherland in 1827. It stood as an "L" at the upper end of the new house when it was built later. The logs of the first house were, I think, smaller than the addition, and it may have been a round log cabin with walls "skutched down" inside and out. Its first floor was of puncheons about four inches thick, hewed from oak or ash logs. The joists were poplar beams hewed to six by eight or ten inches. There had been one or two windows in the side walls, each carrying twelve eight by ten window panes. A cavernous fireplace had occupied a large part of the back end, but had been later "built over". The roof had originally been of Clapboards split from some oak tree and probably held in place by "weight poles", cut from straight trunks of hickory saplings. The first doors were made from hewed or whipsawed poplar planks, and it is more than merely "likely" that they were hung on hand fashioned wooden hinges.

The walls of both houses were "chunked with wood, and daubed with mortar, now I think made with lime. In the first house, which had always been one room only, the original overhead floor had been of clapboards, and both floor and the space above went by the name of "the Loft", but the upper regions of the new house grew to the dignity of "up-stairs", although at first accessible only by a ladder.

On the wall by the window was an old wooden clock, with great weights reaching down to the floor, which Mr. Sutherland said he had been told his father had hanged there "three years before I was born, and that "it is still keeping good time yet". That is after some seventy-five year's use, and probably it was an old clock picked up at some "Vandee" sale when it was first hung there. It would be interesting to search the reports of settlements of
estates and trace it down.

Everything in the way of chairs and bed quilts reached back for two or three generations, as did everything else. Most of it had been brought across the mountains more than a hundred years before.

Some years later, the old home, with its contents was destroyed by fire.

John Sutherland was the first of the family so far as my knowledge goes, though stretching backwards behind him is a fan-shaped expanse of names of ancestors and their connections even greater than that of his descendants on this side of their common meeting point, across among the hills of middle Virginia. All, however, concerning that ancestry is, to me, a complete void. We are told that John Sutherland was born on October 5th, 1770, and so we know that he was a "good chunk of a boy" when the Revolutionary War began. Then, from the old family record (copied elsewhere) one can easily deduce that after he was fully grown to manhood's estate, he was married to the daughter of one of the well-to-do planters of Prince William County, Virginia. As to the name of the bride, there seems to be somewhat of a tangle. Her father's will calls her Ann. The family bible of the Sutherlands calls her name Ann. Both of these ought to be good evidence. On the other hand, a grandson, and numerous other descendants or relatives have assured me that they never heard her called by any other name than Nancy. From the fact that there are other cases in the early records where the names Ann, Nancy, and Hannah, are used in different papers for the same person, one might be justified in concluding that in that day and place, the three names were in some way considered the same and interchangeable.

John Sutherland married Ann (or Nancy) Foley, and lived near her father's place, beyond the mountains. Several years later, her father came to Worthington. He followed them, buying fifty acres of the Tunis Dils farm from his brother-in-law, James Foley, to which he brought his family in 1812. He lived there on S keville road until January, 1826, when he bought the eastern side of the Lyons farm from Peter Dils. To this he moved, built the humble cabin described, and continued to reside there, so far as documents show, until his death, at the early age of sixty-six years.

I have seen something of some kind of a writing conveying his property to some of his older children, some of whom were grown and married before this removal, but did not copy it. Probably it was some kind of a mortgage lien to bridge over some financial difficulty. At any rate, after the death of John Sutherland, the farm was divided into seven shares.

The number one share, consisting of ten acres, with the house, was left to the widow, "Nancy" Sutherland, in lieu of a dower. The remainder presumably was left to living children, or perhaps to children not hitherto provided for.

These "shares" were disposed of by the children within a few years of the death of their father, but without actual legal partition of the property, I believe, until 1867, at which time the five upper shares belonged to John J. Sutherland, and the two next to the creek to Paul Cook.

John J. Sutherland died in September, 1836, at the age of sixty-five years and ten months. He was buried at the old Dils graveyard. His wife was probably buried by his side, if so, without a marker, and I do not have the date of her death.

Of the children, there were married in Wood County:

Letty married a man named Hiram (Gates may have been the family name, but it is not fairly legible on the marriage record.) Apparently she was dead before her father's death in 1836.
Harriet Sutherland married Shelton Rice in 1829. They lived up about the mouth of Glade Run, perhaps, or on Worthington Creek below Laurel Fork. She died within a few years, as Rice was married again in five years. No Sutherland heirs are mentioned.

Julia Ann married Alexander Smitherman of the Lubeck vicinity in 1837. At one time they lived near the Ogden schoolhouse.

John J. Sutherland was born in 1802, in Prince William County, Virginia. This is the same year his mother's people are said to have moved across the mountains and settled on Worthington Creek. His father did not follow until 1812, when he was eight years old. He lived and grew up on a fifty acre block of the Tunis Dils place on the Snakeville road, and probably continued to reside at the same spot after his marriage, until his father sold the farm to his uncle, Barnet Foley.

His first wife being a sister of his Uncle Mason Foley's wife, thus he became a brother-in-law to his uncle and aunt.

John J. Sutherland married Mary Kincheloe after the death of his first wife. He had six children (by the first marriage, my note would seem to mean, but it may have been six including Jesse L., whose mother was Mary Kincheloe Creel). I do not think I have the names of any daughters. There were four sons besides Jesse, only one of whom was living in 1916, so far as Jesse knew. The others had "gone west", and he hadn't heard from them for years.

I have the names of:
- Mason F. Sutherland, who lived on Seventeenth Street, where he died about 1936.
- Webster Sutherland.
- Goodenow Sutherland.
- Eugeneius Sutherland.

Three of the above, or perhaps all, were in the Union Army, one an inspector of Suttler's supplies, and the others serving in the ranks.

John J. Sutherland was, said his son, a Whig in politics, later joining the Know-nothing party, and uniting with the Republican party at its organization. He continued to vote with it until his death. He was stricken with "shaking palsy" nine years before the end, and for the last two years was bedfast and helpless.

Mary Sutherland, married G. W. Sparling in November, 1739. (This may have been entered wrong on the Clerk's books, as was not uncommon. There was, at one time, a family named Starling living on Briscoe's Run.)

Marthena Sutherland married Samuel Rodgers in 1840. I have the name alone, excepting that she was one of the heirs.

John J. Sutherland was eight years old when his parents came to Worthington Creek. He grew to manhood at the old cabin on the Snakeville Road. He married Delilah E. Phelps, Col. Hugh Phelps' "baby" on February 9th, 1826, and (doubtless) occupied the old house with his bride when it was vacated by his father that spring, continuing there until the sale to Barnett Foley in 1833. After the death of his first wife, he married Mary Kincheloe, a daughter of Jesse Kincheloe, who lived at the mouth of Gillespie's Run, on Worthington Creek. After his father's death, John J. Sutherland bought the claims of the most of the others, and lived at the old homestead of his mother's.

I do not have the date of his last marriage, which has not been in Wood County, nor the names of the children in full, as such. There were:

Eugeneius J. Sutherland of the first marriage, who married a daughter of
James Johnson, in 1848, and made the first settlement in the big woods up the Northwestern Turnpike.

Mason Sutherland.

Jesse L. Sutherland, named for his mother's father, Jesse Kincheloe.

The Sutherland Family Record, as copied from the old Family Bible:

John Sutherland was born October 5th, 1770.

Ann Foley was born November 4th, 1774.

Their children:

- Mason F. Sutherland, born May 4th, 1798.
- Lettie Sutherland was born July 14th, 1801.
- John J. Sutherland was born April 1st, 1802.
- Harriet Sutherland was born February 26th, 1806.
- James Sutherland was born in November, 1809.
- Ann Sutherland was born in July, 1811.
- Mary Sutherland was born on March 12th, 1814.
- Bethany Sutherland was born November 24th, 1816. (This name was pronounced Be-the-ny.)
- Bathsheba Sutherland was born—- (the remainder of the page was torn away.)

Mr. Sutherland says he thinks there were twelve children in all.

He relates also that his grandfather used to drive a five horse team to Baltimore. It took thirteen days to make the trip. One time, he lost his dog in Baltimore, and being very much attached to his companion, he spent a great amount of time searching for the animal, but without success. Reluctantly he started for home without him. That night in the middle of the night, he was overjoyed when his dog came and barked at the door of the room, was stopping at and pawing the door open, came into the room and reared up with his paws on the bed.

Mr. Sutherland once related a story concerning his grandmother. He said that once while living on the Barnett Foley place on Snakeville Road, his grandmother (Nancy or Ann Foley) saw a large bear come down out of the woods and across to the pen where the fattening hogs were. It killed a big hog and gathered it up in its arms and carried it over next to Green Run, where it laid the hog down, ate all he wanted, and then went away.

DYE FAMILY

Reuben Dye (Ruben Dye is the way the name usually appeared on earlier records), settled on a large land survey at or near the mouth of Burning Springs Run, several years before the organization of Wood County. He was a wealthy man - for that day - and had a number of slaves, as well as several sons, to clear and improve his lands. At the time of his death (5/23/1828) or a little earlier, he provided his children with homes in the vicinity. and one son, Vincent Dye was married in 1809. Some of them may have been freeholders in 1800, but I have noted no evidence to that effect. Reuben Dye came from Prince William County, Virginia.

A family tradition tells that the Dye family in America are all descended from two brothers who came across the ocean (presumably from England) some time back in Colonial days, but there is nothing to show what their names were or where they settled. That Reuben Dye was probably from Virginia is shown by his being a slave holder, and also by the fact that the Dyes of Washington County, Ohio, were related in some way to him. There was Samuel, who came from
Fairfax County, Virginia, and settled on Cow Run, of the Little Muskingum, and his son, Samuel, who came from Bull Run, near Manassas, Virginia.

There was, however, despite the tradition, another family named Dye, who lived in the immediate vicinity of Reuben Dye, at a very early day, which I have been unable to connect with the latter, but they are no doubt connected also.

**CHANCELLOR FAMILY**

Edmund P. Chancellor was born in (then) Wood County, Virginia, March 24th 1832. He died at his home on Greene Street, May 5th, 1927 (aged ninety-five years and one month.)

He was brought when a child to the mouth of the Kanawha River, and grew up and lived here most of his life. He was married July 25th, 1855, to Rhoda Miller, of Mason County. He was in the insurance business at one time, and began life for himself as a school teacher. His title of "Captain" came from his having been owner and operator of steamboats on the Ohio River for many years. He was president of the County Court of Wood County from 1901 to 1904, and was a member of the Saint Paul's Church.

I visited Mr. Chancellor several times after I came to the city, to talk with him about the early days of Parkersburg, as it was when he first knew it, some sixty years ago. I found him to be a very pleasant and courteous gentleman, who appeared to enjoy telling of the past, and from whom I received quite a lot of interesting information, valuable for reference to any who, like myself, may be a student of the local pioneer history of Wood County.

Mr. Chancellor told me that his grandfather, Thomas Chancellor, was born in Culpeper County, Virginia, and served in a regiment of the Virginia Infantry in the Revolutionary War. He was married three times, and his last wife was Judith Gaines, whose father, Richard Gaines, was a brother of the American General, and her mother a sister of Edmund Pendleton, the statesman and jurist.

He settled at, or near the site of Harrisville, (then in Wood County), in 1809. They had several children. Two sons, James and Richard, died at Norfolk, Virginia, in the War of 1812. Cooper, William and Rebecca died in Wood County. Benjamin lived on Worthington Creek, then went to Missouri, and died in Mississippi. Thomas lived and died in Parkersburg.

The father had started with his family to settle at the Virginian colony at Chillicothe, but learning there was an epidemic outbreak of malaria fever at that place, he stopped on the North Fork of the Hughes River for a while, eventually making his permanent home at that place. He was a farmer, and affiliated with the Methodist Church.

Thomas Chancellor, Junior, was born in Culpeper County, in 1805, hence was about five years old when he came to Wood County. While yet young, he was apprenticed to a man named Kimble, at Pruntytown. Later he operated a tannery on Hughes' River. He was married to a Miss Prudence Rector, a daughter of Jesse and Mary Rector, of Pruntytown. (Jesse Rector said E. P. Chancellor was a cousin of Rev. Enoch Rector.)

Thomas Chancellor, Jr., was the father of three sons, William N., Edmund P., and Alfred B., all prominent business men of Parkersburg. He purchased the Tannery at the mouth of the Little Kanawha River, and came to Parkersburg in 1837, when Captain E. P. Chancellor was about five years old. He died in Parkersburg, July 4th, 1872.
In writing this sketch on the Stephenson Family, I have digressed at times, and have inserted material on other subjects.

In explanation of having done this while writing of concerns of this family, I would like to say that I have done so in this as well as other instances, because it seemed an opportune point to bring forth other items of historical value. I trust that this will in no way impede any who may chance to be using these sketches as a means of genealogical research.

The Stephenson family, both in the period of the infancy of Parkersburg and in its middle and later years, has ever been an important factor.

A synopsis in the history of the Stephenson family, from the narrative of Edward Stephenson, Jr., a brother of J. M. Stephenson, and a genealogical table furnished me by Mrs. J. B. Sammel, together with the result of my own research from reliable sources are herewith offered.

The family was seated in the Highlands of Scotland, and is said to have taken an active hand in the long strife with England.

Not so complimentary from some viewpoints is the asserted tradition that "they were much devoted to the wild sport of fox hunting and the more refined (?) amusement of horse racing".

Emigrating to America "probably about the beginning of the eighteenth century"; their first settlement was near Sussex County, Delaware.

"My grandfather, Edward Stephenson," says the writer, "said 'We had no churches or schools, and our houses were log cabins, unfit to protect us from the inclemencies of the seasons. Our roads were but paths in the woods, and all our necessaries of life had to be brought from distant seaports on mules and packhorses'."

This Edward Stephenson lived in Marietta (or Washington County, Northwest Territory). (He never owned real estate there after 1800. He lived at Newport, Ohio, at one time.)

Besides Edward, he had a son, John, who bought the John Dils farm on the Kanawha River, below the mouth of Worthington Creek, and lived there many years.

Probably, it is figured, about 1770 or 1780, this Edward, Sr. moved to George's Creek, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, "not far from the same time the maternal branch of the family, the Dilses - Dilz is the former spelling - moved from New Jersey and settled likewise on George's Creek", near to the Stephensons.

He further states his mother's family lived near enough that his mother, though small, could distinctly remember the noise of the "small arms" in the Battle of Princeton, and that they were so scared "ripe pears lay untouched" in her father's yard.

Edward Stephenson, Jr., married Elizabeth Dils in 1794. On November 4th, 1796, James McNeil E Stephenson was born on Georges Creek, Fayette County, Pennsylvania. He is said to be the oldest of five children, given as below:-

Mary Elizabeth Stephenson, born in 1797 or 1798, in Pennsylvania.
John Stephenson.
Edward Stephenson.
Eliza Stephenson, born at the mouth of Bull Creek, about 1804.

Of these, the first two were born before the family came west in 1798,
the next a few years later, and while the family "resided on the Muskingum".

It appears the Dilses and Stephensons came west together, the former
to Parkersburg, and locating on the fourteen hundred acres on Worthington
Creek, while the Edward Stephensons, father and son, stopped at Marietta,
Edward, Junior, following his wife's people, and coming to "the blockhouse
at Neal's Station", where the second son, Edward the third, was born,
August 21st, 1802. Soon after, the family removed to the Dils farm, in
the Snakeville section, then ten miles further to a crossroads, and
finally to or near Bull Creek, on the Ohio River above Parkersburg.

Edward Stephenson, Junior

This Edward, Junior, is described by his son as a large, robust and
active man, but he appears never to have owned land of his own, and to
have disposed of the land inherited by his wife at the Lee farm above
Worthington.

He was restless and roving, but "a great favorite among the people", says
his son.

"Soon after his removal to Parkersburg", he was sent to the Legisla­
ture. (He served in the session of 1802-1803.)

It is related by his son that he said "No, I never knew before I
went to Richmond what a fool I was, and I have no inclination to return
there".

Another anecdote is that while living on the Muskingum, an ugly
old Indian entered the cabin, and the husband being away, the woman set
everything eatable on the table to appease the malice and ferocity of the
redskin, and stood cowering with her little ones in a corner, momentarily
expecting the blow to fall. The Indian consumed everything in sight, and
then, addressing Stephenson, who had just come in, said — "Your squaw
skee to death; but me do no harm; me good man, me preacher".

A story related to show the humor of the father is of value in local
history as locating a mill. The occurrence must have taken place between
1800 and 1803 or 1804, and while Stephenson resided at the blockhouse,
or at Snakeville - possibly the "cross roads".

"Once he was met in the road riding very fast towards home. "Where
are you going so fast this morning?" said the neighbor. "Why", said
he, "I have just been to Cook's mill to get a grist of corn ground, and
there wasn't quite enough to pay the toll, so I am going home after the
balance".

In the spring of 1805, Edward and Elizabeth Stephenson and their
five children - Eliza had been born while the family resided at Bull
Creek - loaded their few household goods into a flatboat and drifted down
the Ohio River, landing in Kentucky, where he rented a farm.

Afterwards, he moved to a place on the Ohio River, where he rented,
or received employment on the mill. That summer he was attacked with an
illness which proved fatal. This was in the summer of 1806.

Edward Stephenson, Jr., lived at the blockhouse - perhaps as a
renter in the old building - in 1801. He moved to Snakeville in 1802,
to "cross-roads", ten miles further out a little later, and to Bull
Creek still a little later, then to Kentucky about 1805.

Upon the death of her husband, Elizabeth Dils Stephenson was left
in very reduced circumstances, among strangers, and with five children,
the oldest but about ten years old, to provide for. No wonder she re­
joiced when relatives at the Point, hearing of her need, sent to bring
her back to that settlement.
The return was in the autumn of 1806, and it is related by the son that "while on the voyage, the great eclipse of the sun happened. It was so dark we had to land and wait till it was over".

They first lived for a while "in town", and she kept boarders, and the mother plied her needle to support herself and children, but the returns proving inadequate, her brothers established her in a cabin near the mill, which was "owned" by her brother Henry.

The son speaks of a red bank near their home, and of gathering nuts. This red bank was probably below the mouth of Berry's Run, and the nut trees below that in the low bottom or along the bank.

"We children", he relates, "often went to my uncle John Stephenson's, who lived on the Kanawha, a mile above Parkersburg". This was on the John Dils farm below Worthington Creek, and was on a high bank of the stream.

In 1809 or 1810, they moved to a house half way on the road to Parkersburg, on what was the Stokely place, sold by him to St. Clair Kelley, in 1818, deed made in 1822. Kelley was from Marietta, and married Mary, eldest daughter of Mrs. Stephenson. The house was probably down in the bottom next to the creek. There is a spring near the creek bank, and pioneer roads usually followed streams. The writer says "It was near the banks of Worthington Creek".

The land along the creek was all cleared and cultivated, but a small meadow, somewhere in Mulberry Bottom. The hill across the creek was in the woods, and was for over a hundred years longer.

His uncle still lived on the John Dils land, and, it appears from this narrative, in the bottom near the "Kenhawa", (the common spelling of early days). The widow resided at this place for from two to four years.

Edward Stephenson, then aged eleven or twelve years, and his youngest sister, Eliza, perhaps about six years old, attended school, he says, at a cabin standing "on the bluff on the plantation of General Jackson", walking "about two miles through the woods". This was perhaps on an Outlot. Jackson did not come to Parkersburg until 1823, so perhaps he means land owned by Jackson at the time of his narrative.

About 1840, Jackson owned land on the ridge at the head of Holmes' Run, and in 1833 on the west side of Prospect Hill. He never owned the lot on which the school stood, by Peter Devlins. I have never been able to locate the school that was spoken of.

In further description, he says, "In this direction also lived John Stokely, near Terrapin Knob".

When Stokely lost his land along the Kanawha River to Robinson, (about 1810) he probably moved to the Terrapin Knob tract. This was two hundred acres deeded to Samuel Stokely in 1823, and is known as Dudley's land.

"In 1812 or 1813", he continues, "we moved to the house on the bluff on the Kanawha River, and near the graveyard", (Holliday's cemetery near the foot of Harris Street). He says of this place "to the north of us was a piece of land that had been cleared. Probably this "old clearing", as it appears to be, was east of Silver Run, and between the brewery and the river, but it is not likely that it extended as far up as the Northwestern Turnpike of later years, which is now Seventh Street.

Their cabin must have been on the Spencer—Thornton disputed land, and on the Tefft tract of later years. Probably some squatter had built the cabin, cleared a field, and later abandoned it, and the widow moved in.

"To the east of our house was a thick woods, lying between us and Uncle John Stephenson's".
"PIONEERS IN WOOD COUNTY"

By John A. House.

The Tefft and Stephenson tracts, from about Harris Street to beyond the oil refineries, and from the river clear back, was an unbroken forest in 1812, unless there were other squatter's cabins.

"The lands on the southeast (across the river) were rich and productive. Often we could hear the laborers at work in the fields."

"On the west was the graveyard and graves or woods, and a deep ravine, (Silver Run) lying between us and Parkersburg. To the west, it was all woods to the town of Parkersburg."

Probably there were no houses east of Greene Street, and but few further east than the new Court Square at Market and Third Streets.

His companions and playmates were mostly his cousins, Huffman Dils (he may have been a son of John or Henry), and Matthew and Josiah Stephenson, sons of John Stephenson, Sr. "Our plays and diversions were fishing and hunting, and other idle enjoyment", (swimming, nutting, etc., doubtless).

In 1815, the widow "moved to town", "occupying a cabin near the residence of Martin Bailey". This was on the west side of Julianna Street, south of the alley between Fourth and Fifth Streets, Lot No. Twenty–seven, now occupied by the old Jackson House.

"About this time, my sister Mary was married to St. Clair Kelley, a carpenter from Marietta". (She was seventeen or eighteen years old at that time. There is, as far as I have found, no record of her marriage in Wood County.)

To follow up her history, Mary Elizabeth Stephenson, oldest daughter of Edward and Elizabeth Dils Stephenson, was born on George's Creek, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, prior to 1798, and married Kelley, as above, in 1815 or 1816.

In 1818, Kelley bought the seventy acres of land between the Park schoolhouse and the creek, of John Stokely, they signing an "Article of Agreement". He was to pay Nine hundred Dollars for the tract. The deed was not made until about the time of his death, which occurred from dysentery, in 1822. Twenty–seven years later, on February 17th, 1849, St. Clair Kelley, Jr., of Belmont County, Ohio, sold the land to his uncle, J. M. Stephenson. The Kelleys had only one child, named for his father, St. Clair Kelley.

To continue with the narrative of Edward Stephenson, in 1827, having become a Methodist preacher, and being on the Erie circuit, in Pennsylvania, he visited the Virginia Conference at Staunton, where he met his sister, now the wife of David Conley Merriman, a Methodist preacher in the traveling connection, on the Middlebourne circuit.

In 1851, the writer found his sister residing in St. Clairville, Ohio, presumably a widow, as her family was said to consist of two children, a son St. Clair Kelley, a young man of good education, modest and of fine manners, kind and obedient to his mother, whom he supported by the small amount he received as a lawyer, and also for his services as Clerk, "and a daughter, Eliza Merriman, also grown, a young lady of refined and cultivated mind".

A son, David, by the second marriage, is not referred to. Perhaps he had died.

The genealogy of the Stephensons says Eliza Merriman married Selden Spencer Cooke. Their children were;

St. Clair Cooke, who married Anna M. Lowell. Their children were
Russell Lowell Cooke, and St. Clair Cooke, Jr.
Paul Cooke.
Russell Pardon Cooke. (If of the old Cook family, the final "e" is superfluous.)
St. Clair Kelley, Jr., son of St. Clair and Mary E. Kelley, married Isabel Thompson, no children given.

James McNeil Stephenson was born on George's Creek, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, on October 4th, 1796, and died at his home in the grove, at Parkersburg, the night of April 16th, 1877, at a little over eighty years of age. He lived with his father and mother, taking part in their numerous migrations, as related previously in this narrative.

When he grew up, he studied law, and was often a commissioner appointed by the Court for divers purposes, but was not, I think, in active practice of his profession in his middle and later life, although he practiced in Tyler County for a number of years.

He bought the farm, which made his home, one hundred acres and forty acres, of William Spencer, on March 15th, 1834, adding the next year forty-two acres of Hugh Dils, comprising the most of what is now known as the "Stephenson field", and at other times, the John Dils - John Stephenson farm, the Kelley farm, the Richard Lee farm, and the balance of the tract willed his mother at the mouth of Worthington Creek, and all the Henry Dils farm south of the Northwestern Turnpike.

His descendants say the brick mansion in the grove was built in 1832, but they must be mistaken, as he did not buy the land until 1834. He was, says his brother Edward, "the wanderer" at Parkersburg, in September, 1837, yet he and his niece, Mary, who later married James Boreman, went to visit his brother James, at Middlebourne, in April of 1838.

In December, 1838, James M. Stephenson went to Richmond, Virginia, as a Delegate for his (Tyler) county. He had declined a nomination to Congress when he could have easily been elected, and accepted an election to the House of Delegates, in order to secure the construction of the northwestern branch of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

He is also claimed as the father of the Northwestern Turnpike, and a friend of the James River and Kanawha Canal.

He grew quite wealthy, and was President of the Parkersburg National Bank for many years.

In the old days, he acted with the Whig party, and at the opening of the Civil War, claimed to be a Union man, even occupying a seat in the first Wheeling Convention, but later was a sympathizer with the South. He owned, at various times, many slaves.

In 1840, he was back in Parkersburg, in practice with his brother, Edward, in a law office on Court Square. Probably he never again left the city.

He married Agnes Miller Boreman, then a resident of Moundsville. She was born March 9th, 1811, and died on January 14th, 1893. Of their children:—

- Kenner Boreman Stephenson married Elizabeth Green Bird.
- Sarah Elizabeth Stephenson married Okey Johnson.
- James McNeil Stephenson married Veronica Gale.
- Isabella Stephenson married Charles Amos Wade.
- Andrew Clark Stephenson married Ruth Ann Dorsey.
- Lucy Lazier Stephenson married Constantine Tierman Gale.

A note from an article in the State Journal says a daughter of J. M. Stephenson married Ben Jackson. In 1857, her father built her a house at the corner of Julianna and Ninth Streets. Later Jackson died, and Okey Johnson married the widow. When Johnson was elected Judge of the Court of Appeals, they removed to Wheeling, and she sold her home to J. A. Hutchinson. Hutchinson sold it to Mayor W. W. Jackson, and he to V. B. Archer. Archer sold it
to R. J. A. Boreman, and he in 1914 sold it to W. A. Hersch, who had the house remodeled and rebuilt.

In an interview with Mr. E. P. Chancellor, he said that J. M. Stephenson was a tanner, and worked at the Logan tannery. Henry J. Fisher was a "tinker", and both studied law together.

The tax books at the County Clerk's office show that in 1820 James M. Stephenson and Henry Logan were joint owners of Inlot No. Eighty-eight, on which they had a tannery (at the corner of Market and Harriet Streets. Rifle Run crossed the latter about three quarters of the distance back to the alley).

The narrator of the events in the lives of the family of Edward Stephenson, Jr. seems to have inherited the before mentioned restless disposition of his father. In the son, it seems to have magnified several fold. He was Edward Stephenson, the third, and was known as "The Wanderer". Of himself, he narrates that he learned the hatter's trade at Marietta, and about 1818, he went down the river with a raft of cedar logs, to Lawrenceburg, Indiana where many of his maternal relations lived, (John, Deans, and Henry Dilses. The Narrative reads:

"I visited my uncles Dean and Dils. Many of them had grown up and moved away".

This was in 1819 or 1820, he says. He had been apprenticed to his brother-in-law, Kelley, to learn the carpenter's trade. He had run away about 1815 or 1816, and soon after his being apprenticed, went down the Ohio River to Shade River, contracted to work for a cooper and learn the trade, because he was homesick, he returned to Parkersburg the next day.

He continued working with Kelley until 1819 or 1820, when he again left on the Lawrenceburg trip, going on a flat boat to Cincinnati, and then walking across to Lawrenceburg.

After two or three weeks, he returned to Parkersburg on foot, and remained with Kelley until the latter's death, in 1822.

It is said of him that he was a very brilliant man, and an excellent law student. He, I am told, at one time spent years travelling through the south, sometimes teaching, sometimes practicing law, and sometimes otherwise employed, but never more than one year in one place. He was an interesting and distinguished writer. At the time of his death, he was a teacher of English in a college.

Eliza Stephenson

Eliza Stephenson, the youngest daughter of Edward Stephenson, Sr. was born about 1804, at the mouth of Bull Creek. She married John Anderson Hutchinson and lived, I think, at or near the vicinity of Parkersburg.

Their children were:


David Edward Hutchinson married Virginia Littleboy. Their children were:

Edward L. Hutchinson.
Maulby Hutchinson.
John W. Hutchinson.
Anna J. Hutchinson, married Robert A. Parmenter.
David Hutchinson.
Etta Hutchinson.
Frank Hutchinson.
James Hutchinson married first Eliza Ball, and second, Josephine Parmen-
ter. His sons were:-
  Robert Lee Hutchinson, who married Caroline Vaughn.
  Joseph C. Hutchinson.
  Fred M. Hutchinson.
John Anderson Hutchinson, Jr. (probably the noted lawyer and politician)
moved Elizabeth Cochran. They had but one son, John Friend Hutchinson. A
daughter, Mary Elizabeth Hutchinson, married Sam Logan. Other daughters were:-
  Katharine E. Hutchinson, married John P. Harris.
  Eliza Hutchinson, married Clyde Bartlett.
  Susan Maria Hutchinson, married T. Campbell Sweeney.
  Sarah Hutchinson, married Joseph Clark Johnson Stapleton.
  Elizabeth Hutchinson, married Daniel C. Lovett.
  Laura Dils Hutchinson, married Charles T. Clayton.
If my assumption is correct, John A. Hutchinson was a son of Eliza
Stephenson, hence a nephew of J. M. Stephenson, and a cousin of Okey Johnson's
wife.

John Stephenson

John Stephenson, Sr., was a son of Edward, Sr., and Margaret Stephenson.
He may have been born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, but it seems more pro-
bable the event occurred in Delaware.
He came to Western Virginia in 1800. In 1807, he bought the farm lying
on the Kanawha River, at and below the mouth of Worthington Creek. An outline
of the same is:-
  Philip Dils to John Dils, April 7th, 1801.
  John Dils to Edward Stephenson, Jr., (who married Elizabeth Dils)
December 8th, 1801.
  Edward Stephenson, Jr., to his father, Edward Stephenson, Sr., of Marietta,
August 2nd, 1802.
  On August 3rd, 1807, Edward Stephenson, Sr., sold the farm (fifty acres
it was called) to his son, John Stephenson, Sr., This deed was for fifty acres,
and was signed by Edward and Margaret Stephenson, of Washington County, Ohio,
and also by Elizabeth, widow of the late Edward Stephenson, Jr., who had not
released her interest in the former deed.
This John Stephenson seems to have owned and lived on the place many
years (1834–or 1835.) He was a preacher, and performed the first ceremony on
January 6th, 1806, uniting James Foley and Bathsheba Cook. His last, perhaps,
was the marriage of Elizabeth Lee to John Brown, August 25th, 1829.
He first lived on the bank of the Ohio River, across from Hannaman's Run.
In 1830 (November 23rd) he sold the fifty acres to a James Lyons, but
either by extension and addition, or re-survey, it was now written eighty-five
acres, making himself safe through a deed of trust. The sheriff, Henry Steed,
acting for J. M. Stephenson, who held this deed, later sold the land, and the
former owner "bid it in".
He continued to reside on the place until the time of his death, and was
buried at "the family burying ground on the home place". His death occurred be-
fore 1834, as on February 28th, 1834, his son, John Stephenson, Jr., made a
deed for the same to James M. Stephenson, who, November 23rd, 1836, deeded
back to the said John Stephenson, Jr., one fourth of an acre as the burying
ground.
This man John Stephenson, Sr., was a man of talent and education, and
prominent in the organization of Wood County, in 1799 and 1800.
When John Stephenson "emigrated" from Pennsylvania, he purchased from John Stokely a lot at the corner of Kanawha Street. The exact site of this lot cannot now be traced, but it was in the vicinity mentioned. There was the width of the street — perhaps about twenty-four feet, and the width of the public square, which was seventy-four feet, between this lot and the then bank of the Little Kanawha River.

John Stephenson was a Presbyterian in faith, and was commissioned to "solemnize marriage rites in the county". (Possibly this was a civil appointment, like those of Neal and Lord.)

He "erected a cabin" and opened an ordinary, or tavern, although we have nothing to show just when he built the house. He did not receive his deed until later, but the house he had is mentioned in his deed. He also had a store, and used the old blockhouse as a warehouse. He kept a tavern at the Point, and was the second postmaster at Newport.

He "bought land outside of the settlement, along the river, facing the primitive Neal's Station, an extensive grove until recent years known as Stephenson's Grove". (The Stephenson's grove lay above East Street, and below the old Staunton Pike, and has been gone for probably forty years, or fifty years. The above, however, ought to be evidence in placing the site of the station).

"Here his wife, Margaret, died, June 27th, 1817, at the age of eighty-three, and he died on November 6th, 1822, at the age of ninety-six".

John Stephenson spent the later years of his life with his son, John (who bought the farm). His death occurred on the 14th of February, 1836. The court which was in session adjourned the next day in respect of his long service in that body.

(As Stephenson had no marker for his grave when I saw it, I have seen nothing as to his age at the time of his death, but as he had a son born in 1772, and numbered third on the record, it is supposeable that he was twenty-five years old at that time, hence eighty-eight years old at the time of his death, and eighty-five years of age when sheriff (may it have been his son who was the officer?), and born about 1750.)

John Stephenson and Elizabeth, his wife, raised seven children, whose names — probably arranged as to age — are given as:

Jane.
William.
David.
Anna.
John.
Josiah.
Matthew F.

Jane Stephenson, presumably the oldest child, was probably born in Southwestern Pennsylvania. She married a son of Henry Dils, who owned this part of the Dils farm. His wife's name was Catharine (Emery?), and the son was Peter Emory Dils. Henry Dils, commonly known as "Hog" Henry, was his brother.

The marriage occurred June 6th, 1811. They raised a large family. They moved to near Jeffersonville, Indiana, in 1831. They were married six years before Henry, Senior, emigrated to Indiana, and after fourteen years followed them.

A daughter married Rev. Woods, a Presbyterian minister.

Both Peter E. Dils and his widow died soon after (their removal in 1831.
William Stephenson was a physician, and practiced in the War of 1812, and located in Jeffersonville, Indiana. "His first wife was Sarah Lee". (It is not stated if he married before going west.) They raised four children. "His second wife was Sarah Steed, by whom were born four others". (Both Lee and Steed occur in early Wood County families.)

"In 1845, he moved to the gold regions of Georgia, near the home of his brother, Matthew F., but within three years returned to Indiana."

"In 1849, as captain of a company of young men, he started to California, to acquire a fortune in the gold mines. While on the route, ascending the Missouri River, Asiatic cholera broke out in the company, and all but four of them died, near Lexington, Stephenson among the number".

"Eliz...
He died in Portland, Oregon, October 15th, 1871. His first wife died in 1840.

Afterward, he married a lady from Huntsville, Alabama.

Stephenson was sheriff in 1831 and 1832, and succeeded J. H. Neal as Clerk of the County Court in 1832, holding the office until June 14th, 1838.

John Stephenson, Jr., was for many years one of Parkersburg's most prominent business men, and an extensive dealer in real estate, both in the city and surrounding country.

LOGAN FAMILY

Another family prominent in the life and business of Parkersburg during the years in which it was growing from a village to be a small city was that of Logan.

The founder of the family in Parkersburg was Henry Logan. He came from Fairfax County, Virginia, in 1816, with a family of five small children. Six children were born after they came to Wood County.

He was a shoemaker by trade, and continued to work at his trade in the new home, later in association with James M. Stephenson, then an ambitious young man. He purchased Inlots No. Eighty-six and Eighty-eight, and started a small tannery on the bank of Rifle Run, on the back of No. Eighty-eight lot, on the west side of Harriet Street, in the rear of present Blennerhassett Hotel.

He received his deed from Robinson, January 22nd, 1821. The purchase price of the two lots was One hundred twenty dollars. In the following June, he received a deed for Lot No. Eighty-nine. It is probable that the actual purchase and occupation was at an earlier date.

In 1835, he bought his partner's interest in the tannery, and it was operated by himself and son, Henry. He died May 26th, 1845. His wife was Sarah, a daughter of William and Jane Skinner, of Fairfax County, Virginia.

William Logan was born in June, 1809, and was about seven years old at the time of the migration, and two years beyond his majority when he entered the store on Court Street, of which he was doubtless the active partner. He was married in November of 1829, to Elizabeth, a daughter of Robert Edelen, and was a tanner and shoemaker by trade. He was a member of the County Court in 1846, and the same year, the Logans - the four brothers, William, Randolph, Albert, and Henry - built a new brick store on the site of the Edgerton store on the upper half of Lot No. Seventy-one.

Henry Logan, Jr., was born in Fairfax County, Virginia, on October 12th, 1812. He was the third son of Henry and Sarah Skinner Logan, and was a child of four years at the time of their removal to Parkersburg. He was a tanner, shoemaker, and shoedealer, and associated in this Stephenson store when twenty-one years old.

He was married three years later to Lavina, the only daughter of William Holliday, the brickmaker and business man of Silver Run. He was, until his death one of the principle factors in the business life and development of Parkersburg. Contradictory as the facts may be, he, though a Whig and Republican and Abolitionist and Union man, along with his brothers Albert, William and Randolph, were slave owners up until the beginning of the war. He was a friend of the colored race and took active interest in their well being after the Emancipation, and assisted them materially in their church organization. He purchased a lot at the corner of Sixth and Grant Streets, on which they built a church, and later bought the church property of the Baptists at the southwest corner of Sixth and Ann Streets, which he presented to the colored Method-
ists of the city, contributing large sums of money to its improvement.

HUTCHINSON FAMILY

Oliver Hutchinson came to Wood County from Virginia, from just what part it is not known. A family tradition says that when the British burned Washington, in the War of 1812, the smoke from the city could be seen at their home. Therefore, they probably lived in the north central part.

Oliver Hutchinson was the eldest son of Joseph and Frances Curtis Hutchinson. The Hutchisons were, it is said, connected with the Lees of Virginia.

In Joseph Hutchinson's family there were seven sons and five daughters, some of whom were children of a second marriage.

Oliver Hutchinson was born on January 16th, 1842. He married Sarah Page, who was born February 27th, 1848, probably before coming to Wood County about 1800, but it is also probable that he either came with, or because of his wife's people, or that they came because he did. The Pages settled in the Tygart's Flats section. Hutchinson first came to the circle of the Little Kanawha River, now known as Butcher Bend, making his home on a part of the Thornton land. His children, according to their ages were:

Mary, who married a Farrow, and moved to Illinois, where they were proprietors of a mill, the town which sprang up around it being known as Farrow-town.

John A. Hutchinson married Elizabeth Stephenson, in 1826. John A. Hutchinson, the attorney, was their son.

George Wyatt, born in 1806, married Betsey Tefft, a daughter of William Tefft.

Harriet, married Elliott Van Lear, in 1832.

Nathan, was three times married, his first wife being Frances, a daughter of Thomas Dawkins. His second wife was Malinda, a daughter of Jack Dawkins, and his third wife was a widow Tracewell, whose son by her former marriage was Amos Tracewell.

Adeline, married Charley Bibby.

David, married Betsey Ann Reed.

Of the Hutchinson Family, James, a son of John A. Hutchinson, was in the Confederate Army.

Jeannette Hutchinson married Alexander Laird. Laird was not of the early pioneers, but came at the time of the building of the railroad. For them, Laird Avenue, which was on a part of the Hutchinson property, received its name. Alexander Laird came from Ayrshire, Scotland.

John A., George and David were tailors, and at one time had a shop at the corner of Market and Third Streets, where Howe's Drug store now is.

Other Hutchisons whom I have not connected with the family were:

Lucy Hutchinson, married Thomas G. Harris.

Nancy Hutchinson married Jesse Gandee. He was for years a blacksmith at the southwest corner of Market and Court Streets, and owned and lived on land down the river above Blennerhassett Island at one time.

William Hutchinson, married Lucy Guick in 1821.

Charlotte Hutchinson married Richard A. Woodyard in 1838.

The Hutchisons in Jackson County, W.Va. are descendants of Nathan Hutchinson, through his son, Selden Hutchinson.

Mrs. G. W. Hutchinson inherited half of the Tefft farm, which is now all within the city, Tefft Street was named for the Tefft Family when that farm was laid out into city lots.
The Hutchinson's Partition of the farm lay approximately between East and Latrobe Streets, and contained the fine grove of trees known as Hutchinson's Grove.

**TEFFT FAMILY**

William Tefft came from Oswego County, New York, says George Hutchinson, his grandson. He came down the Ohio River on a flat boat raft of lumber. He was brought when a baby. The raft was broken in two. He and his mother drifted ashore on one end, and her husband, with some soldiers, were on the other end. They saw Indians, but were not interfered with. (He doesn't say where they landed. Perhaps it was Marietta, Ohio.)

He thinks his mother was married in 1832. (It was in 1834.)

His father (he says) first built on the Tefft land in 1848, where the old brewery building stands. He had lived in a little cabin on Market Street, a short ways above the Court Square.

William August Tefft married Elizabeth Tremaine. They came to Wood County in 1817. Their family consisted of two children - William, who married a Creel of the George Creel family, and Betsey Ann, who married George W. Hutchinson.

**NEALE FAMILY**

It was some time after my locating in Parkersburg, late in 1913, that I visited the wholesale grocery establishment of Mr. W. H. Neale, at the lower corner of First Street and St. James Court Alley, for the purpose of finding information concerning Thomas Neale, who was one of the first pioneer settlers of Parkersburg and of Wood County. While there, I met his father, Mr. Joseph L. Neale, whom I met several times afterward, and was glad to number among my friends.

From this and other talks with the father and son, as well as also from the early records at the Wood County Court House, and from the family traditions and records, I have been able to compile a fairly comprehensive account of the family which I shall here give in brief.

Lieutenant Daniel Neale emigrated from Ireland to Northumberland County, Virginia, in 1659. His wife was Ellen, (her family name unknown).

Captain Christopher Neale was born in 1649. (Hence ten years old at immigration.) He represented his county in the House of Burgesses. His wife was Hannah Redman. He died in 1691 (when forty-two years old.)

Daniel Neale was born in 1680 and died in 1710, in Westmoreland County, Virginia, (when only thirty years old. He married Ursula Pressley, a daughter of Captain William Pressley, one time Delegate for Northumberland County in the House of Burgesses.

Pressley Neale died in 1849. His wife was Margaret _____. Richard Neale was born in 1743, and died in 1810. His wife was Frances Underwood, of King George County, Virginia.

Of the sons of Richard and Frances Neale, I have read that three came west across the mountains very early in the nineteenth century. These were Thomas, who the family tradition says came from Loudoun County, Virginia, to Wood County, in 1802; and George Neale, a brother of Thomas, who in 1807 acquired a portion of the George Washington estate six miles below the Kanawha River, to which he removed with his family.
The name of the third brother is not given, nor is it stated whether or not he settled in Wood County, but it is worth noting that a man named Richard Neale did locate on Neal's Run, adjoining Ezekiel Barnes, sometime in the first decade of the century. This may have been the third brother.

The first representative of Richard Neale's family to settle in Wood County was Thomas Neale, who came, says the family tradition, from Loudoun County, to Newport, in the year 1802. I have seen this date given as 1801, but from all indications, I have found, I believe, the former to be more nearly correct.

In any case, it is known that he came to the mouth of the Little Kanawha River, then a cluster of log cabins, very soon after the organization of Wood County. (Wood County was established in December 1798, but the organization of a county government was not effected until March, 1800.)

Thomas Neale was married to Peggy Wynn, a daughter of Captain Minor Wynn, say the family. They lived on the western side of the Bull Run mountains. The date of the marriage I do not have, but it was probably early in the 1790's. W. H. and Joe Neale, in my interviews, gave me the names of nine children they raised. (I do not know if these were all, nor if they are listed as to age or not.) They were:

Harriet married James N. Neal, the son of Captain James Neal, the first settler of Wood County.

Julianna V. This name is given on the marriage records as Judith Beckwith Neale. I do not know why the name "Beckwith". Joe Neale, her nephew, said that her name was "Julianna", but she was called "Judy" for a pet name while a child. She married Jonathan, son of Edward Jackson, and was the mother of "Stonewall" Jackson, who was named for her father and husband. She was born in Loudoun County, in 1798, and died in September, 1831.

Richard married "Betsey" Cook, probably the daughter of John Cook. They lived somewhere in the vicinity of the Cook farm, below the silk mill.

Thomas Neale was born in Loudoun County, Virginia, in 1774, just before the Revolutionary War. He was married when about twenty, and came to Parkersburg in 1801 or 1802, and became one of the most prominent business men of the county. Of his children: Harriet married James H. Neal. She was the mother of four children --

Virginia married John H. Murdoch.

Thomas was a local preacher in the Methodist Church.

Harriet married Arthur Kelley.

Harden, who is said to have lived on the Morehead farm, below Maplewood, in 1855.

Richard Neale married Elizabeth "Betsey" Cook, and lived up the river below the silk mill. Wirt R. Neale was their son.

Alfred Neale also lived on the Ohio River, above the city.

William H. Neale also lived in the same community, perhaps on a part of the Spencer survey above Beeson's.

Joseph L. Neale, the man interviewed, is his son, and was the father of W. H. Neale, the Parkersburg grocer, and grandfather of Howard Neale, once a member of the State Senate from this district. He was born on Neale's Island, June 1st, 1844, and died in November, 1926, aged eighty-two years. He was a steamboat captain for many years, and a Union soldier. He told me of his mother's family.
Henry Dils, a son of Henry Dils, Sr., married Catharine, a daughter of Moses Pilcher. Their children were Catharine, who married W. H. Neale.

Stephen married a Rhodes.

Margaret married Joe Lyons.

Sarah Ann, married Alfred Hill, a Marietta man.

Peter, married Betty Fought. He was in the Sixth West Virginia Infantry.

Violet married Andy Roseberry.

Thomas Neale had been married a few years before his migration to the mouth of the Little Kanawha River, in 1801, or 1802, being about twenty-seven or twenty-eight years of age. Just what he did with himself for the first few years does not clearly appear, but he soon developed into one of the most important business men of the early years of the colony.

On June 30th, 1809, Neale bought from John Stephenson, his establishment in Newport, consisting of a lot at the corner of Water and High Streets, directly opposite the Court House lot. That was the date of his receiving a deed for the property, though under the old Title Bond system, then largely prevalent in Virginia, he may have had possession some years earlier. It is noted that Stephenson had received a deed for the John Dils farm at the mouth of Worthington Creek in 1807.

The property purchased by Neale consisted of a lot with an eighty foot frontage on the main street, and extending back to an un-established line of a sixty-nine acre survey, claimed by John Stokely. On this lot was a hotel and a store. The exact site of this establishment cannot now be placed, but it is certain that it was covered by Inlots No. One and Two, which Neale obtained from the Robinsons after they had gained a clear title to a part of the Thornton Survey in their law suit with Stokely and Phelps, and had laid out the town of Parkersburg. In a "settlement", Neale released all his claims on lands involved, and received a deed from Robinson, upon which payment of a small amount was made, for Lots No. One and Two. He first paid taxes on the Newport lot in 1810, and on the Parkersburg lots in 1813. He first received a license to keep a hotel in 1807.

Before 1820, which was the first year buildings were listed separately for taxing, he had built a new hotel on the corner of Ann and Kanawha Streets, described as "built of stone and brick", and valued at Nineteen hundred dollars. It stood just in the rear of the old Spencer house. (At some time, the location of Kanawha, or First Street, has been moved about the width of the street (sixty feet) nearer to the Little Kanawha River.)

In 1810, Mr. Neale bought from Jacob Beeson, of Fayette County, Virginia, (now Pennsylvania), a farm of a little more than two hundred acres, lying on the Ohio River, and comprising the heart of the Beeson survey. It began where the line of Blennerhassett Avenue in Beechwood would reach the Ohio River, and extended up the river eighty-eight poles and straight back into the hills for over a mile, the back line being irregular. It was known locally as "The Indian Old-field", from having once been the site of an Indian encampment and cornfields. It included the upper part of the village of Beechwood, and the Bartlett farm above. He also owned the neighboring James Island, through a patent claim bought from John James. There was also in this vicinity a tract of over one hundred acres, lying about the head of Little Pond Run, sold to him by Hedgman Triplett. All these, together with Outlot No. One, and Inlots No. One, Two, Three and Four, in Parkersburg, he forfeited, and lost through foreclosure in 1824. He is said to have retired to a farm on Worthington Creek after this event, continuing there until his death, but I have found nothing to indicate that he ever owned any other lands in Wood County.
On Outlot No. One, bought from the Robinsons in 1816, and before 1820, records show that he had built a second hotel, which was valued at Twenty-seven hundred dollars. Like his contemporary business leaders of pioneer Wood County, George D. Avery and John Neal, he risked all on a mortgage, and lost all. Business reverses led to the placing of mortgages and deeds of trust on his property, and about 1824, it was taken over by Thomas Janney, and later sold to John J. Jackson.

Thomas Neale was never prominent in the political life of the county, having never, so far as I have seen, held any of the county offices. He, however, served for ten years as postmaster at Parkersburg, succeeding John Stephenson, December 9th 1811, and surrendering the position to William Tefft on November 27th, 1821. He was the third postmaster at the place. Prior to 1805, the postoffice for all Wood County was at Marietta, Ohio.

Joseph L. Neale disclaimed knowledge of "three brothers Neale", coming to Wood County, and could not tell me where Hugh Dils lived.

He said that Richard Neale and Til Cook (Tillinghast J. Cook, Jr., John's son) built the Wesley Chapel Church, and that when Neale died, the minister "Vault" proposed the outstanding subscription against his estate be cancelled, but "my father" insisted on assuming the same and paid it for his brother. The amount was, he stated, Five hundred dollars. He named as early preachers he could remember, Lyda and Beverly Smith.

He said that the old frame building torn down in the 1920's and which stood partly on each of Inlots No. Twenty-seven and Twenty-eight, was used by John P. Mayberry as a law office. It had been originally the residence of John J. Jackson, built on the southeast corner of the opposite lot, where the harness shop is, on Fourth Street, about 1830. Later, it had been removed to the position on Juliana Street, without dismantling. I have some interesting relics showing the manner of building one hundred years ago.

W. H. Neale was born in 1813, married in 1833, and soon after settled on the island. He was a farmer, and bought and drove cattle and hogs to Baltimore. He raised twelve children, among them Henry Clay and Joseph Luther. The latter married Lulu Miles, of Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1863. They had six children, two of whom outlived him, William Henry, of this city, and Lulu, wife of Edward Drake, of Houston, Texas. W. H. Neale, Jr., was born in 1867, and married Irene Tennessee Fairfax in Wirt County, a direct descendant of Lord Fairfax, of Virginia.

Stonewall Jackson, says a tradition of the Neale family, was born in Parkersburg, during a visit of his mother to the paternal home, which is vigorously denied by some of his biographers.

There is a tradition that three brothers by the name of Neale came from the valley of Virginia to Wood County, in the first years of the nineteenth century. One of these was Thomas Neale, as has here been given. Another would appear to be George Neale, of Washington Bottom, and the third, Richard Neale who lived for a few years during the early 1800's on the lower left branch of Neal's Run.

This last, however, while probably true, is not sustained by positive evidence or declaration.

It may be noted here in passing that, while I have often heard it said that Thomas and George Neale were brothers, I have never seen such claim made concerning Richard, who was never conspicuous in the public life of the county, and passed off the stage completely over a hundred years ago. Probably but few of those now living in the county at this time have ever so much as heard of him.
All I have concerning Richard Neale and his family is taken from the county's records at the Court House.

Richard Neale bought a tract of land comprising two hundred acres from Daniel Rowell, on March 5th, 1808. That is to say, he received his deed for the land on that date. He may have held possession of the farm several years earlier, under the old Title Bond system of Virginia. The land laid on Neal's Run, on the left hand branch, and on the ridge between that and the Little Kanawha River, and was later in part known as the Fletcher Farm, or the "Daniel Stone Farm". It was bounded on the north by Col. Phelps, west by Ezekiel Barnes, included the site of the Hope Hill schoolhouse, and also of the road now crossing over the hill.

Close search might show the name of Richard Neale occasionally among the court records as a juryman, a road reviewer, or as a subject of indictment for some minor offence, but he was not conspicuous in any way as a leader in his community, or builder of the county.

He died probably sometime in the 1820's.

In 1831, his heirs sold the farm to Thomas Tavenner. No name of a widow appears to the deed. As I have it copied, there appears to have been five shares, and the signers were:

Hannah Fairfax and her husband Micah (The name is rendered Fairfield on the marriage list.) She owned Inlot No. One hundred forty-four in Parkersburg. She sold a small mill lot to Rev. James McAboy, and in 1822 the remainder to McAboy and to Turner Boulware. The lot lay on the west side of Greene Street, between Fourth and Fifth Streets. She was married in June, 1820.

As I translate it - Juliet B., Zachariah, Harriet M., John and James (or Joseph) Riley.

Lucinda and Thomas A. Williams.

Mason Sutherland (he married Laura Neale in 1825. She did not sign the deed.)

R. H. L. Neale (probably Richard Henry Lee Neale, and might have been the "cousin to my father" mentioned by Joe L. Neale as living in Mason County.)

A part of these deeds for shares in the undivided estate were not made until 1832.

George Neale, a son of Richard Neale, was born in Loudoun County, Virginia, on the 10th day of January, 1772, and died at Washington Bottom in Wood County, July 27th, 1863, a little more than a month after the formation of the new state of West Virginia. He was married to Sarah Lewis, a daughter of George and Violet Guest Lewis, in Loudoun County, Virginia, about the beginning of the nineteenth century. Soon after this, his father-in-law, who was a wealthy planter, purchased from the Carters, heirs of George Washington, their inheritance in his western lands, consisting of one thousand one hundred eighty-six acres, of the upper end of Washington Bottom, lying opposite Blennerhassett Island, below the mouth of the Little Kanawha River. This purchase appears to have been under Title Bond, and as early as 1804, although he did not get the deed for the same until September of 1806. It also appears that Lewis had possession of the land before the making of the deed, as the inscription on Robert Edelen's gravestone states that he came to Washington Bottom in 1805.

Soon after getting his deed, Lewis deeded most of it, for a part of its value, retaining for himself one hundred eighty-six acres to:

Robert and Elizabeth Edelen, one hundred six and one half acres adjoining.

John Harwood and Nancy, one hundred eighty acres next below.

Then reserving a tract of two hundred acres later sold to Francis Keene, he sold George and Sarah Neale two hundred acres.
Jonas Lewis two hundred acres next below. William Lewis, the remaining two hundred acres, reaching to his lower line. This William Lewis' wife was a daughter of Francis Keene, who owned the lower end of the Washington lands.

There was another daughter, Mary Lewis, who was married to Joseph Beard, whose children were remembered in George Lewis's will in 1811.

The George Lewis purchase laid in a circle around the bend of the Ohio River, and was nearly all very fertile bottom. It had been selected by General Washington, and surveyed by Col. Crawford with no hill lands included, except when necessary to keep the survey in a compact form. The sales were made by Lewis among his children, doubtless for the purpose of securing the money for the perfecting of his title. The various tracts were wedge-shaped slices, many times wider on the river line than at the back. The Neale's "slice", was the fifth of seven down from the upper end, contained two hundred acres, for which he paid Seven dollars per acre. It lay opposite where the road crosses the ridge from the head of Neal's Run, had a river frontage of one hundred thirty-five poles, well over a mile across the bottom on the side lines, and only forty-two poles at the back.

George Neale lived on this land until his death in 1853, and his wife for ten years longer. Neale had willed all his property, both real and personal, one third to his wife; one third of the remainder to his three sons; another third to his daughter, Elizabeth, wife of David Creel, and her children; and the final third to his son, William, who was made his executor, in trust for the use of his daughter, Lucy, daughter of "Sandy" Creel, with the express provision that it be "free from the control of the said A. H. Creel".

Not withstanding this precaution, we find that after the death of his wife in 1863, the whole of his estate, by what means I have never traced, passed into the hands of this same "Sandy" Creel, who was one of the most picturesque characters Wood County ever produced.

I have nothing to show just when Creel came into possession of the land, nor how long he lived on it, but on September 15th, 1864, he and his wife conveyed to their daughter, Lucy Laughlin, seventy acres of the upper side of the tract. The Laughlins later sold the same to Granville Stout.

On July 7th, 1865, the Creels sold the remaining land to John W. Stout, one of whose heirs, Charles R. Rector, still owns and occupies the greater part of the one hundred thirty acres.

George Neale was born, grew up and married in Loudoun County, Virginia. Most, if not all, of his children were born before he came to Wood County. As I have it from County records, there were five children, three sons and two daughters. The names listed, without regard to age, were:

George, Jr.
Lewis.
Elizabeth.
Lucy.

George Neale, Jr., was married on March 4th, 1824, to his cousin, Elizabeth, a daughter of Jonas Lewis. She was born in 1803, and died in 1836. They had six children:

George Neale, III.
Lewis Neale
Laura B. Neale

Irving Neale
Sarah Frances Neale
Charlotte Neale
After the death of his wife, he, in 1837, married Agnes Beeson, of below Beechwood. To this union were born two children, George William Neale, who died in 1911, and Alice M. A. Neale, who married Amos W. Gordon, who came from Mason County, Kentucky, to Wood County in 1859.

George Neale, writes a biographer, was for years an active business man in Parkersburg, was a director in the old "Northwestern Bank, and a partner in a store with William Gardner". He seems to have owned at one time a large part of the Keene farm on lower Washington Bottom, purchased from his brother, William, and sold in 1846 to his brother, Lewis.

He was born in Loudoun County, Virginia, in 1802, and died in Parkersburg, in 1880.

It was during the early 1830's that a group of the Lewis clan on Washington Bottom went down to the old Avery colony at Belleville, and bought up most of his land that lay below the mouth of Lee Creek.

These were Lewis Neale, who secured all the boundary lying between the village and the mouth of Lee Creek; George V. Lewis, a son of Jonas Lewis, who bought the site of the village, and lands contiguous; Gassaway Harwood, whose father, John H. Harwood traded property in Parkersburg to Harry L. Prentiss for a farm at Belleville, which he deeded to his son; and John Kincheloe, a son of Robert Kincheloe, of Stillwell.

These men all sold their holdings to Selden Humphrey about twenty years later.

Lewis Neale was a son of George Neale.

George V. Lewis was a son of Jonas Lewis, and a cousin of Lewis Neale.

Gassaway Harwood was a cousin of Lewis Neale, of George V. Lewis, and of John Kincheloe's wife.

John Kincheloe was a brother of Lewis Neale's wife, and his wife a cousin of Lewis Neale, of Gassaway Harwood, and of George V. Lewis; while the wives of Lewis and Harwood were sisters.

Lewis Neale married Elizabeth Lewis in 1824.

George V. Lewis married Margaret Davis in 1821.

Gassaway Davis married Ann B. Davis in 1827.

John Kincheloe married Lucy Edelen in 1826.

All of the group, except perhaps Neale, lived on the Belleville lands, and I think all went to Missouri.

Humphrey's descendants still occupy the Belleville lands (in 1937 when this sketch was written.)

William Neale was a son of George Neale, Senior. He was probably born in Loudoun County, Virginia, but I do not have the date of his birth.

He was married to Anastasia Keene, a daughter of Francis Keene, who lived on the lower tract of the Washington Survey. This wedding was on the fifteenth of April, 1821, and some three years before the death of his father. In January 1823, Keene sold him two hundred acres, and to this he added by purchase from others and of shares in the Keene estate, until he held a large boundary of land on lower Washington Bottom. He seems to have sold a part of this to his brother, George, and to disappear from the records of the county, until 1844, when William Neale and Rebecca, his wife, of Fayette County, deeded to Lewis Neale a large body of lands on Washington Bottom. Lewis Neale sold the same to the Munchmeyer brothers in 1850, at the time of the German settlement in Lubeck district.

I find nothing to show when his first wife died, whether before or after his emigration to "the west". Neither have I seen anything to indicate who the wife, Rebecca, was, nor as to who were his children. Many years later, there
was a David Neale residing on Little Sandy, but I never tried to trace his ancestry.

Lewis Neale married Elizabeth, a daughter of Robert and Mary Creel Kin­cheloe, in 1815. I have seen no names of any children except that of a little girl buried at the old Lewis graveyard at the Edelen place, at the upper end of Washington Bottom. He bought the tract of land Francis Keene had above his father's place, in 1818. He seems to have owned, perhaps occupied, this place for many years. He gave a deed of trust on it in 1855. Meanwhile, however, he had bought other extensive farms at the mouth of Little Sandy, which he sold to the Munchmeyers in 1850, and at the old Belleville colony, which he sold to Selden Humphreys in 1854.

BARNES FAMILY

Elias Barnes and Ezekiel Barnes were taxed jointly with one hundred acres of land, but owned much more. They bought from John Neal, and lived on Neal's Run just below the mouth of the first left hand fork, then called in some deeds "Smith's Run". The land lay below the road leading from Nicelyville, over to the Elizabeth Pike, and extended down Neal's Run and back on to the ridge between the Gihon Church and the River. Mrs. Barnes, the wife of one of these men, was a sister of Col. Phelps.

Rezin Barnes and Sylvanus Barnes (sometimes given as Sylvester Barnes) were brothers, and bought and lived on a tract of one hundred acres of land lying in the bend of the Little Kanawha River, below Standing Stone Run. They were living and paying taxes on the land when the county was organized. Later Rezin transferred his interest to his brother. The family was probably from southwestern Pennsylvania.

LORD FAMILY

Colonel Abner Lord was from New England, probably Massachusetts. He probably came to Dr. Spencer's settlement at Vienna, by way of the Marietta colony, and I think I have seen the statement that he and Spencer were connected by marriage, but I cannot just now verify the same. The name is not given among these following the "Pilgrim" during the summer of 1788, although he may have been in Marietta a few years before coming to Virginia.

We find Col. Lord the owner, or claimant, of large bodies of the Wood County backlands, probably acquired under the Treasury Warrant Act of 1792. He made several sales of the same while yet in Wood County, and as late as 1817, while a citizen of Columbus, Ohio, deeded to Joseph Spencer a tract (his quit claim on a tract) of seventy thousand acres on Steer Creek, in Harrison County. He took an active part in the organization of the county during the first years of its existence, but later returned to Marietta, where he was for a time the proprietor of a store in the old Holden building on the river bank at the end of Front Street.

In 1811, he went to Franklin County, Ohio, and we soon lose sight of him.

Thomas Lord was one of the early settlers at the Marietta colony. That he was there before the second season is shown from his having acted as the pastor of the colonists prior to the arrival of the Rev. Daniel Story, sent by the company to fill the post, and who did not arrive until some time in March, 1789.
While not an ordained minister, Lord had taken a course in theology, with the purpose of devoting his life to the ministry.

After the organization of Wood County, the Virginia Assembly, agreeably to a law of that state in the absence of a sufficient number of ministers of the gospel convenient, appointed two Justices of the Peace, giving them civil authority to perform the marriage ceremony. The justices appointed in Wood County on February 9th, 1801, were Thomas Lord and Captain James Neal. The latter functioned but once, the former performed twenty ceremonies. After the beginning of 1805, there were preachers sufficient to look after the marriages.

The difference in the number of calls received illustrates the mind of the people against these so called marriages by law, and Lord, being in some measure a minister of the gospel, was called for all but the one ceremony.

Lord continued a member of the court for many years. A justice was supposed to, if he desired, continue as such through life or good behavior.

Thomas Lord was for some years an associate of Dr. Spencer in the Briscoe lands, but later drops out unnoticed. The Lords both lived in the Vienna Community.

James G. Laidley

Captain James Grant Laidley, was, it is said, the son of one of three brothers Laidley, who came to America from Scotland. Of these:

James settled in the Island of Jamaica.

John located in the province of Louisiana.

Thomas, after staying for a time in New York, drifted after the War of Independence, to the frontier of Virginia, where he established himself at the village of Morgantown. There, says a biographer, he was the first storekeeper in that section, a business associate of Albert Gallatin, for whom he named his son, James Gallatin, that he was a Federalist, and that he represented his county in the House of Burgesses in the sessions of 1797 and 1798, and 1800 and 1801. (Other biographers give the name as "Grant", and the official roster of the Virginia Assembly does not show Thomas Laidley to have ever been a member from any county.)

James G. Laidley, said an article in the Pioneer Daughter, was born in Philadelphia, in 1780, was educated in Petersburg, studied law, came to Wood County in 1802, was popular, genial, and patriotic, and was made Treasurer of Wood County in September, and in the Virginia Assembly several times between 1803 and 1810. (He represented Wood County twice, 1806 and 1810.) He was, it is said, the first postmaster at the mouth of the Kanawha River.

[Laidley's deed was signed by John Stokely for the House and lot, of which he already held possession, on the 4th day of July, 1802, but considering the Virginia Title Bond land system, and the fact that he was previously in possession as the deed itself shows, together with other items of entry, it would seem fair to assume that he was here in 1800, or very soon thereafter.

James G. Laidley married Harriet B., daughter of Alexander Quarrier, in 1806. They had two sons, Alexander T., and James Madison Laidley. He was in the service in the War of 1812, and was brevotted Major for his service during that war.
John Hill came to Wood County from southwestern Pennsylvania before 1800. He bought land from Hugh Phelps, a part of the Harden Survey, and was living there in 1800. The date of his deed is June 9th, 1800. The land consisted of two hundred thirty acres lying below the mouth of Jackson's Run. Later, Hill sold the most of it to William Hill, a son, retaining a homestead of ninety-two acres, which he sold in 1820 to Jacob Deem, Jr., a son-in-law.

He was a soldier in Captain Leigh's company, Pennsylvania State Troops, in the Revolutionary War.

John Hill's will admitted to probate at the May term of court, 1823, bequeathed all his personal property to his wife, Agnes Hill, excepting one dollar each to William Hill, Nancy Phelps and Margaret Deem. There was another daughter, Sarah Johnson, but I have no evidence now of her living in Wood County.

John Hill is buried in an old deserted graveyard in a thicket back of the Pine Grove, beyond Pettyville, as are Jacob Deem, who was an ensign in the War of 1812. He was married upon his return from the War. I have nothing to show who this John E. Phelps who married Nancy Hill in 1818 was. He may have been a son of James or Elijah Phelps, and a nephew of Colonel Hugh Phelps, or a grandson of Colonel Hugh Phelps.

John Hill's children were:

- William Hill, married Cynthia Hayden, in 1808.
- Margaret Hill, married Jacob Deem, Jr., in 1815.
- Nancy Hill, married John E. Phelps, a son of Hugh Phelps, in 1818.

William Hill was a son of John Hill, and was an extensive land owner on the south side of the Kanawha River. He lived in the vicinity of Pettyville. The old church built there about 1826 was always known as "Hill's Meetin' House". William Hill's children as known, were:

- John S. Hill, marriage not found in the records.
- Derastus Hill, married Susan Fugett, in 1836. She was a daughter of Jarad Fuget, who lived at the mouth of Rowell's Run, on the Reece Woolf farm.
- Malinda Hill, married Jared W. Pilcher, in 1834.
- Louisa Hill, who married Littleton Hall.

William Hill lived on the Kanawha River, near the lower side of the Harden survey. A part of his farm he got from his father, and two hundred fifty acres he bought from Ben Willard, in 1835. (Willard had married a daughter of Thomas Neale, and lived above Williamstown.)

Derastus Hill and John S. Hill were also extensive dealers in land. There were others by the name of Hill whom I have found in the marriage records, but have not been able to definitely trace them, although they may well be of the same family:

- Jacob Hill married Ellinor Robertson, in 1810.
- Catherine Hill married Asa Windsor, in 1817.

These, according to marriage date, could have been children of John Hill. There was also others of later date who could have been children of William or John S. Hill, and some, perhaps grandchildren of theirs.

- Artemesia Hill married W. T. McClintock, in 1829.
- Malissa Hill married Benjamin Robinson in 1835.
- Alfred Hill married Sarah A. Dils in 1844.
- Lodema Hill married Daniel Z. Kinchelow in 1844.
- Laban S. Hill married Nancy Parsons in 1843.

From the sound of her name Lodema (or Loderna?), one would say was a sister of Derastus, and Sanoma Hill, and also of Artemasa and Laban.
One of the most prominent of the pioneer families of that section of Wood County, in which I am just now (in September 1930) interested, is that of the Coopers. They appear to have been contemporaneous with Barnett and Dawkins, Page and Price, while a little later than the Creels, and a little earlier than the Butchers.

The section referred to is rather vague and indeterminate as to metes and bounds, but might be roughly defined as all the land lying between the Little Kanawha River and a line two miles south and from the northern watershed of Jackson's Run, to the head of the left hand fork of Big Tagger (Tygart), as commonly known to the pioneers.

Two men by the name of Cooper are mentioned in the early annals of the place. One of these, Valentine Cooper, was here when Wood County was first organized in 1798-1800. The other, Henry Cooper, is not mentioned until several years later, though they may very well have come "about 1800", as claimed by family tradition.

That the two were brothers is very probable, though not in the least provable, by anything I have found so far. The grandchildren of Henry Cooper, whom I have met, disclaim all knowledge of Valentine Cooper.

Henry Cooper's wife was Lydia Posey. He first lived in the vicinity of Neal's Run, and was at a Vanvlara sale in 1808 or 1809. He did move to beyond Tygart's Creek before 1812 or 1813, nor get a deed until later. His wife has been of the Neal's Run Posey family, a sister or daughter, perhaps and married before the Posey family migrated, or at least before any records were kept in Wood County.

Henry Cooper came from "Old Virginia", meaning, of course, Virginia beyond the Allegheny mountains. Nearly all Virginia immigration to the Little Kanawha valley was from the Shenandoah Valley counties, or from that large block lying between the Blue Ridge mountains and the Potomac River, comprising the present counties of Greene, Orange, Spottsylvania, Madison, Rappahannock, Culpeper, Fauquier, Loudoun, Prince William and Fairfax Counties.

A large fraction of the immigration was from the southern counties of the valley, but it almost invariably crossed by the way of the Greenbrier and drifted in after a sojourn, more or less prolonged, in New River, Kanawha, or other settlements.

Nothing I have been able to find shows either when or from where he came from with any exactness.

Henry Cooper, as the tradition of the family puts it, "Came from Old Virginia about 1800". The wife's name was Lydia. Of her family, or even its name, nothing is offered. Neither is it known just where the Coopers first located. The first I have noticed his name is when he received his first deed for land in the county. The deed was from John Stokely, who conveyed title to two hundred fifty acres. It was dated September 5th, 1817, and states expressly that it is according to an agreement made "about the year of 1813". As Cooper was a resident of Wood County, this proves that he came before 1813.

In fact, Henry Cooper was in Wood County before the date of John Vanvlara's sale, the date of which is given as about January, 1808. (I think Charlie Rector once told me he lived for a time in the vicinity of Washington's Bottom before locating on Tygart.)

Henry Cooper and Lydia were married about 1805, perhaps. They raised, as I have gleaned from different sources and informants, the following sons and daughters:
Henry and Lydia Posey Cooper’s Children:

Benjamin Cooper.
James Cooper.
Nancy Cooper, (Otherwise given as Anna).
Harry Cooper, (would this be Harrison or Henry?)
John Cooper.
Lemuel Cooper, the youngest. (or the youngest son.) He received his father’s home.

Benjamin Cooper was the oldest child. He was born on April 12th, 1806, and died on March 14th, 1890. On May 20th, 1834, he bought, (that is received a deed for) one hundred acres from James M. Stephenson. This was a part of the William Laing share of the Gibson Patent, and joined Arnold Tracewell. Cooper afterward added other adjoining lands to his original purchase. He sold of these lands to his sons, and he and his wife continued to reside at the old homestead on the road leading from the Bald Eagle Mill up main Tygart's Creek, until their death.

The wife's name was Virginia, a daughter of Francis Langfitt, who lived on the river opposite the mouth of Reedy. She was born on February 14th, 1817, and died February 21st, 1885.

Of their children, we have the names:
Otis, died February 8th, 1873.
Orville Cooper.
John R. Cooper.
Elizabeth Cooper.
Granville Cooper.
Orris Cooper was born in 1847, and married Amanda Taylor, a daughter of William H. Taylor, on November 28, 1872.

James Cooper, another son of Henry and Lydia Cooper, (though I do not attempt to give them in order of age) married Lucy, a daughter of Charles Price, in the year 1833. (Her father, Charlie Price, came from "Old Virginia" about the beginning of the century, and lived "about a mile and a half north of the concrete road" is the way Mr. Barnett, at the old Cooper place, describes it, somewhere on the divide between Lockhart's Run and the river. It would be near the original site (1817) of the Mt. Zion Church, and probably in the neighborhood of the Hunt Club house. Note: His house was relocated at the Parkersburg City Park, and is now a museum, Daughters of Pioneers.

James Cooper owned, during the fifties (1850's) a large boundary around the old millsite on Tygart's Creek, beyond the present post office of Mineral Wells. He lived in the tiny cabin south of the Elizabeth road. James and Lucy Cooper's children (as I got them at the 1930 Cooper Reunion) were:

"Mag" Cooper, who married William Bissett.
Minerva Cooper was the second wife of Thompson Leach. He was an extensive land dealer, and owned farms bought at court sales and/or otherwise, all over the county. He probably lived at divers places at different times, one such having been at Ann and Thirteenth Streets.
Fannie Cooper married George Taylor. He was a brother of William H. Taylor, and owned (some say built) the mill.
Lydia "Lyddy" Cooper married Ransom Rector, a son of the Rev. Enoch and Mindwell Ransom Rector.
Lucy Cooper was not married.

(This family is continued on the next page.)
Henry and Lydia Cooper's Family, Continued:
James and Lucy Price Cooper's Children, continued:

Leonard Cooper married Roma Compton.
Bill Cooper married Virginia Moss (Elijah Moss' granddaughter).
Jerome Cooper went west, where he married.
Amos Cooper, also went west where he married.
John M. Cooper was probably a son.

James Cooper, who now lives at the grove, is either a son or a grandson.
John S. Cooper married Mary Ann Leach in 1834. After her death, he married
again to a Haddox. Whether there were any children by the last union, I am not
informed. By the first wife, there were:
Charles Cooper, not married.
Joe, (the father of my informant, an elderly lady at the Cooper reunion),
made Ann D. Sams.
Tom Cooper, married Hannah Howard.
J. William Cooper, married Mary C. (Molly) Sams.
Peter R. Cooper married Hannah Louise Nicely, a daughter of "Old Billy"
Nicely.
Charlotte Cooper, married John Schultz. (She was next to the oldest.)
Fannie married Ogden Cowell.
The John Schultz who lived at Geiger Bend was then a son-in-law of John
Cooper, and a cousin to Ransom Rector's wife.
Compton Cooper lived on beyond Tygart's Creek, from Sam's Creek, and was
probably one of the family who lived below Waverly, perhaps a son of one of
the immigrants.
Harry Cooper received three hundred acres of land from his father, says
my informant, Ezra Cooper. (I find no such sale in the Index Book of Wood
County deeds.)
Harry Cooper married Dorcas, a daughter of Thomas Dawkins. They had four-
teen children, many of whom died. Of the others, there were:
Ezra Cooper.
Emma Cooper
Albert Cooper.
Perry Cooper, the youngest, married Lizzie Johnson. Two sons, Benjamin
and Rilla, mentioned may have been by the second wife, a Miss Foreman.
Mahala, a daughter of John Cooper, married John, a son of Charles Price,
in 1837.
Serena, daughter of John Cooper, married John Hall, and lived on Spring
Creek. They raised children, Will, Kate, Lusana, and Nancy Hall.
Henry Cooper was born on April 28th, 1810, and died in 1892. Though called
Harry by members of the family with whom I talked, the name is rendered
"Henry" in marriage and other court records.
Nancy Cooper, daughter of Henry and Liddy Cooper, married John Barnett, Jr.
on July 20th, 1823. He owned several pieces of land, and is said to have lived
on the Kanawha River. She was born July 8th, 1803, and died August 8th, 1871.
He was born in February 1800. Their children, although there may have been
others, were:
Ben Barnett. Lem Barnett.
Amos Barnett. Liddy Barnett.

Lemuel Cooper married Rowena Baker February 2nd, 1845. Her father came
from Beavertown, Pennsylvania, to Reedy, settling in the Thanny Morehead
neighborhood. The children of Lem. and Rowena Cooper were:

- Henry Morton Cooper.
- Mary Elizabeth Cooper, married a Mr. Stagg. (Josiah W. Stagg, Nov. 2, 1871.)
- James Washington Cooper.
- Lydia Rosilla Cooper.
- Nancy Drusilla Cooper.
- Welthea Virginia Cooper.
- Charles Wesley Cooper.

Lemuel Cooper was born March 30th, 1818, married February 2nd, 1845, and died on September 12th, 1875.

The grave marked C. E. Morrison, 1855 - 1923, is probably that of the husband of a daughter who is living at the mouth of Slate Creek (1930).

My informant stated that Lemuel Cooper married Rosanna, a daughter of a man named Baker, who lived on Reedy. Her name does not appear among the names of John Baker's children as given to me thirty years ago when preparing a history of Reedy. However from the date of the wedding, 1845, she might have been a daughter of one of John Baker's sons, who lived on the home place.

It would appear that his wife was a sister — hence he a brother-in-law - of "Old Tommy" Lee, Elijah Baker, etc., or that she was their niece.

The SAMS FAMILY.

The farthest back I have been able as yet to trace the Sams Family is to a Jonathan Sams, who married a Miss Polly Potts, and was living in Butler County, Pennsylvania, in the closing years of the Eighteenth Century.

Sometime in the late nineties, he acquired a tract of land near the mouth of the second right hand fork of Tygart's or Grape Creek, to which he brought his family. The land was a part of the old Gibbs, or Howard survey, but may have been secured by Sams through entry and patent. There are records of sales of land, but nothing to show how he acquired his title. However, it may have been that it was prior to the organization of Wood County, from Harrison County, in 1799/1800.

Jonathan and Polly Sams settled in the woods soon after the close of the Indian War. Indeed, they may have been at the blockhouse at Neal's Station before that date, but probably not. The record of this purchase, in that case, would be at Clarksburg.

They raised a family of thirteen children — seven sons and six daughters. Their names, not in order as to age, were:

- Jonathan Sams, married Susan Fleet. He lived in the vicinity of BurdRidge.
- David and Daniel Sams were twins. David Sams married Frances B. Athey, in 1836.
- Daniel Sams married Hetty, a daughter of Richard Reeder, the Wood County centennarian. He lived on a part of his father's farm, on lower Sam's Creek. His grandson, Lee, is living at the old home, and his father is living with him. (I have the name Sarah Reeder from the marriage records.)
- James Sams married Barbara Wigal.
- Jonas Sams married Anna Potts on April 17th, 1828.
- William Sams married Mary Posey.
- There was another son, ____________.

The daughters were:

- Hannah Sams, married Jacky Dawkins in 1817, and lived on the south side of the Kanawha River, above Claysville, in Wood County.
Pioneers in Wood County

By John A. House

Polly Sams married Hiram Deem in 1820. They lived near Chesterville.
Patsy Sams married Jefferson Grogan in 1827.
Rebecca Sams married George Wigal, October 5th, 1824.
The twins have been among the youngest of the family. Daniel was married
in November, 1833, to Sarah Reeder, says the record of marriages. (My Informant,
the wife of his grandson, gives the name as Hettie Reeder.)
Stephen Sams is a name shown also to have been here in 1800.

Tracewell Family

In every community of every day, we find one or several parties who stand
out from their neighbors, acknowledged by them, and looked to as leaders of the
people, men, who, for some reason, good or otherwise, are looked to for control
and guidance.

Such a man was Edward Tracewell, in the Neal's Run community, fifty to
seventy-five years ago. (before 1930)
Edward Tracewell was born in Culpeper County, Virginia, in 1799. We have
nothing of his ancestry, or early history, and can only approximately figure as
to his making his home in Wood County. From the name, I presume he was of Eng-
lish ancestry.

He lived on Neal's Run for many years, and died there on March 14, 1878,
well more than half a century ago, and was buried on his farm in a cemetery do-
nated by him to the needs and uses of the public.
He was married in Wood County to Terese Neal, who was born in Maryland,
June 16, 1799, and died on Neal's Run on October 12th, 1897. If these figures
are copied correctly, from the inscription on her tombstone, she lived to with­
in less than two years of one hundred years of age.

It would be but fair to admit that sometimes I am mistaken in my copying,
which is sometimes hurriedly done, but where possible, my work is checked and
re-checked. I will say also that it is not uncommon for there to be a differ­
ence between dates as shown on markers and those given in family traditions,
old Bible records, or printed historical matter. The same is true in regard to
the spelling of names, which sometimes appear in two or more forms in the same
document, even in the spelling, and occasionally the name itself in a signature.
Often a name is written as it is commonly known in the local vernacular.

This name I am now writing of is given in perhaps a half dozen different
ways. It has been copied as Fresey Neal, and that is what it looks like on the
marriage lists, but I do not suppose the person was ever called thus, or that
the copyist ever thought in writing of this. It is simply a case of mistrans­
lation.

Teresa Neal was, we are told, born on June 16, 1799, and died October
12th, 1897. She was born in Maryland, and if connected with Captain Neal's
family, it is not mentioned and must have been remote. They were married on
September 4th, 1823.
The Tracewells raised a large family, just how many children I cannot
with a certainty now say. There are among them:-
Jacob P. Tracewell married Martha ____________ (maiden name not learned.
John Kenner Tracewell married Sarah Stout.
James I. Tracewell married Mary Wame.
Parmelia Tracewell, married Elliot Deem.
Alcinda Tracewell married Walker Mayhew.
Tracewell,

Robert C. married Mary.
Benjamin F. married Angeline.
Charles E. married Mary.
Mary L. married Jacob Woodyard.
William M. married Louisa.
Teresa married Thomas Cothern.

These names are not in order of age.

An inscription in the Tracewell cemetery reads, if I have it right:—
Dorcas Groves, former wife of Edward Tracewell, died February 9th, 1856, aged seventy-seven. 1779 would have been the date of her birth, just twenty years older than our Edward. Perhaps the solution is that the father was Edward also, and she his mother. In the marriage records, I find Dorcas Tracewell married Michael Groves, in 1825.

Dorcas Tracewell married Arnold Maddox in April, 1824.
Lucy Tracewell married Asa Devaughn in 1824.
Martha Tracewell married John Sheets in 1835.
Lydia Tracewell married Josiah E. Athey in 1836.
Moses Tracewell married Frances Sprouse in 1850.

FOUGHTY FAMILY

George Foughty lived about the mouth of Greave's Run, on the north side of the Kanawha River, above Newark. He was there in 1800, and was taxed with four hundred acres of land in the county's first assessment. His wife's name was Eve Foughty, and they raised a large family.

William Foughty who was probably the oldest child, married Mary, a daughter of Adam Deem, and lived on the south side of the Hughes River, just above the mouth of Goose Creek. He was a soldier in the War of 1812.

George Foughty died in 1808, willing his lands to his sons, William, Henry, Jacob, and Isaac, with provisions for his wife "during her natural lifetime". He had seven children living at the time of his death.

GANDEE FAMILY

Uriah Gandee was a resident of Wood County in 1800, as is shown on the records at the Court House. On April 15th of that year, the County Court appointed commissioners to view and mark out a road "from Uriah Gandee's house to the mouth of Stillwell". In 1803, Gandee received a deed from Daniel Rowell for Mustapha Island, and in 1804 from John Spencer for twenty acres of land across on the Virginia shore. He may have been living on these lands before. In 1806, he sold the same to Jacob Westfall. Family tradition states that Uriah Gandee lived at "the old Gandee homestead on the road leading from Belpre to the head of Blennerhassett Island". Presumably, he located there after leaving his home down at Mustapha. The Belpre house was long in the family, being the residence of James, son of Jesse Gandee.

We have the names of three of Uriah Gandee's children:—

Mary Gandee married Andrew Vanvlaara and was living here before 1800.
Uriah Gandee married Massie Hughes in 1806. She was the youngest child of Jesse Hughes, the Indian Scout.
Jesse Gandee married Nancy Hutchinson. He and John Hutchinson bought land and lived on the river bank below the mouth of the stream that heads by Marrtown. They lived where the John Armstrong cabin had been above the head of Blennerhassett Island.
About 1821, Gandee located in Parkersburg, where he had a blacksmith shop at the corner of Market Street and Court Square. Later he built a brick house "The Old Homestead", which is still (in 1932) doing good service.

Esther Gandee, who married Amos Daily in 1805 was doubtless another daughter.

There is nothing I have showing where Uriah Gandee came from. The Vanvlaras were from Pennsylvania, but that marriage may have been elsewhere. A Uriah Gandee was a leader of British sympathizers in the Revolution. He lived on Gandee's Run in Randolph County.

FOLEY FAMILY

It was on a pleasant sunshiny day in early September, 1916, that I first met Mr. Foley at his home in the old Foley homestead by the side of Snakeville Road, on Worthington Creek, above Green Run. I found him a good conversationalist, still in his early old age, and yet, like myself, living largely among the events of the past, and pleased to tell to an appreciative listener how things used to be in this vicinity a half century or more ago. He was the last male representative of one of the old families of middle Virginia, a family which claims for its ancestry connection with some of the "First families of Virginia", the Greens, the Masons, the Pogues, and the Hoes and Scarletts, names perpetuated in the Foley family down through succeeding generations.

The Foley family is said to be of Welsh extraction, transferred through Ireland to the American colonies. By the tradition of one line Maryland, by another Virginia, it is to be noted there is often - perhaps usually - a difference in traditions as handed down through different lines of the same family. In this instance, both may easily have been correct.

The descendants of B. H. Foley, a grandson of Richard, with "good and sufficient evidence", locate him in Frederick County, Virginia, while their cousins, descendants of Scarlett Foley, believe that Richard Foley lived "off of the Moxie River in Maryland", and that "one of the big battles of the war was fought near the Foley farm".

I have been supplied with information showing that Richard Foley, of Frederick County, voted for George Washington for the Virginia House of Burgesses in 1758. (Three years after Braddock's defeat. See Historical Magazine for Virginia, Vol. 8, Page 164.)

From Mr. Green B. Foley, and members of his family, I have the following information concerning the Foley family.

The Foleys are of Irish descent. They came to Worthington Creek in 1802. He thought they bought land from a man named Dean, who owned all to the Kanawha River. It was, however, purchased from Dils, who got it from Dean. James Foley, Green B. Foley's grandfather, was in the American Army in the Revolutionary War, as also were his wife's father and two of her brothers.

His wife was Mary Langfitt. Her brothers were Francis and Phillip, both residents of Wood County. A Thomas Langfitt, who was probably the father, was also a soldier from Augusta County, but probably never a resident of Wood. (The family pronounce the name "Langford", but it is spelled otherwise in their signatures, on deeds, etc.)

James Foley lived and died in an old log house, which stodd by the Snakeville Road, out next to the line. (Now Broad Street. As I make the location, it was on the right hand side of the road.)
His wife died at the home of her son, Barnett H. Foley, in a log cabin which stood in a grove by the roadside, down in front of the present home. Traces of the foundation were still visible twenty years ago. Probably it was the house built by John Sutherland, who bought fifty acres here in 1812.

Richard Foley appears to have had two sons. We read in Augusta County Records, Volume 12, Page 167, that in CONSIDERATION OF SERVICES PERSUANT TO THE PROCLAMATION of Governor Dinwiddie made the 19th day of February, 1754, a patent was issued for certain lands to Mason Foley. I think I have also seen the name mentioned in the annals of Augusta County. I also found it among papers of the D. A. R., in the library at Marietta, Ohio. As the name of Mason Foley was continued in the family for many years, and as the age of this man would seem to preclude his being of the same or older generation than Richard Foley, I feel safe in assuming that it was his son.

James Foley, the founder of the family in Wood County, was born east of the mountains in Virginia (or Maryland) about the year 1727, and was a man grown when his father did the voting for Washington (if indeed he himself was not the voter). He would have been far past twenty-five years of age at the time of the French and Indian War, and it is highly probable he took an active part in the same, as he did in the War for Independence a decade later.

I base my belief on the fact that traditions along both lines of the family say James Foley came to Wood County in 1802, or after he was seventy-five years old, but I do not see how this could have been the date, as his last "Will and Testament", which is on file at the courthouse at Parkersburg, was admitted to probate by the Wood County Court at the May term in 1808, he having died on the 8th of January before. This document was made on the 6th of November, 1803, and appears to convey property in Prince William County only, and described it as "the plantation on which I now live". Note this "I now live", written under the date of November 6th, 1803.

Just what was the actual date of the coming of the family can only be conjectured. Therefore, I will say that James Foley and seven of his children came to Wood County early in the first decade of the Nineteenth century. These children were:

- Ann (or Nancy) married John Sutherland.
- Scarlett Green Foley married Mary Neal in 1811.
- James Foley married Bathsheba Cook in 1806.
- Mason Foley married Hannah Phelps in 1810.
- Lettie Foley.
- Lucy Foley married Philip W. Dils in 1810.
- Catherine Foley married James Cunningham in 1819.
- Barnett Hoe Foley married Frances Harness in 1836.

There may have been other children who were married and did not come with the family to Wood County.

Scarlett Greene Foley, son of James Foley, was born in Prince William County, Virginia. He must have been pretty well grown up when the family came to Worthington Creek. I have never seen the date of his birth.

That he lived up into the 1860's is shown by an article in the Parkersburg News, during the campaign of 1860. The News editor was Charles Roads, a son-in-law of the elder Mr. Dudley, and a strong supporter of Breckinridge. The News tells of a meeting of the "Bell" Union men, and of a parade in which it says "There was a ding-dong demonstration in our streets today, with a farm wagon drawn by four horses, and occupied by two old men with long white whiskers and red wamuses." These men, it says, were Uncle Scarlett Foley and Joshua Copin. It says that the cavalcade "startled our usually quiet streets".
Just when Mr. Foley died, I have never been able to find out. There is no headstone at the grave, and there was little attention to keeping a record of deaths in Wood County until the late seventies.

Scarlett Foley married Mary Neal on March 25th, 1811. She, it is said, died in 1870, and as she lived several years as his widow, he must have died not later than the middle sixties. Both are buried in unmarked graves on the farm.

George Foley and his wife, or stepmother, told me they were buried in the old Foley burial ground near the big cedar tree and Hannah Davis's grave. Someone else, perhaps George Wright, told me the spot was just outside the cemetery, along the fence up toward the old Mansion house.

Mary Neal was born on January 16th, 1791. She was the only child of her father's second marriage, and it is claimed by some, the first white child to be born in the county, but this seems improbable as this was six years after the planting of the first settlement, and there were more than half a hundred families making their homes here. Her mother died when Mary was four years old. It is said that the father, though still not more than sixty years old (there is quite a difference in these old dates as given by different writers), and although he was the leader of the colony, lost interest in outside life, and devoted himself wholly to his child. Certain it is he took little part in the establishment or organization of the new county. He was not a member of the County Court, and although appointed as one of two civil officers to perform the marriage ceremony in the new county, the records show that but one instance in which he exercised that function.

Scarlett Foley was married in the spring of 1811, and early the next spring, March 20th, 1812, Captain Neal sold him fifty acres of land lying next to the Mark Hardin four hundred acres, and back of a fifty acre lot sold in 1800 to Jacob Westfall. To this, Foley added a tract bought in 1831 from James H. Neal, his brother-in-law, a fifty acre lot lying west of his, which purchase let him to the river about the mouth of Hannaman's Run. After a few minor deals and land swaps to adjust lines with his neighbors, he, on February 16th, 1834, sold his farm to Caleb Barrett, who lived on it for many years, in a large two story hewed log house, back near the foot of the hill, and a short distance from the "notch" cut by the Westfall lot.

I do not know whether Barrett or Foley built this commodious and, at that time, pretentious residence, nor the date of its construction. It was torn away about the time of the revival of building and the expansion of South Parkersburg, following the opening of the Fair Grounds addition on Rowell's Run above.

A search shows that in 1820, the first year that buildings were assessed separately, that Scarlett Foley is assessed the fifty acres "Joining Barrett" (Samuel) with a "new building", valued at One hundred fifty dollars. This would seem to show that the old log house was built by Foley about 1819. In the subdivision of Virginia lands, under the Treasury Warrant system, adopted by the state in December, 1792, providing for the sale of "waste and unoccupied lands" in any quantity to anybody paying the nominal sum of about ten cents per acre - two pounds for each one hundred acres, with costs of survey and record - not only did the surveys frequently overlap (in some instances, four or five folds deep), but occasionally a corner varying from a fraction of an acre to a few hundreds was "missed" and lay unnoticed for a generation until someone discovered it and "pounced down" and secured a "claim for a trifle. Then, they would either sell the claim to an "actual settler", or went ahead and patented the land themselves. These claims usually cost much less than the land was considered worth.
There were men who made a business of watching for these missed patches and if "worth while" securing title. An overlooked tract had been found consisting of about two hundred seventy-five acres, lying on top of and across the Two Mile Hill, between lands patented to Captain Neal, William McCleary, and the Lake farm. This land was taken up by Thomas Jett and John Stokely. Later, Jett sold his "claim" to Scarlett Foley, and in 1816, a patent was issued to Foley for one hundred thirty acres. I have nothing to indicate what year he first moved on to the tract, but he cleared it up and lived on it all his life.

Scarlett G. and Mary Foley raised a family of several children. Of these, I have the names of:

- John H. Foley, married his cousin, Hannah Foley, in 1846.
- James N. Foley.
- Scarlett G. Foley, married Sarah M.
- Eliza Ann Foley married Henry Treadway in 1836.
- Willis Foley, who married Mary Davis in 1830, was probably a son.
- Harriet Foley, who married John Davis, in 1853, was either a daughter or a granddaughter.

Probably there were others.

In 1889, after Mr. Merrick had received a title from the court for seventy acres given by Captain Neal to "Aunt Polly Foley", her heirs presumably all then living, signed a release of any and all claims they might have in or against the land. This release deed was signed by:

- John H. and Jemima Foley.
- Scarlett G. and Sarah M. Foley
- Mary C., perhaps the widow of James N Foley, as she also released a special reservation on five acres "where the housestands". On July 8th, 1842, the Foleys had deeded this tract to his son, James N., who may have lived on it, but titular "possession" seems to have been retained, as it is included in the final sale to John H., and in the Leonard law suit.

John H. Foley was the most prominent of the descendants of Scarlett G. and Mary Neal Foley. He was, it will be noted, intimately connected with the first settlers of Wood County. Captain James Neal, the "Mayflower Man" of Wood County, the first settler between I know not how far above its upper line at Middle Island Creek, and perhaps Point Pleasant below, was his grandfather, all of Hugh Phelps' children his double cousins, and all the children of Daniel Rowell, John Neal, James H. Neal, John Sutherland and others, his first cousins. He was for many years one of the prominent men of his community. He took in the outside development of the county, and by service as a member of the County Court, acquired the title by which he is most commonly known - Squire Foley. His name first appears on the books in 1871. His uncles, James, Mason, and Barnett H., had all in their day answered to the name of Squire Foley. His first marriage with his cousin, Hannah Foley, was in 1846. The date of his second marriage, or a list of the names of his children, I have never seen. George Foley, the crippled man described elsewhere was one.

His wife, Hannah, was born in 1828, married in 1846, and died on October 6th, 1861. She was buried in the old Foley cemetery. An unmarked grave by her side is probably that of her husband. Martha Foley, infant child buried near, is probably a daughter of Scarlett Foley. She was born in 1840, and died in 1842.

John H. Foley was born in the little cabin where his son George lived when I visited him. Later, for keeping the old folks, he received a deed for his father's farm of two hundred acres, but outside claims arose against the land.

The claimants offered terms of settlement, but Foley denied the validity of the claims and stubbornly refused to pay a cent.
The claims were sold to D. H. Leonard, a Parkersburg attorney, who, after securing any proposed right of the heirs of James N. Foley, and perhaps others, then brought suit against Foley. The case was in litigation for several years, and I am told was decided in favor of the plaintiff. Of the merits of the case, I know nothing.

I am told he died by being thrown from a horse on the Northwestern Pike, a short distance above the Stephenson place. George Foley was still living on a part of the farm in 1916, as described elsewhere. His widow, Elizabeth, a daughter of John Wright, died in 1923, at the age of seventy-seven. I do not know who owns the place now.

John H. Foley sold the land on which the Elizabeth Pike, from the seventy acres Captain Neal had given to "Aunt Polly", crossing the top of the hill at the low gap, and running back to include the old Scarlett Foley home. The old Scarlett Foley house had stood on a slight eminence a few hundred feet west of the new house Mr. Kenny had built, closer to where the pike crosses through the low gap. When I first visited the place, the reddened stones of the old fireplace were still there, and a number of large cherry trees were grouped around where the yard had been. I do not recall noticing the fact, but it must have been that there were clusters of hollyhocks, some rose briars, and at least two large lilac, with a honeysuckle vine and a morning glory vine sprawling in wild riot. How could it be otherwise, where a fifty year old farm house had been torn away? An orchard ran down the slope to the old Neal line and a little burial spot. Now, twenty-five acres or more of the top of the hill, including the old house site, is a pretentious, modern cemetery, known as the Evergreen Cemetery.

Scarlett Foley's son was James N. Foley. He may have lived on the seventy acres. Apparently he was dead before his heirs in 1877 deeded to D. H. Leonard any right they might have had in the Scarlett Foley estate.

These James N. Foley heirs are given as -
Harriet H. Foley.
Mary C. Stewart.
Charles W. and Caracilla Foley.

No doubt a close study of the records (which I have not given) would unravel numerous seeming knots and kinks as to title, deeds made but overlooked in my examination of the deed books. Scarlett Foley, Jr., sold in 1878 to Mr. M. E. Kenney, six acres on top of Two Mile Hill, a part of the one hundred thirty acre tract. It began at the pike in the old Neal line, and run with same a little over the top of the hill, then back beyond the site of the old Scarlett Foley house. Kenney also bought five acres from Mary Foley, lying back of this, and a six acre lot from Caroline Foley. He may have included other lands in the Grandview Dairy farm he was operating twenty-five years ago. The deed and tax books would make the matter clear.

James Foley, Jr. received the first deed for land on Worthington Creek, as shown elsewhere. He was married to Bathsheba Cook. He lived for a time on the John Ruble place, beyond John Sutherland. Before 1822, he was in Elizabeth, where he had opened the first hotel in the new village.

I think he later went to Missouri. So far as I have been able to find, there are none of his descendants in Wood County. He may be the James Foley who married Tabitha S. B. Harness in 1842.

James A. Foley was a son of Mason Foley. He was married to a girl by the name of Nancy Van Sigle in 1844. He was dead before the division of his father's estate in 1876.
In the spring of 1814, I made a visit to the south side (South Parkersburg). My object was primarily, to locate the spot where Wood County's first white settlement had been planted one hundred twenty-nine years before, and which had been the scene of the organization and early development of the county. I was at the old Tavenner Cemetery, one of the earliest burying grounds in the county, where then reposed the ashes of Captain Neal, the founder of the colony, and others of the first settlers. Then his grave was removed to Mount Olivet Cemetery, a spot two miles away, that was an unbroken forest when he was buried. Better had civic authorities taken charge of all the early burying places and kept them at all times in the least good repair.

It is almost certain that this was not the first graveyard, even in this the first community of the county, but a good deal of painstaking search has failed to show the site. It is told that when the abutments were placed for the East Street Bridge, human bones and a hewed cedar post were unearthed, and some claim that there were formerly graves in the vicinity of the first church of the county, a very reasonable proposition, but wholly without tangible evidence twenty years ago.

Private family burial places were common with landowners for the first fifty years, and many, perhaps most, of the graves for many years were without marker beyond an unlettered flagstone planted at the head.

On this trip, I climbed a hillside, following an old road that had served as "a way out" for the past hundred years. There was an open wood from which all the large timber had been removed so long before that the stumps had disappeared, lying to my left, while on the right was a cleared field of a few acres, which had been recently sold and built upon. The north line of Scarlett Foley's patent, which is the south line of Captain Neale's original tract, runs practically straight with the break of this hill top.

The old road led up to an ancient gate in the line fence at the edge of the flat lands of the top of the ridge. About ten rods east of the gate, and a few less from the woods, below the old line, on a real flat, stood the old Foley cabin.

No one seemed able to tell just when the cabin was first built, but George Foley, the proprietor, then an elderly man, said that he was born in it. The house stood in the northwestern corner of the Scarlett Foley patent, and was probably built by one of the sons when he went to housekeeping.

It was an old storm beaten, weatherstained log house, about eighteen by twenty feet outside measurement, with eaves within reach of a man standing at the front. At the back, there may have been, probably was, a planked-in addition for a kitchen, and built after cooking stoves came into common use.

The old house, with its quaint little eight by ten glass, twelve light window, and its hardbeaten path down the bank to the spring in the hollow behind, was a typical pioneer home.

George Foley was a cripple. Owing to an accident when a boy, one arm never developed, remaining a child's arm and hand on a man's body. His widow, the former wife of Ben or Will Wright, died in 1923, at the age of seventy-seven.

Mr. Foley said that his grandmother said that the old Blockhouse stood in the bottom, up about half way between these little streams at the East Street bridge, and and the next stream above, (Hannaman's Run) and back away from the river. (While the exact site cannot now be determined, either from tradition or record, this is probably very nearly a correct placing.)
There was a family by the name of Locker living on Big Run in Wood County, in the early years of the last century. I have found very little concerning them, or their first history. We have nothing reliable to show who they were or when or whence they came.

The first mention I have of the name, so far as I note, is in 1819, though he may not unlikely have been here several years earlier. I find on the marriage register of the county that Jeptha B. Locker married Fanny McPherson on August, 1819.

Mary Locker married John Hawkins in 1820.
Sarah Locker married Jacob Johnson on December 18th, 1820.
George Locker married Jemima Hawkins on January 9th, 1823.

These are doubtless of the same family. They were all of the Big Run community. All of the same generation, and were probably brothers and sisters.

There was another, David Locker, who married Cynthia Cooper, in 1828, who was also probably a brother of these.

The name again occurs on Big Run when one Thomas Locker (sometimes rendered Thomas W.) received a deed from George I. Davison, in 1835, for one hundred acres of land apparently lying on Big Run, immediately below the mouth of Jackson's Run. This is the man who founded what was long known as the old Locker farm, and this with, perhaps, other adjoining purchases, has constituted the same. This man was more probably a brother of the others than not. He has descendants in that vicinity yet. There was a John Locker who owned a fifteen acre lot farther down the creek, in 1821, perhaps the founder of the family.

Jeptha B. Locker was born about 1788. His parentage, or the place of his birth, is not preserved so far as I have been able to find out.

He was married to Fannie, a daughter of Edward McPherson. He would appear to have been getting rather old, as the headstone at his grave stated that he died in the year 1842, when fifty-four years old. I never heard the cause of his death.

As he was married in 1829, he would have been around thirty-three when he was married.

His wife, Fanny McPherson, was a daughter of one of the pioneers of Wood County, who lived and died on Dry Run. She was a sister of Isaac McPherson, who married a granddaughter of Reece Woolf, of Eli, who married a daughter of Captain Prince, Edward, whose wife was a daughter of Jesse Kincheloe. Also, Nathaniel Rice's wife, and perhaps Robert Kincheloe, of Red Hill, were brother-in-law to Jeptha Locker, as, too, were Hawkins and Johnson, previously mentioned.

The Lockers were married in August, 1819. That they were compelled to begin life in a very scant and primitive fashion, even for that day, is attested by a quaint document recorded in one of the old deed books at the courthouse, which shows that when they "set up" for house-keeping the next April, her father, who had been on Dry Run several years, and was prosperous among the backwoods folk of the time, made them a Deed of Loan, conveying the use of -

One Cow and Calf,
One Bed,
Four Quilts,
Two sheets and underbed.
"Until I see fit to resume them".
Crude and uncomfortable as the outfit was, it served the owner for a home until his death, and under its roof, he raised a family of sturdy, vigorous boys and girls. Later, he was laid to rest near his old home, and it became the home of one of his sons, who, in turn, reared a family of eight children, until the eldest had reached manhood's age, and then at last the long promised "big house" became a real fact. A substantial frame farmhouse with the huge framing-timbers and durable construction of the "mid-Victorian" period. This was set as close in front of the old cabin as could be to leave room for the carpenters to work. The new house was two stories high, and had a multiplicity of doors and windows, panel doors and ten by twelve inch window panes. Moreover, when finished, it was painted a dazzling white.

I remember that the old cabin was left standing, and was used as a kitchen for three or four years, and also that it was remindful of a shabby little brown chrysalis, newly bursted open and a butterfly of gorgeous brilliancy hanging suspended in front of it. I doubt if the newer, more convenient mansion ever became the "home" to these old folks the humble cabin had been.

The Locker mansion was built on the "round" of a spur that ran northerly from the ridge separating the waters of Dry Run and Berry's Run. It was perhaps one hundred fifty feet from the top of the "divide", and the ground around it sloped very gently. The "point" was over one hundred feet wide, and level enough to be called "flat" for a half mile northwardly, and expanding in places to the width of a field. The house had been built of hewed logs, probably mostly of oak, and "facing" fifteen or sixteen inches wide, and a story and a half or two stories high, with a wide porch along one or both sides. A huge fireplace occupied most of one end of the house, with a wide flagstone hearth. At the other end was the capacious "Gyarden Spot". This and the yards were enclosed with split palings, and in it was grown a profusion of vegetables for the family's consumption the year around, though instead of the canning process of today, they were preserved by being dried or pickled.

Down at the foot of the steep bank, in front of the house, and several rods northward, a stream of water gurgled out from under the hill, and ran down across a bench, and over a long slope to a hollow in the woods. This spring furnished the water supply for the home, supplemented, of course, by the always present "rain-trough" of the backwoods, which, by a clapboard connection with the roof of the cabin, stored an extra supply of water, especially useful in soap making time, and in washing and scrubbing.

Although not so suitable for drinking and cooking purposes, it was worlds handier than carrying in wooden "buckets" up the steep hill. Of course, the most of the sugar trees stood in the rich covelands under the hills, and many of them much farther away from the house. By this spring had been planted another cherry tree, grown to an immense size. It had furnished a canopy to the fountain for a hundred years.

The first home has doubtless been small in size, and primitive in structure and stood somewhere near the site of the more elaborate mansion house, by which, after a few years, it was succeeded. A common practice of that day was to build a sort of temporary one room house of round logs near the place chosen as a "house spot", use it as a residence while a few grain fields were hewed out of the forest, and an orchard started to grow, later, "when one got able", a "good house" was put up on the chosen site, and the building evacuated, used for many years for a stable, granary, loom house, or general purpose building. I recall an instance in which a pioneer planted his home in a little log cabin of under rather than over eighteen by twenty feet dimension to his new home,
in the woods across the mountains, a house of one room, which served as a par­lor, living-room, kitchen, dining-room and bedroom, each in turn as occasion most required. Of course, however, by means of a ladder, the low "loft" was accessible for "beds made down on the floor for thr older boys and girls" and "underbeds" like that in Locker's deed of loan, under both beds down stairs would "help a heap" in disposing of the younger ones. Believe it or not, a made down bed over an open fireplace is something not to be disdained on a cold night.

There was a large lilac near the chimney, from which I secured a sprout, roses and a honeysuckle. Of course, there had been "Pineys", (Peonies), hollyhocks, tiger lilies, clumps of yellow lilies, clove pinks, and all kinds of old fashioned flowers in the yard and garden, from the first planting of the pioneer home among the trees. The garden was fragrant from the beginning with sages, tansies, horseradish, thyme, caraways, rues, fennels, dills, and all the good old "yarbs" in which the pioneer mothers' hearts delighted.

The row of eight graves carried the names of J. B. Locker, 1842, aged fifty-four, and Virginia, daughter of J. and F. Locker. The other six graves were nearly all short, and marked with unlettered flagstones. Here was founded a backwoods home, here grew for a time a pioneer family, and here they nearly all are still sleeping together.

As a matter of course, the first cabin has been of round logs, with a puncheon floor, clapboard roof held down by weight poles, and a wide fireplace holding great backlogs.

In the garden was raised, instead of the named varieties of today chosen from gaudy overdrawn pictures, good old-fashioned, wholesome eatables, grown from seed raised in that same garden the previous season, or given to the "good wife" by the neighbor women during the frequent "visits" which, like the garden seeds, were always freely interchangeable. In these visits, and at "quiltins" and "wool pickins", "that kind I've got", and "the kind you used to raise", was usually not far behind the interest in "my", "your", and "her" babies, and the wonders they performed. That is, always provided the talk did not get a slant toward "signs, omens, witches, and other old-fashioned beliefs", now discarded, superficially at least, by the present, weaker and wiser generation.

No, in that garden was raised an abundance of "taters", "cabbich", "Ingums", "cowcumbers", "punkins", "sweet taters", squashes, turnips, lettuce, and later "tomattisses", first raised only as an ornamental plant, and all the old time substantial accompaniments of "hog and hominy".

But alas! It was all too short a while before that "hard run", home-spun, yet fascinating, and in a measure, alluring garden of Eden of the forefather's day was invaded by the first of that long, cold, line of gray stones which kept increasing steadily, and relentlessly, until they marked eight low mounds, hiding no one may guess what ambitions, hopes, possibilities and probabilities. We can only know that so far as this life is concerned, there were eight chapters here closed. Or does the life of the adult parents still continue to enter into the count?

The orchard, that is, the first one, cannot now be traced, even as to the site, but we may know that it was there and produced fruits in lavish profusion. The trees have been sprouts from neighbor's trees, or seedlings, and the only cost was the planting.

About twenty years after my first visit to the old Locker house, I took occasion to visit the spot again, after an absence of several years, but I found the farm in bad repair, and the old Wilson Morrison house vacant, and in dilapidated condition. The fences were down, gates open, and orchards untrimmed, while brush and briars were intruding upon the fields. The row of
cherry trees at the old house were on a decline apparently, and the largest tree the first in the row, and in front of the house, was broken down, and the different forks split over and lying on the ground.

I thought at the time that the tree had been struck by lightning and torn to pieces, but it may have been the effect of high winds after the tree began to decay. The trunk had been hollow in the center, and different forks which had branched a few feet above the ground were split and shattered so that there was no possibility of counting the annular ring growths. The tree had, however, been fully three feet in diameter at stump height, and was doubtless set about the time the family moved there, a hundred years before.

There were four trees in a row, standing along the brink of a steep bank. They had been planted in a row, and about two rods apart. They were of the Red Heart variety, not a sweet cherry, and not a prolific bearer, but a rapid grower, of faultlessly symmetrical shape, and very attractive to song birds. These trees were from two and one half to three feet in diameter, and sixty feet high, cone shaped, and just lacking enough of meeting at the base to preserve the individuality of the trees. By the end of the porch was an immense red cedar, and after the country was cleared, the row was a conspicuous sight from the top of Prospect Hill, and all the flats of the east end of the city.

JACKSON FAMILY

There are some families in the early life of Parkersburg and Wood County, about whom such adequate historical and genealogical records have been made that further notice seems superfluous. One such family is that of the Jacksons. Yet a family so prominent in the life of the city may not go un-noted.

The founder of the family in Parkersburg was General John J. Jackson. He and his wife, Emma Beeson Jackson, made their home at the corner of Fourth and Juliana Streets. Elsewhere I have described the tearing down of this home for the erection of the new Post Office building.

General J. J. Jackson was a son of John G. and Mary Jackson. He was born in Clarksburg in 1800. He was a lawyer in profession, and long held the office of Prosecuting Attorney of the County. Of his children:

Judge John J. Jackson was the eldest son. He was born in 1824, at the home on Juliana Street, and he married Carrie C. Glime. He built the Jackson home on Seventh and Quincy Streets, living there until his death. As the title implies, he also chose the career of an attorney, and won his title as head of the United States District Court.

James Monroe Jackson was the second son. He also chose a judicial career. He married Helen Seely, and after a few years out of town, lived at the Jackson farm just above the city, at Springdale.

Jacob Beeson Jackson was the third son. He married Marie Willard, a daughter of Ben Willard. He lived at the south east corner of Seventh and Avery Streets, where the Willard Apartment house now is. In his career, he was prosecuting Attorney for the county, was at one time Mayor of the city, and in 1880 was elected Governor of West Virginia.

Other sons of General Jackson were Henry Clay and Andrew Gardner. He had daughters: Mrs. America Small, Mrs. Eliza Dickenson, Mrs. William Dent, and Mrs. George W. Thompson.

Of this family, descendants are still among the citizens of Parkersburg.
Others of the name I have not been able to connect are Jesse Jackson, who was taxed with land in 1801, and is shown as a member of the first grand jury, and Samuel Jackson who owned land on the south side of the Little Kanawha River.

AMISS FAMILY

Milton P. Amiss came from Virginia. Mrs. Amiss, his daughter-in-law, said she thought from Rappahannock County, Virginia, or perhaps it was "Fauquier" County. His people were probably among the first families, as to the time, as the nearby village was called "Amissville". (Amissville is in the eastern part of Rappahannock County, near the Culpeper line.)

Mrs. Amiss says "People used to call his home Milton's Paradise".
He moved first to Fayetteville, Pennsylvania, and later to Parkersburg, as a practising lawyer, presumably.
He was a Prosecuting Attorney of Wood County, under the "Bogus" government of Virginia. I did not get his wife's name. His children were, as Mrs. Amiss gave me the names:
- Robert, married a Clarksburg girl.
- Buell married a widow Neal.
- Adlaid married Ben Chancellor's third daughter.
- Henry was a dentist. He married Maria, daughter of Paul Cook. She was ninety years old in November, 1924.
- J. B. Amiss was long a druggist of Parkersburg. He married first Betty Devol, and second Martha Dils.
- M. P. Amiss lived in a house on Ann Street, bought of Paul Cook.

GEORGE LOOMIS

Mrs. Amiss says George Loomis was no relation, but an old friend of the Amisses. He was born in Herkimer County, New York. In 1816, his father migrated to Fairfax County, Virginia. Later, George, having grown to manhood, came with the Amisses to Fayette County, Pennsylvania, where he was County Surveyor, in 1849. In 1851, he, having studied law, was admitted to the bar, and located in Parkersburg in 1852.

TAVENNER FAMILY

Thomas Tavenner was one of the leading spirits of the younger men of the Wood County Pioneers. He was born in Loudoun County, Virginia, on April 18th, 1776. His parents were of the Quaker sect, and he is credited with having conscientious scruples against the holding of slaves. Being wealthy for his day, he was the owner of quite a number of bondsmen, but in his will, made provision for the emancipation of most, if not all, of these immediately, or after a term of years.

Tavenner first came to the Kanawha settlement, a youth, of twenty, in 1796. He came a poor boy, it is said, but he had bought the Lake farm, lying on the head of Rowell's Run. The name of this farm was derived from a supposition that the ground had once been the bottom of a lake, the supposition the conformation of the soil and shape of the hills seem to confirm, before Wood
PIONEERS IN WOOD COUNTY

By John A. House.

County was organized. The record of the deed of conveyance, if still has existence, would be in the Clerk's Office at Clarksburg. He was twenty-four years old when the organization of the new county was effected, and about thirty when in 1807 he was married to Elizabeth Beauchamp, who lived at (now) Elizabeth, Wirt County, West Virginia.

That same year, he was commissioned a Justice of the county. He was elected to the General Assembly, and continued in the position several years, was a deputy sheriff under Peter Anderson, if in 1816, or John G. Henderson, if in 1817, and was sheriff in 1821.

He gradually accumulated other lands in the community, including the greater part of the Hugh Phelps homestead, where he lived until the time of his death, which occurred in 1844. He was always one of the most active promoters of the public interests of his county, and was active in political and civic life. He was, says a grandson, Judge L. N. Tavenner, a Whig in politics. He is sleeping in the old Tavenner Cemetery. His old home was built by Hugh Phelps before there were any records of valuation of houses (1820) kept. It is still in the hands of the Tavenner family.

Thomas Tavenner married Elizabeth Beauchamp in 1806. From them are descended peoples of the name who have lived in Wood and Wirt Counties. They had a family of four sons and one daughter.

The oldest son, I believe, was Cabell Tavenner – perhaps William Cabell Tavenner was the full name. He studied law. He married a daughter of Alexander Withers, the historian, and (author of "BORDER WARFARE") located at Weston, in Lewis County. I think that I have read the statement that Withers died at his house in Parkersburg. Perhaps he came back here for a time.

Isaac Tavenner graduated from Marietta College. He married P. H. Warth, a daughter of John Warth, of Warth's Bottom, and located on a farm near Elizabeth, Wirt County, West Virginia.

Ann Elizabeth Tavenner married Reverend Charles R. Baldwin in 1837. They both were buried at the Riverview Cemetery in Parkersburg. She was born in 1811. He was born at Stockbridge, Massachusetts, November 18th, 1805, and died in 1895.

Franklin Tavenner married Catharine Taylor in 1845, and Mrs. Eunice Steed in 1852.

These sons both married widows. The widow of Thomas J. Tavenner is still living on the old farm below the East Street bridge. She was his second wife, and her name was Ella L. Butcher. She was no relation, she says, to the Butchers up the Kanawha River. Her people came from Pendleton County, (now West Virginia). Her mother's name was Lyddy Allen, a daughter of Samuel Allen, who settled on Allen's Run, below the mouth of Walker's Creek, in 1796.

The records say Lydia Allen married a Bartlett in 1822. Mrs. Tavenner also said that Franklin Tavenner "married Kitty Taylor in this city", and that Isaac married a Warth at Warth's Bottom.

Franklin married Kitty Taylor in 1845. She died in 1852, and in 1853, he married Nancy, widow of William Maddox, and a daughter of Elijah Spencer, who was a son of John Spencer of below Washington's Bottom. Elijah Spencer lived on the Jacob Curry lot at the bridge.

LEWIS FAMILY

Another family prominent in Wood County was that of Lewis, which figured early in the colonization of the Ohio River valley around Washington's bottom, and the upper Belleville section. What information I have received if the Lewis
family, which has long been, and is yet much respected in the vicinity of Washington's Bottom, I gained from my good friend, Charles Rector, and have supplemented with information gathered from deed book records and visits to the cemeteries of that vicinity.

The Lewises came from Loudoun County, Virginia, and the family traces their ancestry back through many generations.

George Lewis, who was a wealthy planter, purchased lands of the Carters who were heirs of George Washington.

This consisted of one thousand acres at the upper end of the tract, and opposite the lower end of Blennerhassett Island. The purchase was about the year of 1804. The land he soon divided, selling a part to his sons, and sons-in-law.

George Lewis married Violet Guest, in Virginia. Their children as I have them, were:

- Robert Lewis married Elizabeth Edelen.
- Nancy Lewis married John Harwood.
- Sarah Lewis married George Neale.
- William Lewis married a daughter of Francis Keene.
- Mary Lewis married Joseph Beard.
- Jonas Lewis, whose son, George Lewis, was also a large land owner.

George Lewis died in 1811. Elizabeth Lewis Edelen and Robert Edelen came to the "Bottom" in the spring of 1805 and settled on the upper share of the Lewis land, which he purchased. I have seen the date of the Edelen coming given as 1807. The date I used is from his tombstone in the old cemetery. It is certain that he was here before 1806, for at that date he is shown on court records.

They raised a large family, and many of their descendants are still prominent in Wood County.

Nancy Lewis married John Harwood back in "Ol' Virginny". They also were here before 1807, I believe, from the date of the deed in which they received a part of the Lewis land.

Sarah Lewis was born April 29th, 1771. She died in 1863. She was married to George Neale, and they had one son, George Neale, Jr., about five years old at the time they came to Wood County.

William Lewis was born September 24th, 1777. He was, therefore, about twenty years old, and also married before coming. Of the children of William and Mary Keene Lewis, I have are:

- Francis Keene, born in 1807 and died in 1862.
- Matilda Ann, born in 1808 and died in 1836.
- Sarah, married O. L. Bradford.
- Mary Lewis, daughter of George Lewis, who married Joseph Beard, may have died rather young. When he died, she had three children named in the will of their grandfather, George Lewis.

Jonas Lewis married Fannie Wiatt, but she may also have died young, as she was not signing his deeds dated 1833. They lived on what is now the Charles Rector farm. They had two sons, George V. Lewis, who married Margaret Davis, and was an extensive land owner, and Wyatt Lewis, who married Mary C. Harden.

CAPTAIN MEHAN

Barney Mehan came to Parkersburg from Wheeling, in 1848. He lived at the old Gibbons house at the Wharf. He was a butcher at one time.

A son, Luther, was killed in the Union Army. Another son, James, a boy
in his teens, had gone south in 1858 or 1859. He was living in a town in Missis­
issippi at the time of the John Brown's Raid. The infuriated populace drove all "northerners" from the place, but an old woman hid him until the excite­
ment subsided. She kept him in her house and sent him to school.

There the boys were trained regularly (getting ready), had officers
chosen, and were mustered into the Confederate army without fairly knowing
what they were doing.

He was in the first Bull Run Battle, and in many others. He was slight­
ly wounded in the left shoulder, the bullet being deflected by his blanket
and rope. He was wounded in the head at the second battle of the Wilderness,
and had a seven week's fight with a brain fever.

After the war, he came home, but his father, who was a strong Union man
would not receive a "rebel" soldier into his home. He went south again, but
later returned to Parkersburg.

He is called by courtesy perhaps, Captain Mehun. He is now the only
prominent Confederate soldier in Parkersburg. He said he has from a book a
roster of Confederate soldiers in Wood County. He promised to show it to me,
but I have never seen it.

He or his father once lived at the Jesse Gandee house at the corner of
Court Square.

KINNAIRD FAMILY

John Asher Kinnaird (Kinnard) came from Culpeper County, Virginia, to
Wood County. His people were from Scotland. He married Polly Tomlinson. He
was a prominent business man of Wood County. He was born in 1777 and died in
1850, and his wife was born in 1781 and died in 1873. Of their children:
Louisa married John F. Snodgrass in 1832.
Rufus married Sophia Cook in 1841. A daughter of these two married one
Robert Campbell, a steamboat man of Parkersburg, who died in 1877.
On March 5th, 1825, Rebecca Williams willed to her nephew-by—marriage,
John A. Kinnaird, all her estate, both personal and real. Kinnaird had four
other children, six in all:—
Rebecca D., died on January 23rd, 1841, aged twenty—seven years.
Drusilla never married. She died August 21st, 1835, aged twenty-five
years.
Rev. Rufus was a local Southern Methodist Episcopal preacher. He died on
March 24th, 1871, aged fifty-one years.
Mary married William S. Gardiner of Parkersburg.
Alfred Little Kinnaird was born in 1808, and married Julia A. Nixon.
Louisa Kinnaird was born on October 1st, 1812, and died on October 22nd,
1843. She married John F. Snodgrass. He was a native of Berkeley County, and
came to Parkersburg in 1836. (Editor's Note: John F. Snodgrass served in the
U. S. House of Representatives 1853-1854, Democrat)
Rebecca Kinnaird married Alexander Murdoch. She died on January 23rd,
1841, aged twenty-seven years.
Drusilla Kinnaird died August 21st, 1831. She was twenty-five years,
six months, when she died, hence was born about February 6th, 1806.
Rev. Rufus Kinnaird, a local Methodist preacher, was born 5th of Sep­
tember, 1819, and died on March 24th, 1871, aged fifty-one years, six months.
His wife was Sophia Cook, a daughter of Tillinghast Cook. After his death, his
widow married John A. Henderson.
Mary Kinnaird was the second wife of William S. Gardiner. They were mar­
ried November 5th, 1844. Gardiner was a merchant, real estate dealer. He came from Pennsylvania to Wood County in 1835. His first wife was Ann S., daughter of Jacob Beeson. He died October 27th, 1849, aged thirty-seven years.

Joseph Kinnaird was the father of John A. Kinnaird, David Kinnaird, William Kinnaird, Dolly, wife of Warren Reed, and also Molly Dunnaway, Jeannette Johnson, Sarah Morris, John Morris, and Mary, his wife were heirs (children or grandchildren).

SMITH FAMILY (W. H. SMITH)

W. H. Smith, Sr., was born on June 1st, 1818, at Loughborough, Leicestershire County, England, near Nottingham. He was a son of Robert S. Smith, who came to America in 1819, lived two years at Pittsburgh and Baltimore, coming to Parkersburg in 1821. He was one of the foremost businessmen here until his death.

W. H. Smith married Sarah, daughter of Charles Rector. He was clerk of the County Court in 18__, and Recorder in 1870. He was a merchant in Wirt and Jackson Counties for some years before the War. He bought the David Hopkins farm east of Parkersburg, and tried farming, but later sold the place to Henry Graff, and came to the city again in 1883.

In 1884, he organized the W. H. Smith Hardware Company, of which W. H. Smith, Sr., was president, W. H. Smith, Jr., vice president, T. P. Smith Secretary, and these, with C. W. Edelen and Levin Smith, were directors and "the company"

Politically, he was a Whig, and later a Democrat. He was a member of the Southern Methodist Church. He died in February 12, 1906, and his wife died in October, 1902.

The children of W. H. Smith, Sr., were:
William Haines Smith, born at Ripley. He was a clerk of the First National Bank, and went into the hardware business in 1874. He married Columbia, a daughter of J. J. Jackson, in 1875. He was Mayor of the city in 1893 and 1894.
Levin Smith was born in 1861, and attended the Harvard Law School in 1884. He married Nellie M. Williams, a daughter of Alfred Williams, who was a druggist, and owner of a large body of land on Jerrie's Run.
C. R. Smith was a stock raiser in Texas.
Alice Smith married D. M. Morrison.
Lucy Smith.

RECTOR FAMILY

Benjamin Rector was of German Descent, but the name does not so indicate, and settled in Virginia.

A son, Charles Rector, lived in Wirt County, formerly Wood County, until a few years before his death, which was at the home of his son, Charles, in Jackson County. He came from Fauquier County soon after the War of 1812. He had a number of slaves, and was sheriff of Wood County. Of his children:
Susan married Raleigh M. Kyger.
Martha married a Sims.
Levin Rector.
Steptoe Rector.
A Rector married a Sherman, and lived at Little Sandy.
Charlie Rector, who was a candidate for sheriff of Jackson County, was a grandson of the Charles Rector above, who probably moved to Jackson County in the 'forties'.

Enoch Rector, the Baptist preacher, was a son of Thomas and a brother of Benjamin.

HOLLIDAY FAMILY

William Holliday came to Parkersburg from Fairfax County, Virginia, when he was a young man. He married Ann Morton. The date I do not have, but she was his wife when he sold a part of Outlot No. 15, to Caleb Bailey in 1818, as she signed the deed.

He, contemplating marriage, made a deed of settlement to Sally Chalmers of Prince William County, by which he released control of her property, including some slaves. From this, I presume that Sally Chalmers has been a guardian of his prospective wife, Ann Morton.

William Holliday purchased Outlot No. Fifteen on January 31st, 1816. He set up and operated a plant for some time for the manufacture of brick. This was erected on Outlot No. Eighteen.

William Holliday died on September 28th, 1843, and is buried in the Holliday Cemetery, which was named for him. His wife did not die until 1854.

His heirs in the property settlement were Morton Holliday and Lavina, wife of "Boss" Logan.

GIBBENS FAMILY

John Gibbens was a son of Benjamin Gibbens, who came from Ireland and lived on the south branch of the Potomac River. John Gibbens married Catherine Herbaugh about the year 1795. After marriage, they lived near Wheeling until about February, 1799, when they came to Wood County, settling near the mouth of Stillwell for a time. Later, he moved to Lee's Creek, more than a mile from its mouth. It was here he died in August, 1807.

He is buried in the Pribble Cemetery near Newark. His widow later married Anthony Buckner.

Jefferson Gibbens, born in 1802, was his son. He is listed among the earlier property owners of Parkersburg.

Alvarro Gibbens, the editor and historian, was a grandson and descendants of the family are still business men of the city.

Shortly after his marriage, Jefferson Gibbens went into business, first in a modest way as operator of a bakery and merchandise establishment. He later branched out in the buying and selling of, and building on the first town lots.

SPENCER FAMILY

Dr. Joseph Spencer was the son of General Joseph Spencer, who was an officer in the American Army in the Revolutionary War. General Spencer was a native of Connecticut, but is listed as a Massachusetts soldier.

The name of Spencer is common in old New England papers.

Dr. Spencer came to the Marietta Colony in the first half of the last decade of the eighteenth century. He located on a large boundary of land, mostly bottom and second bottom, lying on the Ohio River, above the mouth of the
Little Kanawha River, in Virginia. This land consisted of six of the eight parcels patented to John Brisco and sons - or perhaps rather to their assignee William Smith, of Baltimore, in 1783.

There were entries on settlement right of three four-hundred acre tracts, and by pre-emption of three one-thousand acre lots, twenty-eight hundred acres between the land at the old John Cook graveyard, and fourteen hundred acres lying between Twelfth and Nineteenth Streets in Parkersburg, and extending up Worthington Creek to above the Mason Foley house. There was also fourteen hundred acres on the Little Kanawha River and Stillwell. Spencer settled on the land, probably in 1795.

Samuel S. Spencer, a son of Dr. Joseph Spencer, was here, and though he had not quite attained his majority, in 1800 was a landowner in his own right. Dr. Spencer's other sons, David, Brainerd and William, were not yet grown, the latter being a boy of fourteen. Another son, Charles, then eight, died two years later, and was buried at the old family burying ground below Vienna.

The ancestry of the Spencers, as they have given it to me is thus: Captain Thomas Spencer was born in Essex County, in England, in 1603. He migrated to the New England colony in 1635, locating first at Boston. Two years later, he removed to Tannton, Massachusetts, and in 1643, went with a son, Thomas Spencer, to Portsmouth, Rhode Island.

General Joseph Spencer was born in Connecticut in 1714, and died in 1789. He began his army life in 1758. This would appear to leave in the ancestral chain, probably one other man - between the latter Thomas Spencer and General Joseph Spencer.

Nehemiah Spencer, while not a landholder, was a man of some prominence in local affairs of that day. He lived in the Vienna settlement, and his name figures on road reviews, jury service and the like. He was probably a close relative of Doctor Joseph Spencer.

There was a John Spencer, of Virginia, owner - or claimant - of a vast body of land extending from the mouth of the Big Hocking to Mustapha Island, and other tracts in the interior. He sold much of this land, some of his deeds made holding good, others not.

While some things indicate he may have been an early resident of Wood County, the matter is not proved so far as I can find. He was not connected with the New England family who settled in the Vienna section.

Kibler Family

Sam Kibler married a Kincheloe. He lived on Mill Creek, in Jackson County. Later, he moved to Wood County, and kept a hotel where the jail now stands (said his daughter, Mrs. McPherson.)

He bought a piece of land at the foot of Red Hill, on the head of Berry's Run shortly after 1850. Two of his daughters married McPhersons, one, Elias, the other Monroe. They were sons of Edward McPherson. Charles Taylor Kibler was a son of Sam Kibler.

McPherson Family

The morning I visited Mr. McPherson, I had been on a drive into the country, the route lying up Johnson's Run to the head, around the ridge, and down the point, passing the abandoned fields of the old Ashby place, and to Worthington Creek, just below the mouth of Five Mile Run, then down the creek past the old Mckibben farm, with its famous spring of living water, and past the former site of the Zoar Church.
Here, I may say that if Five Mile is so named from its distance from the mouth of Worthington, I take it to be another illustration of the generous fox-tail measurements of the "olden days".

I found Mr. McPherson a hale and rugged looking man, already in his eighty-second year, and showing the Scotch-Irish of ancestry in feature, as well as in name. He was a delightful talker, and in a reminiscent mood, as folks of his age usually are when they meet a "good listener", and I am sure we both enjoyed a pleasant, though all too short, hour, broken only by the necessary visits he had to make to look after a pot of beans he was boiling somewhere in the recesses of the house. The old man gave me an interesting account of life in the Kanawha Valley in the late 'forties "when he was a boy", and of the burning of the "tarkilns" by the farmers both to secure a lubricant for their wagons, and as a sideline to make money to buy outside comforts they could not make for themselves.

He told me that his grandfather, (Edward, Sr., came from Prince William County, Virginia, and that his wife was a Conner; that both he and his brother were in the Union Army.

He remembered the country blacksmiths, and how they used to make nails for building purposes, fashioning them at the forge from lengths cut from iron rods, and of making tar kilns for producing tar from pine wood. He said that his father (Uncle Neddy) was born in 1804, which effectually disposes of the story of his service in the War of 1812.

Eli McPherson married Elizabeth Prince in 1826. He lived near the mouth of Mill Run.

Catharine married Robert Kincheleoe. They owned a large tract of land at the southern end of the Red Hill ridge. This land laid south of the old Bickle Place and of Dutch Ridge.

Edward McPherson married Susanna Kincheleoe in 1824, and built a house and went to housekeeping on a farm bought from the Griffith heirs.

He made the first improvement here in 1824 or 1825. There were then but a few scattering cabins along Worthington Creek, from Dilses' Mill to Ogdenville, and the town of Parkersburg was but a cluster of houses around the steamboat landing and the recently built Court House. Most of the buildings were of log construction, with a possible few of brick. McPherson lived here until his death.

I have the names of seven children. There may have been others. Here are the names as I have picked them up. Loyalty and patriotism seem to be an attribute of the name of McPherson, and I have read that this Wood County line claims relationship with that branch of the clan from which the illustrious Major General John B. McPherson. I believe that both of his sons and a son-in-law were in the Union Army.

Angeline was born in 1829 and died in 1896. She married John A. Baxter. Elizabeth was born in 1832. She married Austin B. Wells, who was in the Eleventh west Virginia Infantry.

Monroe McPherson was born in 1840, and died in 1912.

Williams married Mary Jane ----. They lived in the old homestead at the Mount Moriah Church. He was born in 1842, and died about 1934.

Erissa married Harvey Spencer of Red Hill.

Susanna married a Bowen.

Cordelia married Jacob Hoover.

In 1856, Susan McPherson, who was the widow of Edward McPherson, then deceased, deeded her right and interest in the farm on Dry Run (one hundred fifty acres) to Josiah Hardin. The same day in January, 1856, other heirs sold their claims also, as did the others later, as below
Catharine Kincheloe, wife of Robert, Jesse's son. David McPherson, in July following, and Virginia, the wife of J. O. Burley, the same day. On November 30th, 1859, Isaac McPherson deeded his share. Frances Locker, her share, on December 12th, 1859. Edward McPherson, and Eli, both in 1863.

In August, 1863, Josiah Hardin, who had been on the place for several years, sold twenty-five acres, including the house, which stood on the east side of the road below the Locker line, to Susannah B. Williams. Also in 1863, he sold "that part lying across the county road" (from the house) to Arthur L. Anderson. In 1913, when I knew the place, a German named Werner Otto (not Otto Werner) was living on that part west of the road.

I think the old house was vacated and torn down a few years later. Hardin may or may not have been an heir, buying out other shares.

A note says that McPherson bought of Charles Bennett, and that 1818 was the first time it was taxed in his name.

Eli McPherson owned the first farm on the river above the mouth of Mill Run. He bought the land of Samuel Stokely in 1842, and sold it to Thomas Brooks in April, 1853.

It was on the last day of June, 1914, that I paid a visit to the burial ground at the Red Hill United Brethern Church, which must have then been comparatively new, as there were but few graves, and no old dates. I then went on out the pike a short distance to the home of Mr. Elias McPherson, who lived at the first house beyond the church. He had come into town with one of his sons, but returned just as I was leaving. I talked with both him and his wife, and the information I gathered is partly from Mr. McPherson and partly from his wife, together with what I have picked up from other sources.

Elias McPherson was born on New Year's Day, 1832. His father was Eli, a son of Edward McPherson. His mother was Elizabeth, a daughter of Captain William Prince, who lived on the Kinchelor farm. He was born and raised in the Dry Run vicinity, and was married to Leah Kibler in 1854.

They raised three sons and five daughters, all of whom were living at the time of his decease. A son, T. A., with whom they had been living since 1912, died a few months later. When Elias died on January 2nd, 1920, his wife, eight children and eighty grand and great grandchildren were living. I do not have the date of the widow's death.

Mrs. McPherson said she was born in 1838. Her father was Sam Kibler, who lived on Mill Creek, three miles below Ripley, where he bought and "fixed up a farm", but lost it. He came to Wood County "when I was seven years old". She said the "old Dils Mill" stood on the west bank of the creek, just above the mouth of Berry's Run.

I visited with Mr. McPherson when he was about eighty-one or eighty-two years old. He seemed in good possession of his faculties, and was a fine looking man, tall, rather bony, but well proportioned, and had the appearance of being Scotch. He had served in the Union Army, and had not repented the act.

A son was then the principal of the McKinley school in Parkersburg. The old man was intelligent and grew reminiscent, and was interesting to listen to.

I saw him again the summer of 1931, a few months before his death. He was then living with a daughter in Beechwood. He was about ninety years old, and was in a state of almost complete senility.
Richard Lee lived on Worthington Creek about halfway between the Staunton Pike bridge, and the mouth of the creek. When first built, his home had probably been a little log cabin, but later he built a substantial two-story hewed log house, which was set back against the foot of the hill, out of the way of high water. This building was standing until a few years ago, perhaps until about 1825.

Lee died in 1838. I do not have his age, or the place of his burial. There was a fine group of cedar trees clustered around the house, but when the pike was shifted to the upper side of the creek, and the bridge changed to its present position, the road ran above the house a very undesirable arrangement. The house must have stood for a hundred years or more.

Immediately back of the house rose a hill, very steep, and forming one side of a ridge running down from the mountain top opposite the bridge, to the mouth of the creek. The highest elevation is three hundred sixty odd feet above the creek, and has been known for the last one hundred thirty-five years or more as Lee's Hill, from this man on whose farm it was situated. Specifically, the name is applied to this knob. In a more general manner, it is used to designate the whole ridge running back for more than a mile.

There had long ago been a house on this mountain, on a gentle slope on the top, facing the west, and overlooking all that part of the city east of Prospect Hill. There had been a cabin built, a field cleared, and a cedar tree set in the front yard. Along with these have, of course, been the lilac, and honeysuckle bushes, the ever present hollyhocks, morning glories and pineys. When I saw it, the cabin, the old time homely flowers and the legend of the hardy pioneer family had disappeared. All that was left remaining was the cedar tree and some red burned rocks from the back wall scattered around. The tree had been a magnificent specimen, but was cut away later. The stump shows it to have been over a century old.

Richard Lee had six children, one son and five daughters. His wife in deeds signed her name Nancy Lee. Her maiden name I have never heard suggested, but there may be significance in the fact that her only son was named Wilson Lee. It was a very common practice to name the oldest, or other, for the mother's family.

There is no record of Wilson Lee's marriage in Wood County. I find nothing to indicate just where he lived, and I do not note his name on court files, either as jury man or criminal. There is, however, in the minutes of the County Court for June 23rd, 1821, an allowance for a bridge across Worthington Creek to William Murphy, for timber, Two dollars and a half; to Wilson Lee, hauling lumber, three dollars and a half; and to George Ruble, for building, Two hundred eleven dollars. Probably the bridge was at the mouth of the creek.

Anna Lee, a daughter of Richard and Nancy, was married to a man named John Brown in 1842. Her name is spelled "Any" and "Anny". I seem to have nothing more about her.

In 1835, Elizabeth married a man named John Brown. I have nothing to show who he was. She died early, leaving a child which was adopted by her parents.
Nancy married Hamilton Morrison in 1824.

Rhoda married Harrison Woodyard, eldest son of Presley Woodyard, of Holmes' Run. They must have owned and lived on the upper side of the Stephenson land, adjoining her father, in 1842. The date of the marriage on the Woodyard family record is given as April 12th, 1824. She was five years older than her husband, and outlived him by eleven years.

Rowena Lee was, I believe, the youngest child. She was willed a tract of land which included the family mansion. She married James M. Davis in 1853, and they still owned it thirty years later.

While I do not have the date of Richard Lee's death, it is probable that it occurred about the last of 1837, or the first weeks of 1838. (I note that his will bears the date of January 12th, 1838, so he was then yet living.)

His will was admitted to probate at the February term of court in 1838. I copied the document from the Will Book No. Three. In it he provides —

His wife Nancy Lee to have the use of all his property, both real and personal, as long as she lived.

To his daughter, Rowena Lee, a parcel or lot of land, beginning at the lower side of the short stream emptying into Worthington Creek, in the field above the mill, and running up the small point of the hill so as to include the barn, to the line of Abraham Samuels, etc.

Of the remainder, he willed —

To Amy, wife of John Brown, one fifth;
To Wilson Lee, one fifth;
To Rhoda, wife of Harrison Woodyard, one fifth;
To the children of Nancy, the wife of Hamilton Morrison, one fifth.

To Nancy Lee Brown, daughter of Elizabeth Brown, one fifth.
To Rhoda Woodyard, one half of the mill. The Woodyards to have the right to have the share joining their other lands. (This shows that Harrison Woodyard and Rhoda Lee were married before 1838.) There is no record of the event in Wood County, so perhaps, like others, they went to Marietta. It also would seem to indicate that Woodyard then owned land adjoining Lee. This would probably be the upper side of the Elizabeth Stephenson share of the Dils farm.

Rhoda Lee was born in 1798, and married Woodyard in 1824. He was born in 1804, and died in 1872. He was a son of Presley Woodyard, who lived on Holmes' Run. He received seventy-three acres of his father's land, but sold it to his brother, James Douglas Woodyard, before the partition of the estate. He bought his brother Stark Washington Woodyard's share of the home place on the St. Mary's Pike, and lived there until his death.

After the death of Mrs. Nancy Lee, James M. Stephenson, who was a son of Elizabeth Dils Stephenson, the former owner, and who seems then to have owned the upper or Stokely side of the original farm, bought out the joint heirs of the Lee farm. The part willed to Rowena who afterward married James Davis, a man from Ohio, he failed to secure.
David Lee was a young man from somewhere in Pennsylvania, who, at the time of the settlement at Belleville, was trapping on the creek, which later was called by his name. It would appear that it was his custom to visit the section for hunting and trapping purposes, but there is nothing to indicate that ever he made any claim to any part of the lands.

I find nothing conclusive as to the date of settlement of Lee on Tygart's Creek. It was in 1805 that he received the deed for his home, but he may have been in possession of the property several years before that date. Neither have I found anything conclusive as to his wife and family.

While the names of his children are not given, it is probable that most of them could be identified by a search of land and tax records. The unreliable nature of the marriage register as a guide arises from the fact that there were other families by the name of Lee residing in the county.

David Lee bought a tract of one hundred and one acres of land lying on both sides of Tygart's Creek, and at the mouth of the two first right hand forks. For this, he gave William Weedon Four dollars per acre. He cleared the land and lived on it, raising his family. He is probably buried at the cemetery at Mineral Wells nearby. He sold the home to a son, David Lee, Jr., fifty-two acres, in 1834.

I have heard that David Lee, in his later years, removed to Kanawha River, opposite Newark, where the stream, Lee's Creek, was named for him. This, however, is a mistake. The Richard Lee who settled near Newark seems to be in no way connected with David Lee. David Lee, the son, was a factor in the Tygart's Creek community for years.

Hugh Lee is not identified, except by jury service.

Richard Lee presumably came from southwestern Pennsylvania. At that time, Virginia claimed that part of Pennsylvania, and doubtless the most of these immigrants counted themselves as Virginians. Richard Lee was a resident of Wood County several years prior to 1800. He is said to have been from Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, but that once included all the boundary of the present counties of Fayette, Greene and Washington. Probably he was from the same community as the Enochs and Pribbles, as he settled near them, and was associated with them in business.

The younger generations intermarried. Thomas Lee, of Reedy, who married Catharine Baker in 1819, and Jesse Lee, the father of Joshua, of Spring Creek, were probably his sons.

Richard Lee owned a large body of land on the Kanawha River, above Newark. He lived at or near the mouth of Lee's Creek, a small stream emptying into the river on the south side, just above and opposite the village. Lee's Run, also named for the family, is a little farther above. There are numerous Lees named during the first fifty years of the county. Probably most of them are descendants of one or the other of the two families here given.
There was another Richard Lee in Wood County during its first five to ten years, a black sheep, it is claimed, and in no way connected with the other Richard Lees, who were in every way respectable citizens. He was in 1801 found guilty of hog stealing, and sent to the penitentiary.

Reece Woolf

Reece Woolf - sometimes spelled Reese - was a native of Delaware, and of Swedish or other Scandinavian descent.

He came to the Kanawha River from Delaware in 1797, and located on land bought of Daniel Rowell, the Rowell homestead. His house was near the river bank, just below the mouth of Rowell's Run. Later, he bought other lands adjoining; first, a tract of about fifty acres, lying across the stream from his. In 1810, he bought of Peter and Catherine McCall, and also purchased later a part of the George Westfall estate.

In 1816, the most of the lands along the Kanawha River in this vicinity were sold by the State of Virginia for delinquency in the payment of a direct tax which the state had levied for conducting the war with Great Britain. Consequently, Woolf and his neighbors were compelled to re-buy their farms from the state. These lands had been bought "bid in", perhaps - by James H. Neal, and were deeded by him to the owners. In Woolf's deed, it is stated that the land was sold for the taxes of William Stewart, and that they are "believed to cover the lands of Woolf".

On September 5th, 1826, Woolf traded this farm to one Gerald Fugate for sixty-six acres on Neal's Run, at Lauckport, a part of the Elias Barnes farm. Woolf lived here until 1836, when he sold his place to John Phelps, and removed to Ohio. He died in Highland County, Ohio in his eighty-fifth year. Two different dates are given by biographers - 1846 and 1848.

Reece Woolf was a very eccentric character, and many stories are told of his queer doings. He was a local preacher in the Methodist Church, and was for many years in great popular demand for the performance of the marriage ceremony.

His first venture in this line was the uniting of a Mr. Elias Davis to Miss Fannie Sinclair, on March 12th, 1806. The last couple joined by him in Wood County was perhaps Alexander Anderson and Mary White, in October, 1837. Between 1825 and 1830, he performed practically all of the marriage ceremonies in the county, as for instance, in 1827 - Reece Woolf, thirty-five; John Stephenson, one; Nathan Everett, two; or in 1833, Reece Woolf twenty-five and all others four.

Woolf had several children - Joel, Daniel N., Anna, wife of John Glaze, Comfort Minton, Charlotte, who was Isaac McPherson's first wife, and perhaps others.

Reece Woolf was for nearly forty years the backbone of the Methodist Church in this vicinity. He is credited by a descendant of a family in the vicinity with being "the man behind the wheel" in building the little combination "meeting house" and school in the hollow across Two Mile Hill, about 1800, or before.
This same old lady, whose family was closely associated with the principal in the story, related, told and anecdote concerning a Woolf among the Parson's sheep.

In the early days of the settlements of Wood County, the people had to provide for themselves almost all of the common necessities of life - food, clothing, powder and lead for the killing of game, even the rifles themselves, as well as the most of their farming implements were made, mended or substituted for at home or in the vicinity. While deer skins entered largely into the solving of the clothing problem, especially in the opening years, it is fairly safe to say that with the axe, the rifle, and the grubbing hoe of the very first immigrants came also the sheep and its accompaniments, the spinning wheel and the reel, the cards and the huge, unwieldy hand made loom for weaving "home spun". Wild animals, such as bears, "painters", and particularly wolves, made the raising of sheep a very precarious undertaking, but it was more than a necessity that it be maintained. It just simply had to be done. For forty years or more after its organization, Wood County paid a bounty for wolf scalps, often running as high as Ten Dollars each. These payments, with names of parties receiving them, are all on file at the Court House. Many I have copied. Gradually, as the years passed, and the country became cleared, the howling of the wolves died away among the hills. At last came a brisk increase in the offering of young wolf scalps, although they brought only half price. After a few years of this, suspicions were aroused. Investigation followed and it was discovered that certain parties taking advantage of the situation, had established private "wolferies" among the rocks and were doing a profitable business, raising wolf scalps for the market. Right there, the whole system stopped with a jolt.

The story runs that the Reverend Woolf, who was an ardent Methodist and zealous upholder of his church in all its activities, both spiritual and temporal, had been away from home for some days, attending some sort of church conference, or perhaps a Camp meeting, arrived at home late one Saturday night, accompanied by two of the brethren of high estate, Presiding Elder, Bishops, or other ecclesiastics, who stopped with him to bide over the Sabbath, and to assist in rekindling the blaze at the altar of the little backwoods shrine in the hollow across Two Mile Hill.

To his utter dismay, Woolf found that there "was not a bite of meat in the house", so when the company had at last retired, and the house became still, he found that instead of dropping off into peaceful slumber, he was destined to lie there wide awake, turning over and back again, puzzling in his mind, trying to plan the best way out of the distressing difficulty. It is to be remembered that at that time, and in this place, meat, not bread, figured as the staff of life. Especially was this so where the simple laws of backwoods hospitality were involved. At last, light came to the troubled mind. His purpose was fixed, and just as the light of the sabbath morning first began to weaken, the shadows of the hilltops beyond the Ohio River, Father Woolf crept out of bed, stole noiselessly from the room, and having secured a keen edged hunting knife, hastened to the fold where his sheep were penned, secure from attack from wild animals. Having selected a likely specimen, it was quickly caught and its throat deftly cut with the knife.
Then, after it had bled, he returned to the cabin in haste, and in much excitement, wakened the clerical brethren to notify them that there had been a Woolf in his sheepfold, one of his best was dead, but not mangled. He was seeking opinion as to whether it would be violating the Sabbath too much, if he should dress the carcass and use it. Then, with their advice and consent, he proceeded to "save" the sheep. Consequently, the problem was solved, and meat was plenty through the visit.

Reece Woolf was known as "the marryin' parson". For many years, he tied far more of the nuptial knots in Wood County than all the other preachers combined.

REVEREND THOMAS SMITH

Following are some notes on the family of Reverend Thomas Smith, taken partly from a few interviews with Miss Kinnie Smith, his daughter, and partly from her autobiography, given in an old copy of "Pioneer Daughter", which I was privileged to see. Elsewhere, I will include a few of Miss Smith's reminiscences concerning Parkersburg as it used to be. She is a very witty and delightful recounter, both in conversation and in writing.

When Rev. Thomas Smith first came to Parkersburg, in 1844, four years before his death, they visited with General Jackson for a time, and then rented property at the corner of Ann and Harriet Streets, then in the heart of the city, and a very fashionable site.

Of the location, she said that Beverly Smith's was next on Ann Street, and opposite (Beverly's or Thomas's) was Robert Smith - three Smiths, and no connection to each other.

He next moved to Washington Street, where he owned his rectory, and here he died in 1847. Later, the mother sold the property and raised her children. Her mother wanted her to return to her home at "Oakley", but she preferred to stay at Parkersburg.

Thomas Smith was a direct descendant of Sir Sidney Smith. When married, he was a lawyer in King George County, Virginia, "who had a couple of homes on the Rappahannock River". At some time (date or time after marriage not given) he gave up the practice of law, and entered the ministry, in the Episcopal Church. He graduated from a Theological Seminary at Alexandria, Virginia. His first charge was in Smithfield, Virginia, where he preached until coming to Parkersburg.

Miss Kinnie mentions a faithful old "Mammie", upon whom the family depended after the death of her father.

Channing Smith, the editor, probably the founder of Smith's Index, is a son. He was a promoter of the Little Kanawha Railroad.

Mrs. Ann M. Smith claimed quite an aristocratic connection, or rather Miss Kinnie does for her.

She was raised at Oakley, Caroline County, Virginia, "the old home of the Goodwins from 1628 or thereabouts". Her grandparents were of the migration of people who came second and "the old tombstone of Rachel Goodwin with the coat of arms on it can still be seen at Yorktown".

"Her grandmother was Sarah Coghill. Patrick Henry Coghill is related to the Plunkett family, and "the Coghill family next to the coat of arms to the ring".

She was "related to Evelyn Byrd of Western", and "Martha Washington was a relative through the Dandridges".
"She had four coloniel Governors in the family". Patrick Henry was a blood relative through the Winstons. "Spotswood, Delawna, De la Tontaine, and others were closely related".

Commodore Matthew Maury was a cousin of Mrs. Smith. I did not learn in what degree.

Miss Smith said she taught school in Parkersburg, first in the public schools, and then she opened a private school of her own. She tells of the art she learned of imitating the birds so perfectly and true to nature that often she would bring the birds themselves to her room. She laughingly tells of cats that came to the window in search of the birds they thought were there.

I, myself, once heard her perform in a whistling rendition of "Listen to the Mocking-bird, in accompaniment with the United States Marine Band, at a concert they gave at the High School, about the year 1925, and she was good. I have heard others tell of many performances of her act before audiences in large cities.

Of Rev. Thomas Smith's children, there were, as she mentions, besides herself, her brother Beverly, and a sister, Mrs. Neely. There were also other children.

J. S. A. Farrow

J. S. A. Farrow died on November 10th, 1902, while living on upper Avery Street. He was born on the Little Kanawha River, a short distance above Kanawha Station, on July 13th, 1823, and was seventy-nine years of age at his death.

He married Harriet Elliott, and moved to Elizabeth. Four years later, he came to Parkersburg. He was a civil engineer, for forty years the surveyor of Wood County, having succeeded Green Samuels when he joined the Confederate army. Excepting for two terms, his service as County Surveyor was continuous.

He was an active member of the Baptist Church, and was the oldest living deacon, & save Mrs. L. Dudley, the oldest member, at the time of his death.

He left a wife and three children:-
Howard Farrow of Parkersburg.
E. W. Farrow of Parkersburg.
Mrs. Julia Stagg, of Wheeling.

Mr. Farrow was an interesting recounter of happenings in the earlier days of Parkersburg. He will be found quoted in some of his articles in the Pioneer Daughter, a small historical magazine published for the "Pioneer Daughters of America".

BARNETT FAMILY

John Barnett was one of the first settlers along the Kanawha River in Wood County. There are conflicting accounts as to the date of this migration, but I think, after consideration of all available dates, that I am safe in assuming that it was not earlier than 1795, and not later than 1797, and also that the three families - Creel, Kincheloe, and Barnett, who came from the same vicinity in Prince William County, Virginia, came either together, or very nearly at the same time.

The family tradition of the Barnettts is that in 1782 a Prussian nobleman, having become involved in political difficulties, was compelled to abandon his home and seek safety abroad, so he secured passage on a small vessel, and with his wife and two children, sailed for America. On the voyage both the parents died, leaving the children in the hands of the captain of the ship, and the latter, in order to secure remuneration for passage money and costs
claimed, bound them out for a term of service for a number of years. The boy, who was about 12 years old, was taken by a certain General John Barnett, who lived in Pennsylvania. Here he grew to manhood as the adopted son of the planter, winning the confidence and favor of his master, and the heart of his adopted sister, Mary Barnett, to whom he was married.

John Barnett, Jr., son of John Barnett, who was then living in Prince William County, Virginia, established his home in the forests of Harrison County (now Wood County), where he cleared a farm, raised a family, and continued to reside until his death.

John Barnett died on April 21st, 1852, when just two weeks past eighty-two years old. His oldest child, Amos Barnett, was only fifteen years of age when Wood County was organized, but was a soldier in the second war with Great Britain.

The John Barnett farm lay back from the river, and about a mile south of the Bald Eagle Riffle, now the site of the village of Independence. Why he did not locate on the river is not clear, but his lands do not seem to have reached the river bank, there being a strip of other holdings between him and the stream, ever since the beginning of Wood County history. There was a "Larue Patent" mentioned in the early deeds, but I do not see that any of the present titles are based on it.

All of the south side of the Little Kanawha valley was in the Military Survey, from above Butcher's Bend to the Ohio River, but if there are any titles whatsoever under that claim, existing today, I have been unable to trace them.

John Barnett's lands were not taxed in 1801, but he was here and had been for several years.

It is said that Mary Barnett's mother had the blood of the Indian race in her veins. This, together with the same tradition in the Creel family, and the fact that both the Creels and the Barnetts came from the same part of Virginia, about the same time, and to the same section on the Kanawha River, might indicate a family connection back in that country in an early time.

John Barnett, whose name, according to the family tradition, had been Peyboldt, married the daughter of his foster-father, Mary Barnett, about the year 1789. When she died, he married the second time to Mary (Polly) Mount, in 1793. She was born near Salem, Virginia, in 1763. It was therefore the second wife who came to Wood County with John Barnett, and it is she who is the maternal progenitor of the Barnetts of Wood County.

John Barnett died on April 21st, 1852, and his wife died on April 21st, 1861.

The following outline of the Barnett family is taken from a genealogical chart belonging to one of the granddaughters of George Barnett. Their children were:

- Amos Barnett, born July 25th, 1795, married Sarah who was born May 26th, 1815. He died on June 29th, 1869, and she on April 20th, 1890.
- Mary Barnett, born on May 5th 1797, married Willis Leach, who was born on December 16th, 1790. She died on February 20th, 1878, and he on March 30th, 1866.
- Susannah Barnett was born on February 1st, 1799, and married Thomas Dawkins, who was born on November 9th, 1784. She died September 5th 1886, and he on October 2nd, 1864.
- John Barnett, born September 15th, 1800, married Nancy Cooper. He died June 14th, 1872, and she on August 26th, 1871.
- George Barnett, was born June 17th1803, and died on August 25th 1885. He first married Margaret Riley in 1824, and after her death, he married a Sarah Rockhold in 1828.
Rhoda Barnett was born on March 4th, 1806. She married Thompson Leach, and died on September 14th, 1827.

**LEACH FAMILY**

The Leach family came from Prince William County, Virginia. There were different branches of the Leach family on the Potomac who sent representatives to Wood County in the pioneer days, but just what the connection is I have never been able to trace.

Bartlett Leach died in 1824, and willed to his wife, Margaret, all his property, both personal and real. The will was made in 1814.

Shortly afterward, the widow died, and her will was admitted to probate in the August term of court, in 1825. (Date of will - March 25th, 1825). By its provisions, there were given:

- To Mary, widow of Robert Kincheloe, a slave woman and her boy, and one half of the stock of the farm.
- To Franklin Price, two slaves, Alex and Kitty, and their children, Matilda and Lucy "with increase forever".
- Also, slaves Reuben, Sandy, and James.
- Also, "My plantation on which I reside, tools and farming utensils, household goods and one half of the stock", it being provided that David Creel be Trustee for the same.
- To Lucy Price, two female slaves, with future increase.
- To John Price, two boy slaves, children of Nancy.
- To Francis Price, two slave children of Nancy.

**WOODYARD FAMILY**

There are three, or perhaps four, different branches of the original Woodyard Family in the Wood County area, as at first constituted, and each of these seems to have two or more different traditions concerning the origin and migration of their branch. This makes it impossible to determine the facts without closer study than I have been able to give the matter.

There was a Jesse Woodyard who bought land on Sand Plain in 1804. This he sold to William Woodyard in 1806. Henry Woodyard, the same year, bought small lots near, as did Edward Gambrill and Lewis Gregory, about 1806. Gregory is said to have been a son-in-law of Jesse Woodyard. Probably the other Woodyards were his sons. The Woodyards bought of Joseph Spencer, parts of a four hundred acre tract bought by him from Samuel Hanway. This lay between Broad Street and Dudley Avenue. It was in law, and finally the southern side, including the Reservoir Ridge, became the Dudley farm. Jesse Woodyard and his sons do not appear on the Wood County records after 1812.

In the spring of 1815, Jesse Woodyard bought of Ezekiel McFarland one hundred thirty acres on lower Reedy. Probably he owned other lands adjoining earlier than that date. Here on Reedy was planted the Woodyard family of Wirt County and Roane County. Some say this is the same man that completely disappeared from Sand Plains a few years before. (There is no William or Henry among his sons, and no Gregory connected so far as I have ever heard.) I have never looked closely into the listing of this Woodyard family.

I once copied the family record of Presley Woodyard, which states that he was born in Prince William County, Virginia, in 1778. His wife, an Anderson, was born in the same county in 1789, which would make her about eleven years younger than her husband. They were probably married early in the nineteenth century. Whether they came from Prince William County direct
to Wood County is not clear.

Presley Woodyard's family, as given by the record, with what additional information I have gathered from the family:

Elizabeth L. was born in 1806. She married James Hiett, of Briscoe Run. James Douglas was born in 1808. A James Woodyard married Orem Neal in 1834. She was a daughter of John and Elphis Neal, and a granddaughter of Captain Neal. (Was he James D.?)

Mary Ann was born in 1810. She married William Pool in 1832, and was the mother of "Wood" Pool of Spencer. (Presley Lewis Woodyard Pool).

Presley Lewis was born in 1812, and died in Charleston in 1835.

Richard Anderson was born in 1815. He married Charlotte, daughter of Oliver Hutchinson, December 19th, 1836.

Stark Washington was born August 1st, 1818, the first of the children born in Wood County. He married Susan Sisson, and used to live on the Noah Ogden farm, at the ford on the Williamstown Pike. He died in 1870, aged thirty-five years.

Anna Marie was born in 1821. She married John Sisson and lived in Ohio County.

Jeremiah A. was born February 23rd, 1824.

In the old graveyard near where he lived, a crude stone slab, dismantled years ago, bears the inscription -

Presley Woodyard died June 4th, 1838, aged 60 years, 3 months.

Ann Woodyard, the Widow, was married to Bennett Cook on 1845, and after his death, to Lewis Sisson, who died in 1853.

The Woodyards came in covered wagons, moving in January, 1816. There were six children, and some slaves, fourteen persons in all. He had bought the "Holmes Survey", fourteen hundred acres from Dr. Henry Thompson, but did not receive the deed until April 1st, 1819.

Harrison Woodyard and his wife, Rhoda Lee, were the parents of five children:

Richard Lee used to be a preacher (local, I think) in the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was also a school teacher in the early years of the free school system, and perhaps before. He was a surveyor and, said a relative, who speaks of him familiarly as "Old Dicky", "used to work for years in an office at the Court House". (I have met him in the Debating Society at Jerrie's Run Schoolhouse, in 1870 and 1871).

He is said to have performed the ceremony which united his mother in wedlock with Lewis Sisson, her third husband.

Richard Lee Woodyard was born in 1827. He married a Lakin, doubtless a relative of Rev. Calvin Lakin, who was the Methodist Episcopal pastor at Spencer, in 1872. He had a son and daughter living on Broad Street in North Parkersburg, a few years ago. Several are buried on Sand Plains.

Julia Ann lived in Lawrence County, Kentucky. Her husband died in 1905.

Nancy Lee was born on October 22nd, 1829. She married Daniel Gardway in 1851, and died on June 13th, 1853.

Mary Ann was born on October 29th, 1831, and married the same Gardway in 1854. She died in 1856.

Rowena Elizabeth was born in January, 1834, and died in October of 1864.

She was never married.

There may have been others whose names I did not get.

There is an old Woodyard burying ground west of the old Bull Creek Pike (Now West Virginia Route Two). It is on share No. Two of Presley Woodyard's estate. On No. Eight at the Harrison Woodyard place is another cemetery, and
some place near it there was a church on grounds deeded by Stark Woodyard. It was known as Asbury Chapel, was a frame building, and was used for preaching and as a school house. It was built in the 1800's.

It was in the winter of 1913 and 1914 that I first became acquainted with these people. There were two brothers, Wilson and David. The first was a man of about my age (60), and lived on top of the ridge dividing the waters of Dry Run from those of Berry's Run. I cannot say whether his wife was living, but supposed she was. He had one son, probably about 18 years of age, who was living at home, and perhaps some of his daughters were at home. I was never in his house, but have been past there several times, and have talked with him other places. I bought locust posts from him when I fenced my garden the spring after I came to Wood County. I never heard who he married. He lived there for several years. He had a good orchard of apples and peaches, as also a great abundance and variety of grapes, plums, cherries and other fruits.

The brother, David Morrison, was a much older man than his brother, and a widower when I first met him. He was living with a daughter as his housekeeper in a house down on the pike. He may have owned the place, but when the daughter was married a few years later, another family moved in, and Morrison returned to live with a family in his house back on his farm on the hill. The David Morrison house stands in a low gap about half way back the ridge, between "Log Pole" and Berry's Run. It is built of very small hewed logs, facing perhaps six or eight inches. It is on the old Locker farm, and has probably been standing for about seventy-five years.

Hamilton Morrison, the founder of the family, was a native of Ireland, and was living on Big Run when Wood County was separated from Harrison County, in 1798. I have nothing to show just when or from where he came to that community. He must have been one of the earliest pioneers of the creek. He owned the tract on which he lived, lying on the Right Fork of Big Run, above the mouth of Jackson's Run. He also owned another tract on the head of Pond Run, back of the Spencer patent. He was a man of prominence in the affairs of his community and the country. In 1818, he bought the remnants of the Blake patent on the Ohio River, above Kellars, from Samuel Craig. I have nothing to show whether or not he was connected with the other original pioneer families of the community.

There were several of the name of Morrison recorded in the marriage register during the early years of the nineteenth century. They may be his descendants, as I do not recall the name in any other part of the county until later.

I note that William Morrison married Mary Mires (Myers?), in 1814. Adam Mires owned the lower lot of the Blake patent, joining Kellar. William Morrison married Mary Noldan in 1818. This may or may not be the same man.

John Morrison married Sarah Cline, on Big Run in 1818.
Sarah Morrison married Thomas Reynolds in 1824.
HAMILTON MORRISON married Nancy Lee in 1824.
They came from the vicinity of her father's place, were living at one time on Stillwell, where the pike crosses. I have but little about the family.

There was one son, Richard Lee, who grew up and married Jeptha Locker's daughter, Fanny. They received the Locker farm, which he divided between his sons Davin M. and Wilson Lee.

Wilson Lee Morrison, the youngest of the brothers, died in the city, I think in 1924, when he was said to have been about sixty-nine years old. The obituary notice said he was living with a daughter, Mrs. H. O. Littleton, on
Dilloway Street, Parkersburg, at the time of his death. He had two sons, Harry and Hubert, and two daughters, Mrs. Bessie Barry of Sistersville, living, and two brothers, David of Wood County, and Wesley, of Long Bottom, Ohio.

He had worked with the Parkersburg Mill Company for fifteen years while younger, but had been on his farm on the ridge for a number of years. Probably it was after the marriage of his children that he came again to the city to live. He was buried at Cedar Grove Cemetery.

The father of these two men was Richard Lee Morrison, who had been married to Fannie Locker. (If this marriage was in 1849, David Morrison could not have been ten years older than his brother.)

Richard Lee Morrison, the father, was a son of Hamilton Morrison, Junior, who married in 1824 Miss Nancy Lee. She was a daughter of Richard Lee, who lived at the mouth of Worthington Creek. She had a brother, Wilson Lee, for whom her grandson was named.

Hamilton Morrison, Junior, was a son of Hamilton Morrison, who was a native of Ireland, and was living on Big Run when Wood County was organized in 1800.

BADGELY FAMILY

I have found but little concerning the Badgely family beyond the fact that there were three men of that name living in Wood County when it was organized in 1800. These were Anthony, Beniah and John.

Though a similar name is found in the archives of the old New England days, and was carried into the Marietta Colony — most often with the spelling "Bagley" — I see nothing to connect the two families. I believe the Wood County branch to be of Virginia origin, as it occurs in the Pioneer history of Randolph County. These men were probably brothers, or father and sons, and came to the Kanawha settlement before 1798.

One thing is fully proven, however. They were all here in 1800. Anthony Badgely was one of the joint purchasers of a tract of land on the Tygart flats on the 15th of April, in 1800.

Beniah Badgely (the name is sometimes given as Benjamin) came from Randolph County with George Westfall, whose daughter Sarah he had married in Randolph County in 1794. He lived on a part of the Westfall farm, and his land ran from the Little Kanawha River back across Two Mile Hill, to the Lake farm, later the residence of Thomas Tavenner for many years. This land was a long and narrow strip, and lay some distance below the mouth of Rowell's Run. Badgely seems to have been involved in litigation from defective title, or otherwise, and shortly after the beginning of his residence, the tract was sold through a decree of court, Archart Glaze being the owner.

Beniah Badgely, perhaps this man, married Deborah Radcliffe in 1796.

John Badgely was probably a practicing physician, as he is often spoken of as Doctor John Badgely. He at one time owned — probably lived on — a part of the Westfall land. Later he lived on the lower right hand branch of Tygart's Creek, which in time came to be called by his name. For a number of years, these local streams are referred to in surveys and records as First Right Hand Fork, (Badgely's Fork), Second Right Hand Fork, (Sam's Fork, and Left Hand Fork, (Little Tygart's Creek) of Tygart. The latter may be found spelled as above, or it may be "Tiger", or even Tagger".

Jemima Badgely, who married Abram Deem, in 1810, was probably John's daughter.
Adam Deem was probably the first settler in Ritchie County. Some accord that distinction to John Bunnell, and fix the date at about 1800, placing Deem's advent at 1810. While I cannot give the exact date of the coming of either, there is indisputable evidence that both were here when Wood County was organized.

Deem was born at Hagerstown, Maryland, in 1787. He married a cousin, a Miss Hannah Deem, and lived in Bedford County, Pennsylvania. He died in 1861, somewhere in Ohio. He was about one hundred and four years old at the time of his death. All the older generation with whom I have ever talked called him over a hundred years old.

Adam Deem was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, a scout in the Indian Wars, and again a soldier in the War of 1812. He came here from Fayette or Greene County, Pennsylvania, (I think) and settled on the Hughes River, opposite the mouth of Goose Creek, where he lived and, according to some accounts, died. He raised a large family, six sons and four daughters. The names of the sons were: Abraham, John, James, Jacob, Philip, and Adam. A David Deem, either a son or a grandson of Adam, was married to Catty Thornton, a daughter of Robert Thornton, in 1809. The most of these children lived in Wood County, but excepting two of them, I find it impossible to say whether they were here in 1800 or not. There were Abraham, Philip and James, who lived in Ritchie, which was then Wood County, and may very well have been residents in 1800. Some of these named may have come with the father, but have been yet children. None of the Deems were taxed until after 1802.

John Deem came when his father did, living at the mouth of Goose Creek, which is now Freeport. He was a soldier in the War of 1812.

Jacob Deem married Mary Lazier in 1815. He was a brother, and came with Adam Deem from Fayette County, Pennsylvania. He was in the Indian Wars with his brother, but appears to have been a younger man. It is certain that they were both here in 1800. They both served on a commission appointed by the County Court on October 13th, 1800 to view and mark a road from "Lee's Ripple" (the home of Richard Lee) at the mouth of Lee's Run, just above Newark, to the mouth of Goose Creek. (Adam Deem's).

Jacob Deem patented a large body of land lying on the waters of Little Tygart's Creek, and built his cabin and founded his home where the village of Chesterville now stands. He lived there all his life, as did some of his children and grandchildren. Later, he bought other farms in the county, the most of which were deeded or willed to his children. His wife signs her name as Eve, but her maiden name seems to be lost. Jacob deeded land to a son as late as 1834. He died long ago, and is buried in the graveyard at Chesterville, but there is, I am informed, no marker to his grave. I did not get the date of his birth or death.

Of his children, Jacob was born in 1790. He was an officer in the War of 1812.

The name is claimed by some to be German, by others Holland Dutch. If it is anything but English, the spelling has been changed.

BETSALL FAMILY

This is taken from notes on an interview with Mr. Frederick Betsall and his wife, on May 13th, 1919. Frederick Betsall, Senior, was born somewhere in
Germany, and later migrated to America, settling in the state of Maryland, where he, then yet a child, grew to manhood, married and lived for a number of years. It is related that during the voyage across the ocean, he, yet an infant, slept at night in his father's clock, which was one of the old wooden clocks standing several feet high when upright, but when laying down, making a very good crib for the child in the boxed in frame below the wooden wheels.

In Maryland was born, on August 2nd, 1842, a son who was named for his father "Frederick", and with whom I became acquainted when he was an old man.

When the boy was five years old, in 1847, the father who was a butcher by trade, and had been employed by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company, removed his family from Cumberland, Maryland, to Parkersburg, Virginia, where he set up a slaughter yard of his own. He first lived for a short time at a house on the corner of Neal Street and Phillips Court Alley, but soon moved to a place on lower Washington, or Sixth Street. His Butcher shop was on the river between fifth and sixth Streets, and said his son, "he has sold meat at the old Market House", which used to stand where the back part of the Court House now is. At one time, said the son, "we lived in a little cabin on the hill somewhere about Avery Street, on top of a sand bank thirty-five feet high. (This statement was later modified by saying that was not sheer height.)

In that day, there was no cattle scales, and Betsall bought his cattle by guess instead of by the pound "lumped off" at an agreed price.

Mr. Betsall was born in 1842, and died June 25th, 1929. He was eighty-five years of age. His wife was a daughter of John Scott, who lived on the Northwestern Pike, beyond Red Hill, adjoining the Bickell farm.

A. P. DONAGHO

A. P. Donagho was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, July 2nd, 1823, the son of John and Mary Newland Donagho.

His father, who died in 1864 was a school teacher, and afterward a merchant. His father, John Donagho, was a native of Ireland, emigrated to the United States while a young man and located in Washington County, Pennsylvania.

A. P. Donagho began work in a pottery when a boy. He was a second of twelve children. He attended the common schools of Washington County, and went to California, where he worked at his trade for three years. He grew tired of it and came back east, where he married Helen Shape and settled in Parkersburg. Here he operated a pottery at what is still known as Pottery Junction. (25th Street near Murdoch Avenue). His earthen-ware vessels can still be found, labeled with the place of manufacture, Parkersburg, Virginia.

He raised three children – Walter, John S., and M. E., wife of E. L. Davisson.

SERGEANT FAMILY

Jeremiah Sergeant was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He was a practical surveyor, and his skill and ability were frequently called into service by the County Court, as well as by his neighbors. He was born in 1757, and died in 1837, at the age of eighty years. He was living in what is now Wirt County at the time of his death, and it is said was buried at the old graveyard on the bank of the river, over the goose neck from Elizabeth. If
he ever had a tombstone, it has long since disappeared. There was about five years ago a grave in that cemetery surrounded by a stone wall, which an old tradition credits with being that of a Revolutionary soldier. Some take this to be Sergeant's, but there was one other American soldier at least, who died in that vicinity. This was Captain William Rowell, who was Sergeant's son-in-law.

Jeremiah Sergeant's father came from England. He settled in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, probably soon after the French War, or when Jeremiah was about eight or ten years old.

He married Armelia, a daughter of General Henry Enoch, on the Youghiogheny River, thus being a brother-in-law of Isaac Enoch, and of Thomas Pribble. He had ten children. Henry, who lived on the home place on Right Reedy was one, and Hannah, the second wife of William Rowell, another. John, another son, became a "Forty-niner" in the gold boom of California.

Jeremiah Sergeant lived at the Thornton Bend, below the mouth of Walker's Creek. Later he removed to the mouth of Sergeant's Run, on the Sheppard Fork of Reedy.

There was a John Sergeant in Wood County very soon after its establishment. His connection with Jeremiah is not made clear. the name is often written "Sargent".

**BEAUMONT FAMILY**

Samuel Beaumont came to the vicinity of Vienna before Wood County was organized, the name appears on the records occasionally in the early years of the century. He had bought one hundred twenty acres of land from Spencer and Nichols, somewhere in the neighborhood of Vienna, before 1800, and appears to have been a merchant and had a hotel in that village, perhaps as late as 1810.

The site of the land is not shown, farther than that it was a part of the upper two of the Briscoe surveys, which reached from Beeson's line to Briscoe Run. However, Spencer's title was defective, and the eleven purchasers of nearly half of his lands lost out on their venture. Neither have I been able to find, either from records or from inquiry, the site of the village of Vienna. It was on the river bank, and probably just above the old Grier house.

Samuel Beaumont was still here in 1822, but it does not appear where he came from, nor what became of him.

**BEESON FAMILY**

On the 26th day of August, 1782, the state of Virginia issued a patent to one Jacob Beeson, then, and so far as is shown, ever afterward, residing at what is now Uniontown, Pennsylvania, for fourteen hundred acres of land lying on the Ohio River, about a mile above the mouth of the Little Kanawha River. This title was under the Virginia "Corn Law", and was based on the claim that a certain Parmenius Briscoe had built a house and raised a crop of corn upon the ground, selling his claim to Beeson. The latter had also other large holdings on the Hughes River. On March 1st, 1801, he deeded "three hundred acres strict measure" of this tract to his son, Jacob, who was here, and probably living on the land when the county was established.

Jacob Beeson was one of the most prominent citizens of the county until
his death, which occurred on the 3rd day of September, in "his forty-ninth year". His wife who rests by his side under the shade of the magnificent old elm trees in the Cook graveyard (or Riverview Cem.), lived nearly thirty-three years longer, and lacked but a few months of four score and ten at the time of her death, on August 4th, 1856.

The Jacob Beeson farm is now wholly within the city of Parkersburg, and extended from the line between the old Bartlett and Shattuck farms at the Chrystal Spring, to the upper line of the Morehead Place, just below Maplewood. In 1802, Beeson was first taxed, and then only on one hundred acres of land.

Jonas Beeson received a deed for three hundred acres from his father on March 14th, 1803. He was not married until 1813, and perhaps did not live on the land until after that date.

He was said to be a great hunter. His Wood County Tract reached from Terrawanda Avenue down to the site of the old pavilion in the Terrapin Park. Jonas Beeson, like his brother, was prominent in the business activities of Wood County. He became a member of the County Court in 1812, and Jacob Beeson was six times chosen by the people as their representative at Richmond, Virginia.

Jonas Beeson was born June 10th, 1770, and died February 16th, 1842. His land was divided among his five children, in 1846. There was set aside a dowery for the widow; a strip of land embracing the whole river front of the farm, and another tract lying along the Dudley line at the back. The first included the house and the orchard, which were on the river bank where the old river road had run. The other was traversed by the Bull Creek Road when it was built.

After her death, her lands were divided among her children. She was a daughter of Benjamin Tomlinson, and died July 30th, 1874, in her eighty-ninth year.

ROWELL FAMILY

Daniel Rowell was born in 1765. The date of his birth is not given, but it was probably in New Hampshire, as that is where his father was living when he enlisted in the American Army, September of 1775, when he was a boy ten years old.

When Rowell was a young man of twenty, he was living in Greene County, Pennsylvania. He was one of the young men in Captain Neal's party in the planting of the first settlement in Wood County, and was one of the three men in the canoe when the Indians fired upon them while they were hunting up the Kanawha River, during the fall of 1792. Rowell escaped, but his companions, Neal and Triplett, were both killed.

Daniel Rowell married Nancy, the daughter of Captain Neal, whether before or after coming to Wood County does not appear. (There was no license issued for such ceremony in Harrison County. Their son - the oldest child of which we have any account - was born in 1795 - hence in Wood County.)

Daniel Rowell owned a large body of land below the mouth of Rowell's Run. Just the bounds of this, or whether entered by him or given him by his wife's father, does not appear. Neither have I learned whether there were more than two children. William was born in 1795, and Daniel, a younger brother, who married Sarah Ogden in 1831. He still has descendants living in the Williams-town community.
Daniel Rowell had sold his homestead before 1800, but still continued to live in Wood County, and to deal in lands, until 1815, when he removed his children to Athens, Ohio so as to secure the benefits of the college at that place. He was, therefore, eighty-two years of age when he died in 1847.

William Rowell was one of the numerous soldiers of the American Revolution, who spent their last years in Wood County. He may have been a native of Massachusetts, but was a resident of New Hampshire before coming to this section of the country.

The name of his parents, and of his first wife, or of children other than his son, Daniel, I have not been able to trace. He was born in 1740, and died in what is now Wirt County, West Virginia, in 1816.

He had married a daughter of Jeremiah Sergeant for his second wife, and was living in Greene County, Pennsylvania, in the vicinity of the homes of his wife's father, and her grandfather, General Henry Enoch, when he made a visit to his son at the Kanawha River, and liking the country, moved down. This has probably been in the late 1890's.

He lived at two or three different places in the vicinity of Beauchamp's Mills, where he died in 1816. (Now Elizabeth, West Virginia.)

A careful search has as yet, failed to identify the site of his grave.

The Military record, as given by the D. A. R. compilations is:

- Ensign in Col. Poor's regiment (N. H.) from September 20th, until December, 1775.
- Second Lieutenant in the Eighth Continental Infantry in 1776.
- First Lieutenant; Second New Hampshire 8th, November 1776.
- Captain, April 2nd, 1777, and served to the end of the war
- Brevetted Major, September 30th, 1783.

ENOCHE FAMILY

Isaac Enoch was a son of Henry Enoch, who is said to have been a friend of General Washington, and to have lived on the Cacapon River. Henry Enoch owned land in Wood County, but was never a resident.

Isaac Enoch and Thomas Pribble, a son-in-law, came to the Little Kanawha valley, settling at or near the present village of Newark, which was long known as Enoch's Mills, from the saw and Grist mill established there by Isaac Enoch in 1804. The date of his settlement is differently given, but he was here in 1800.

He was prominent in the industrial life of this section, and was especially conspicuous as a dealer in lands.

His wife's name is given as Amy Tracy. Their family consisted of eight children, three sons, and five daughters, most of whom married and lived in Wood County. From these sons - Abraham, Isaac, and William, the numerous Enoch families of Wood County and Wirt County are supposed to have sprung.

William Enoch was a much less conspicuous member of the pioneer life of Wood County than his brother. He was a blacksmith by trade, and had a shop near his home on lower Water Street, in Newport. He was a member of the first Grand Jury of Wood County, in 1800, and his name appears frequently in connection with jury service, the location of roads, and the like matters. He sold his place at Newport to Caleb Bailey in 1809.
LOCKHART FAMILY

John Lockhart was born in Northampton County, Virginia, August 6th, 1766, and died in 1832. His wife was Christeny Lockhart, and she was born in 1768, and died on April 27th, 1838. Each was sixty-eight years old, and they are buried side by side at the Palestine graveyard. John Lockhart was a private in Captain Heth's company of the Virginia troops, from December 28th, 1777 until April 7th, 1778, at Fort Pitt, where he was discharged because of sickness. This is taken from a sketch by a grandson. The dates are from the tombstone at Palestine, West Virginia, as will be seen, the two do not harmonize.

John Lockhart was in Wood County while the territory was yet Harrison County. In March, 1803, he received a deed from Valentine Cooper for a part of the Robert Thornton tract. This was the date of the deed, perhaps of the purchase. The land was in the Butcher bend of the Kanawha River, at the site of the Nathan Hutchinson farm. He went from this place to the Sheppard fork of Reedy, near the mouth of Lynn Camp, where he continued to reside until his death. He may have lived at an earlier date on that branch of Little Tygart's Creek which bears his name, Lockhart's Run.

Bird Lockhart, Junior, was a resident of Wood County in October, 1799, when he received a deed for lands on the Hughes' River.

PRIBBLE FAMILY

Thomas Pribble came, it is said, from Greene County, Pennsylvania, in 1796. While this date may be a few years too early, he was here some years before Wood County was established. He was a member of the first County Court. He was a son-in-law of General Henry Enoch, the personal friend of General Washington. He owned eight hundred acres of land where the village of Newark now stands.

Tradition says that a man named Deem had built a cabin there before the coming of Pribble, and that a Mr. Leasure was there still earlier. Be that as it may, both the Deems were here before the beginning of the century. It is, however, impossible to fix exact dates back of the organization of the county. Pribble was active in public affairs, and was the third "High Sheriff" of the county.

He raised a large family, most of whom settled near him.

I have seen a historical sketch which speaks of Pribble's Mills. This is perhaps the same as the Enoch mill built at Newark a little later.

PRINCE FAMILY

Captain William Prince was born in Prince William County, Virginia, in August of 1774. He came to Wood County, Virginia, which was then Harrison County, Virginia, at some time before 1800. He bought one hundred acres lying on the Little Kanawha River, of Daniel Kincheloe. This was in the bend of the River, between Claysville and the narrows at Carpenter's Mill Run. He was an officer in the Militia, and a soldier in the War of 1812.
He married Miss Fannie Groves in 1812. A daughter, Fannie, married the Methodist preacher, Rev. Addison Hite, in 1843. Captain Prince came to Wood County with, or following, the Kincheloes and Creels, with whom he may have been in some way connected.

Captain Prince died on September 14th, 1825, and was buried in a field nearby, but about 1902, his ashes were removed to the cemetery at the Cedar Grove church.

Hubbard Prince, who lived a little later, on the head of Mill Run, near the Cedar Grove, may have been a brother.

There was a Morgan Prince married to Mary Ann Hibbs in the forties, was probably a son. Other children were:

Elizabeth Prince married David Sleethe, who laid out the town of Smithville.

John H. Prince, who married Drusilla Webb, helped run the mill.

Mary A. Prince.

Robert K. Prince.

Benjamin E. Prince.

J. G. Prince.

After the death of Captain Prince, his widow was married to Jerome A. Vandyver, and went to Louisville, Kentucky.

It will appear that Hubbard Prince could not have been her son. He was here early in the 1800's. Hubbard M. Prince who married Jesse Kincheloe's daughter, and lived on Worthington Creek, was his son.

MELROSE FAMILY

On the afternoon of January 16th, 1934, I visited with an elderly lady, a Mrs. Melrose, who was living with a daughter, the wife of Charles W. Stephens, on Twentieth Street. Mrs. Stephens told me that her mother was growing rather feeble, and had not been down stairs for several days, but I could visit her in her room upstairs "for a short time", if I would. And I would. She seemed quite lively for a person of her age, and was glad to meet a former resident of her childhood home on Pond Creek.

She seemed to enjoy reminiscing of the old days and people she had known. I found her accounts of the times and people when she was a girl even more interesting than what she was able to give in the way of information concerning the pioneer families. She complained that her eyesight was dimming, and that owing to rheumatism, she could not get around very well.

Mrs. Melrose was a daughter of Michael Anderson, who lived near the head of Pond Creek. She was born on the 20th of December, 1836. Her mother was a daughter of George White, who lived on Pond Creek, just below the Flinns. (Records show that he lived below the mouth of Short Run. George, Edward and James White seem to have been brothers.)

Michael, her father, was Edward Anderson's son. He married Prudence White. The Whites were from Lewis County. Johnson White lived on upper Pond Creek. After his death, his widow — her aunt — married Allen Davis.

She relates that George White once had a horse mill. She and a sister once took a grist to the mill, but found nobody at home. They managed to put the gears on their little horn, hitch it in the mill, grind the grain, and tie the sack. They got it on the horse somehow, and to get on top of it, and return home rejoicing.
James Melrose was the founder of the Melrose family. Her husband and Frank Melrose's father were brothers. She knew nothing of Archibald Melrose.

John Melrose was in Wood County before 1800, and was taxed with one hundred acres of land at the first assessment in the county. This tract was on Tygart's Creek, in the vicinity of Sycamore. He gave a part of it to his children, as they grew up and married. Therefore, it looks as though, in reality, John Melrose was the founder of the family.

The Melrose family is, to this day, ably and well represented in that section.

RUBLE FAMILY

There is another name that stands out conspicuously among the pioneers of Wood County, below the mouth of Tygart's Creek. The Rubles were there at a very early date, but I find no absolute proof that they were living here when the county was organized. Probably they were.

The earliest mention of the name I find on the deed books is 1805, when George Ruble bought land lying near the mouth of Jackson's Run, of Hugh Phelps, but his name appears on the court records of 1803.

George Ruble was an old man when he settled on the Kanawha River. He had a son, George, who lived adjoining him.

It must be noted that, George Ruble received his first deed, it called for "Adam Ruble's Corner". Probably both had occupied the ground under title bond for some years.

Others who were land owners and living in the vicinity of Pettyville in the first years of the century were -

Appolis Ruble, commonly called Paulser, and written also Polser, (Once at least "Pfalzer") who married Anna Masters in 1809, and lived between Pettyville and Mineral Wells.

Jacob Ruble owned a farm east of Pettyville. He was married in 1819 to Mary Ann Masters, probably a second wife.

He raised a large family, and has numerous descendants in Wood and Wirt Counties. These were probably all the sons of George, who, says the family tradition, was of German origin, and came to the Kanawha Valley from Rockbridge County, Virginia.

TRIPLETT FAMILY

Robert Triplett was a citizen of that part of Harrison County included in the new county of Wood in the act of 1798. He owned four hundred acres of land at the mouth of Cow Creek, with which he was taxed in the first assessment, also a pre-emption tract of presumably one thousand acres, which was not assessed. Whether his residence was on this land or not does not appear, but it became his home in later years.

Robert Triplett was the first County Surveyor of Wood County, and continued to hold the position for thirty years or more. He was a practical surveyor at that time. He attended William and Mary College, and passed an examination, receiving a certificate as a surveyor. Probably he was a man of some learning at the beginning.

Hedgeman Triplett was a resident of Wood County in 1799. He was first taxed with land in 1802, but may have had it before that time. He at one time
owned a tract adjoining the Bolie survey on Sand Plains, perhaps lived on it. He was a practical surveyor, and was often appointed by the County Court as a Deputy County Surveyor to assist his brother in his duties.

I have nothing to show just where he lived, nor where he was from.

The Triplett killed by the Indians on the Kanawha River was probably a brother.

HOAGLAND FAMILY

Cornelius Hoagland was one of a Dutch colony who came from somewhere in Pennsylvania, toward the close of the eighteenth century. Just what part of Pennsylvania they came from is not made clear, but it was probably from that group of counties in the southwest which once constituted the county of Westmoreland, and which Virginia claimed as being part of the district of West Augusta of that colony. Various times are set as the date of such advent in the different family traditions, reaching back to almost a year after 1790, or even earlier. As a matter of fact, they have doubtless come at different dates, and probably the earliest of these was as late as 1796.

Cornelius Hoagland was one of this colony, and came to Wood County before 1800. He settled on the waters of Big Run, probably near the mouth of the stream which still bears his name. He seems to have prospered as a pioneer, was a man of standing in his neighborhood, and was appointed one of the first constables of the new county.

He died sometime during the summer of 1803, or thereabouts. I once read a statement of the Hoagland estate up to that date (September 6th, 1803), made by the administrator, Hezekiah Bukey. From this it is shown that he was at the time of decease serving as the executor of the estate of one John Hartley, perhaps a resident of the vicinity at the organization of the county, as also may have been one George Knopfler, whose name is mentioned in the document, though I have seen no proof that such is the fact.

DAVISSON FAMILY

Daniel Davisson was from Harrison County, where his father was one of the first settlers in the vicinity of Clarksburg. He was married to Cassandra, a daughter of Thomas Douglas, and his mother was a daughter of William Haymond another pioneer of Harrison County. Daniel Davisson at one time owned the Bird Lockhart land, and another part of the Craig land - Blake patent - on the Ohio River, below the mouth of Big Run.

Also he owned other lands in that vicinity, all of which he sold, or gave to his son, George I. Davisson.

It is not just clear whether he ever lived on it or not. If so, he may have been a resident of Wood County when it was organized in 1798.

George I. Davisson owned lands in Wood County later, these same and others, and may have been a resident of the county at an early date.

The JOHNSON FAMILY (next)
Johnson Family

The founder of the Johnson family was from Pennsylvania, near Uniontown and his descendants disclaim relationship with Edward Johnson, who married into the Dils family. Catharine Johnson who married William Stagg, in 1816, was probably a sister. Stagg bought a tract of land joining Johnson. Johnson was killed by an accident while working in a clearing, in the spring of 1844. His descendants still own the farm. The land plots very nicely. Johnson later bought a parcel of land lying back of him, and containing about three hundred fifty acres. He bought of Rector, and after his death, the land was divided between his nine children.

Of his children:-

James N. was born in 1827, and died of typhoid fever in 1853. He is buried at the Dils cemetery.

Ebenezer married Anna Lyons.

David married Eliza Lyons, a daughter of Joseph Lyons, and lived on the home place in 1882.

George A. married Mary Ann, a daughter of "Zeke" Dye. He lived near the mouth of Johnson's Run in the 1800's.

Ben (Matthew Benson) married Sarah Winland.

Hezekiah died while a child.

Margaret married Gene Sutherland in 1848. They were the first settlers on Berry's Run, above the mouth of the run.

Albert H. (called "Bee") married Martha, a daughter of Jesse Kincheloe (or Lawrence). He owned at one time the upper side of the George A. Creel farm. He died in June, 1888, at the age of twenty-nine years and two months.

Ann ELIZA MARRIED WILLIAM DICKSON.

Ann Maria married William Cole. The two Anns were twins, and looked so much alike, strangers could not tell them apart.

This William Dickson was a son of John Dickson, who came from Pennsylvania, and bought in 1849 one hundred acres at the western side of Red Hill, and joining Inman Pegate and others. He was not related to Uriah Dixon of the mouth of Berry's Run.

James Johnson was born in 1798, near Uniontown, Pennsylvania. He probably lived on the Griffith land a few years earlier than the date of his deed, 1884. On May 6th, 1884, while burning logs in a clearing, he was hit by a limb falling from a burning tree, and he fell into a log heap, and was burned so badly that he died.

The land south of Johnson was sold by Sallie Griffith to William Brown. The deed was made on November 24th, 1835, and was for ninety acres.

Next....."OTHER PIONEERS OF WOOD COUNTY"
Following are some short sketches of other residents of Wood County of early days, about whom I did not have much detailed information. For convenience, I have arranged them alphabetically.

A few of these are mentioned elsewhere, as buyers and sellers of land tracts.

Some of these, as well as a few others concerning whom I have written, may have lived in what is now one of the other counties, formed in part from Wood County.

In the main, I have confined myself to writing of the territory which is at present Wood County. However, there are a few families on the border, and perhaps now outside the county, but their descendants now live in Wood County. I therefore have deemed it proper to include them.

ARMSTRONG, GEORGE, While not an outstanding figure in the pioneer history of Wood County, and with nothing to show that he was an owner of real estate, it is shown that he was here when Wood County was organized, and on July 14th, 1800, he was one of three men appointed by the County Court to "View and mark out" a road leading from Dils' Mill on Worthington Creek, To James Gillespie's house. As this road was to intersect the county road near John Dean's house – now the site of the Catholic graveyard, and as there was an order the same day for the establishment and opening of a road from Dils' mill to the mouth of Stillwell, it would seem possible that Gillespie was living at the mouth of that branch of Worthington Creek which still bears his name. It is also indicated that Armstrong was either a practical surveyor, or that he lived in the vicinity of lower Worthington Creek.

BERRY, JOHN, was here in 1800, probably about the settlements around the mouth of the Kanawha River. As early as 1801, he bought a tract of land lying below the mouth of Berry's Run, on Worthington Creek, a part of the Philip Dils estate. Indeed, it is not unlikely he was living on the land before this, the date of his deed. The stream received its name from him. The site of his cabin was very nearly that of the present house on the "Wayside" farm. His land only came to the stream which was also the road at that time. Later, perhaps after the opening of the Northwestern Turnpike, the lines were extended so as to include the lower bottom. The side lines were nearly a mile long, meeting at a white oak tree near Dry Run, at an angle of thirty-three degrees. Though rough and hilly, it was developed by David Hopkins in the forties, into one of the best in the community.

BODKIN, JAMES, lived on the lower part of the George Westfall farm. He married one of Westfall's daughters. He came from Randolph county to Wood County a few years before its organization. The name is sometimes given as "Botkin", and the name of John Botkin is somewhere mentioned.

BUCKNER, ANTHONY, was originally from Caroline County, but came to Wood County after the Creels, probably about 1798, when George Creel, Jr., who married his daughter, brought her out to the Creel farm on the Kanawha River. He lived at the Creel mill (Bald Eagle, later Claysville) for some years, and after his second marriage (to the widow of John Gibbens, in 1809) he removed to a place above the mouth of Walker's Creek.
BUKEY, HEZEKIAH, had been here for several years before Wood County was established. He was prominent in the organization of the county government, was a member of the re-organized court from March 10th, 1800, and a Delegate in the General Assembly for the years 1802, 1804, 1814, 1815, 1816, 1818, 1819. He lived on the Ohio River, above Isaac Williams, on a part of the Tomlinson survey. His wife was Drusilla Tomlinson, and the land is taxed in her name. (It was deeded to her by Joseph and "Aleizabeth" Tomlinson, in July, 1799.)

CHAPMAN, MATTHIAS, was perhaps the same man who, years later, was one of the most prominent land brokers in Wood County. He was also a leader in the Democrat party in Wood County in his day, being prominent in the "log cabin" campaign of 1840. If this be the man, he has been young in 1800. Perhaps this Matthias was the father of the land broker.

CHENEY, EBENEZER, was taxed with fifty acres, at Three dollars per acre, which was the highest valuation laid on any lands. Therefore, it has been on the River Bottom.

CRAIG, THOMAS, was living on the land during and for years after 1800. This was purchased from Samuel Craig in 1795, and lay on the Ohio River, below the mouth of Big Run.

CRAIG, JESSE, of Greene County, Pennsylvania, bought land of Thomas in 1801, but a rather hasty examination of the records failed to prove him a resident.

CRAIG, HUGH, was here and rendered jury service in 1800. He was not taxed with real estate, and probably lived in the same community as did the others.

HEWITT, JOHN, is shown as a resident of the county in 1800.

There was an Indian scout by the name of Moses Hewitt, who was for a time in the garrison at Neal's Station, but I find nothing to show that he was a citizen of Wood County in 1800, or indeed, of its territory - then Harrison County - at any time. An account of his adventures will be found in all the descriptions of the Indian Wars on the Northwestern Frontier.

HITCHCOCK, CALEB, was another of the up-river settlers who came from New England, He came to Wood County by the way of Marietta, I think. He built the first house in Union District, a log cabin on the bank of the Ohio River, above the mouth of Island Run. He was one of the original County Court which convened the summer of 1799, and took the side of the Spencer faction in the struggle over the county seat. Vienna was more convenient to him than Col. Phelps' place at Tavennerville. There is nothing on the surface to show how long he served. A member was supposed to serve through life, or good behavior. He was once recommended, along with Thomas Pribble, to the Governor, for appointment as sheriff, but the other man received the position.

HOLT, WILLIAM, was a member of the Belleville colony, and owned a small tract of land purchased of Avery, and lying immediately below the mouth of Lee Creek.

HOWARD, CHARLES, bought land of A. Lord, in 1799, at which time he is stated to have been "of Wood County".

HOWARD, PETER, was in the Big Run community.

HUNT, THOMAS, Junior, was a resident of Wood County, at the time he and his father, Thomas Hunt, Senior bought land of Lord, on the Hughes' River, in 1779.
LOFLAND, CHARLES. There is but little to be found concerning this man, who he was, where and why he came, and where and whence he went. He was, it is shown, a preacher who performed the marriage ceremony quite frequently during the years of 1805 and 1806. In 1803, he bought (that is - received his deed from John Stokely for) a farm on the Ohio River, above the head of Blennerhassett Island. Before this, his name appears as a witness to legal documents, and it seems a fair inference that he was here, if not before or in 1800, then very soon afterward.

LOVETT, DANIEL, was one of the purchasers of Lord's Hughes' River lands. One wonders what the connection, if any, with Daniel Lovett, who in later years made the Wood County Atlas.

MAGRAW, BARNEY, had settled on the Little Kanawha River somewhere between the mouth of the West Fork and Burning Springs Run. The name is sometimes rendered McGraw.

MASTERS, JOHN, was not a land owner, but was living in the vicinity of the Tygart Flats in 1800. He had been in the American Army in the War for Independence.

MCCALL, PETER. He bought forty-eight and one half acres of land from Captain Neal, for fifty dollars. The deed was made on April 12th, 1800, and McCall was taxed with the land in 1801, as fifty acres. This land lay on the Little K Kanawha River, just above the mouth of Rowell's Run. McCall sold the land to Reece Wolf, the eccentric preacher, and in 1810 Wolf traded the same with his farm to Jared Fugate in 1826, for land at Leckport.

McCall was prominent in the life of the old Neal's Station community for several years, but I have found nothing to show who he was, or was connected with, where he came from or where he went. I have seen nothing to connect him with the McCall who owned a large tract of Treasury Warrant land between Carpenter's Mill Run and Red Hill, and whose heirs recovered the farm on Mill Run sold by Col. Phelps to Mileman Kincheloe.

MCCALL, JAMES, was one of the parties then residents of Wood County, who, on April 15th, 1800, received a deed for land from Col. Hugh Phelps.

MCMAHON, DR. JOSEPH, was a son-in-law of Captain Neal. He had fifty acres of land near the Viscose plant.

MCNALLY, JOSIAH, was not a land owner. He was on Jury service.

MELCHER, ADAM, lived on a part of the Carpenter farm, at the mouth of Carpenter's Mill Run.

There was a tract of Fourteen hundred acres - Four hundred acres corn land settlement right, and one thousand acres pre-emption, taxed in 1802 against Isaac Melcher's heirs, but nothing to show them as residents.

MURDOUGH, JESSE, came from Greene County, Pennsylvania. He married Polly Dills in 1803, and was a blacksmith for the community. He had a shop at one time very nearly where the St. Marys Pike crosses the old "Clare" line, below Holmes' Run. When Parkersburg was first built, Jesse Murdough was the village blacksmith.

PAINE, DAVID, was living in Wood County in 1800. He married Abigail James, and continued to live on lower Stilwells for a few years.

PENTHERER, JAMES, this man was one of the original colonists - Mayflower Pilgrims of the Belleville colony. After the collapse of that enterprise, he appears to have left that vicinity. His daughter, Margaret, married Mr. Wood, the manager of the settlement in 1790.

PENTHERER, JOHN. This is the way the name was often spelled, written and usually spoken. This man was living somewhere in the vicinity of the Isaac
POWELL, WILLIAM: The name appears as a witness of a deed made in 1800.

PRATT, DAVID J, and PETER, were residents when the county was organized.

PORTER, ALEXANDER, lived somewhere not far below Isaac Williams. He did not own land, but was a well to do citizen at the time of his death, in 1804. This is evidenced by the appraisement of his personal property, which included about thirty head of cattle, as well as a fine supply of farming implements and such a variety and quantity in-doors, that one is led to believe that he kept entertainment also. Among his personal effects was a negro girl supposed to be worth almost as much as nine good cows. Her sale price was fixed at Two hundred sixty dollars. Porter may or may not have been here in 1800.

RADCLIFF, WILLIAM and JOHN. The Radcliffs were living on the south side of the Little Kanawha River, below the narrows of Carpenter's Mill Run, and now known as the Geiger Bend.

William Radcliff (Radcliffe) had come from Harrison County a few years earlier. He and John were taxed with two hundred acres each, in 1801. The land belonged to Captain James Neal, before, and extended from the river, above Lock No. One, down to a point about fifty rods above the mouth of Rowell's Run.

William lived on the upper tract, John on the lower, which he sold to John Glaze a few years later, and went to Ohio.

William continued in Wood County until his death, of which I do not have the date, when he willed each of several children, twenty-five cents. All of the remainder of his property was willed to his son, Stephen.

The name is usually spelled "Radcliffe", but sometimes the final "e" is left off. Now the "d" is softened to a "t", and the "c" omitted. "Ratliff.

The land later became known as the Witman Farm.

RICHARDS, ISAAC, lived on the upper side of the Kanawha River, above the mouth of Two Riffle Run, in 1800. He was born in 1767, supposedly in Loudoun County, Virginia, and died in Wood County, in 1847, at about eighty years of age. He had a son, Peyton, who lived to the age of ninety-two.

Isaac Richards married Deborah Drake in Loudoun County, Virginia, about 1793, and came to the Kanawha Valley a few years later, probably with or soon after, the Drakes.

RIDDLE, ELIJAH, is mentioned as having been here in 1801 (jury service, I think). This is all I find of him. A man old enough for jury service in 1801 would be too old to have been one of the Gilmer County Riddles, whose founder, John Riddle, was born in 1778. He may have been a son of an older brother. There is nothing to show where he lived.

ROCKHOLD, CHARLES, was here and was taxed with twenty-five acres of land, the first assessment in the county.

The site is not given, but he had, or claimed, large holdings in the vicinity of Standing Stone Run. In 1806, he received from Hugh Phelps a deed for eighty-nine acres in the bend of the river, below Happy Hollow. He may have had possession for several years. He owned a farm at Mingo Bottom, at the time of his death.

ROCKHOLD, Elijah, was probably here in 1800, though I do not find his name until a few years later.

SAUNDERS, ABNER, lived around 1800 or later, on the Kanawha River, near Newark. He was of Welsh descent. His father and older brothers were in the American Army in the Revolution.
He was born in Caroline County, in 1771, and died in Wood County, in 1838. He was married to Mary, daughter of Anthony Buckner, before his coming to Wood County.

SAUNDERS, NIMROD, was a brother to Abner. His wife was a Creel, and he came with the Creels to the Wicliffe patent, on the upper side of the Little Kanawha River. He lived in 1800 on Little Stillwell. He was born in 1774, and is buried in the Cook graveyard in Parkersburg. His wife, Sarah Creel, was a native of Prince William County, Virginia, and was a widow for forty years, and lacked but six months of being 100 years of age when she died in 1883.

STAATS, ISAAC, was a brother of the Abraham Staats who planted the family on Mill Creek, Jackson County, West Virginia. His wife was Mary Hannaman, also from Harrison County. They were married on February 26th, 1791. Their descendants settled around Belleville and Pond Creek.

STEED, AARON, was living up the Kanawha River, in the Newark Vicinity. He was prominent in the local civic and business affairs of the settlement.

TURNER, THOMAZIN E., was a resident of the Belleville colony a few years later, and figures in a lawsuit in 1799. He probably was a resident of the county in 1800.

TAYLOR, EDWARD, was a resident of the county in 1802 or 1803, but there is no evidence that he was here in 1800.

TURNER, GEORGE, figured in a law case in 1800.

WARD, JAMES and JOHN, these two men who may have been brothers, were both prominent in the affairs of their community, and were probably from the Marietta colony, where the name was common. In 1800 they lived on the Ohio River, in the Belleville settlement, somewhere above the mouth of Lee Creek.

WEEDMAN, JOHN, the name is mentioned in court records. He was a resident in 1800.

WEEDON, WILLIAM, was a land broker of prominence in the lower Kanawha valley. Though never a member of the County Court, he was frequently drafted by that body for service on Juries and road reviews.

WELLS, RICHARD, was a taxpayer at the first assessment.

WELLS, ROBERT, had located on a large tract of land, lying on the Ohio River, in what is now Pleasants County. He was the first road overseer of his road precinct, and later sheriff of Wood County.

WEST, ELEAZAR, owned and lived on Neal's Island, sold later to John James. He was the first overseer of roads for his precinct. He was a member of the second grand jury, in 1801, and was frequently called on jury service.

WIGAL, PHILIP, lived on the left fork of Lee Creek, far down on the outskirts of Belleville settlement. He came to the place from Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, in 1799. He raised a large family of sons and daughters.

I have noted no evidence that his sons were grown up by 1800.

WHITE, it seems probable that the White family had representatives in the lower Belleville colony, but I failed to find proof that they resided here as early as 1800.

WILSON, STEPHEN RADCLIFF, came from New England, probably with Dr. Joseph Spencer, whose daughter was his wife. He was an energetic man, versatile and shrewd, and the chief power in the attempt to secure the court house at Vienna. He either lived at Vienna, or perhaps for a part of the time at a farm which he once owned, lying near the present Vitrolite Company plant.

After the laying out of Parkersburg, before 1815, he established the first bank in Wood County. This venture proved unsuccessful, and Wilson disappeared.
WILSON, WILLIAM, bought land of Abner Lord, in 1799. He was a resident.

** NAMES OF THE RESIDENTS OF WOOD COUNTY — 1800 **

ALBIN, JOSEPH — Probably about Williamstown.
ALLEN, SAMUEL, At Belleville. Later on the Kanawha River, above Stilwell.
ANDERSON, PETER, Below Belleville.
ARMSTRONG, GEORGE.
ARNOLD, GEORGE and RICHARD, Both opposite the Muskingum or Big Run section.
AVERY, GEORGE D., At Belleville (now Lock number Twenty).
BADGELY, ANTHONY, Lower south side.
BADGELY, BENIAH, On George Westfall's farm. (below Rowell's Run, opposite Dry Run.
BADGELY, JOHN, Probably on Badgely's Fork.
BAILIE, CALEB, Lower Market Street.
BAILEY, SETH, Probably Newport or Stillwell.
BAKER, BARTIN, Perhaps Vienna or Williamstown.
BARNES, ELIAS, Below Gihon Church (Smith's Run).
BARNES, EZEKIEL, Below Gihon Church (Smith's Run).
BARNETT, JOHN, On South Side, back from the river, and above Independence.
BARTLETT, SAMUEL, South Parkersburg, near Neal's Station.
BARTLETT, JESSE, Below Dry Run.
BEAUCHAMP, DAVID, and MANLOVE, and WILLIAM, All three at and above the mouth of Tucker's Creek. (Elizabeth, Wirt County.)
BEAUMONT, SAMUEL, At Vienna.
BEESON, JACOB, JUNIOR, On the Ohio River, between Crystal Springs and the upper Morehead line.
BEESON, JONAS, Between the Pottery Junction and Beechwood.
BENNIT, JACOB, Died in December 1799. Lived on the Blake patent, at the upper end of the Muskingum.
BERRY, JOHN, Worthington Creek, at the mouth of Berry's Run.
BIBBEE, JOHN, South side, the lower part of Wirt County.
BLECKINSTAFF, SAMUEL, On the Little Kanawha River, joining Foughty.
BLENNERHASSETT, HARMAN, On the Island, at the upper end.
BODKIN, JAMES, Lower side of the Westfall farm.
BOISEAUX, JOHN, Vicinity of Belleville.
BOWYER, JOHN.
BROOKOVER, ISAAC, Probably opposite the Muskingum.
BUCKNER, ANTHONY, At Creel's Mill — Bald Eagle Riffle, now Davisville.
BUCY, HEZEKIAH, Above Williamstown, opposite Duck Creek.
CASEY, JOHN, On George Westfall's land, the South side of the Kanawha River.
CASHELL, MATTHEW, Vicinity of Neal's Station.
CANSON, JOHN, At Vienna, or opposite Marietta.
CAVENDER, THOMAS.
CHAMPLIN, LUDOVIC, At Belleville.
CHAPMAN, DAVID, Belleville Vicinity.
CHENEY, EBENEZER.
COLEMAN, JOHN, On the Ohio River, below Pond Creek.
COMPTON, GEORGE, Owned land on the Ohio River, above Marietta.
CONNER, WILLIAM.
COLE, JOHN, On the Ohio River below the Muskingum.
COOK, BENNETT, Possibly still at sea.
COOK, JOHN, Below the Silk Mill.
COOK, JOSEPH, From Twelfth to Sixteenth Streets. The farm ran back to the Stephenson line.
CREEL, GEORGE and GEORGE, Junior, Both on the Wicliffe Patent at the Bald Eagle Riffle.
DARBY, JEDEDIAH, In the bend below Happy Hollow.
DARLING, TIMOTHY.
DAVISON, DANIEL, Probably at Newport.
DAVISON, NATHANIEL, Probably at Newport.
DAWKINS, JOHN, Settled later above the mouth of Little Tygart's Creek.
DEAN, JOHN, Lived on the site of the Catholic Cemetery, on Twenty-third Street.
DEARTH, WILLIAM, On the south side, above Newark.
DEEM, JOHN, At Freeport.
DEPUTY, HENRY and SOLOMON, Both on the south side of the Kanawha River, above Rowell's Run.
DERENBERGER, PETER, Vicinity of Belleville, probably on Lee Creek.
DEWEY, JOEL, JOSHUA, and WILLIAM, All in the Belleville settlement, between the river and the south fork of Lee Creek.
DILS, HENRY, On Worthington Creek. The house was on the stream north of the pike, and west of the bridge.
DILS, JOHN, At the mouth of Worthington Creek. He removed to Newport about 1801.
DILS, PHILIP, Had the Clare patent up both sides of Worthington Creek to Holmes' Run.
DILS, WILLIAM, From the bridge to above Big Spring. The house was on the Snakeville Road, Peter Dils, probably a cousin, came a few years later.
DIXON, JOHN,
DUTTON, DAVID, Bought with George Compton, opposite the Little Muskingum.
DUTTON, EDWARD, Lived on the south side, below Radcliffe Bend.
DUTTON, HENRY, Lived on the south side, below Radcliffe Bend.
DOESON, Land on Hughes' River. He probably lived in the Williams settlement. Spelled Dodson sometimes.
DUVAL, JOHN.
DYAR, ANDREW, On the river below Happy Hollow.
DYAR, EDWARD, His father, land adjoining.
DYE, REUBEN, (Ruben Die), had a large tract about Burning Springs and Chestnut Runs.
ENOCHS, ISAAC, Vicinity of Newark (later Enoch.)
ENOCHS, HENRY, At Newport, a blacksmith.
FEATHERSTONE, WILLIAM, Lower south side of Little Kanawha River.
FLEEHARTY, JOHN, About the head of Muskingum Island, or the waters of the south fork of Big Run. (later was Fluharty) ?.
FLEEHARTY, JOSHUA, On the Blake patent.
FLINN, JOHN, Belleville community.
FOUGHT, JAMES, North side of the Little Kanawha River.
FOUGHTY, GEORGE, About the mouth of Greaves' Run.
FOUGHTY, PHILIP, Joining George below.
GANDEE, URIAH, On the River below Washington's Bottom, at Mustapha Island in 1804.