

Box 1
file 17

~~_____~~
~~_____~~
~~_____~~

COHIST

The origin of Breathitt, like that of many, if not most, Kentucky counties, can be ^{largely attributed} ~~_____~~ to lack of roads, ^{and} long distances counted by days from county seats, ^{confusion of land titles and} ~~_____~~ the interminable land litigation of the State's early history, ^{constantly drew men to their county seats.} ~~_____~~ The only travel for many decades in large sections of the mountains was over narrow paths that of necessity crossed and re-crossed streams and wended their ways over hills rugged with rocks, sometimes blocked by fallen trees and overgrown with the shoots of underbrush. Whenever settlers in distant parts of the county had business that called them to the county seat they had to plan on a trip, coming and going, from three to four days. *Smedley 4-8-2.*

Simon Cockrell, Sr., one of the early settlers along the North Fork at its confluence with Boone's Fork, had to travel nearly 50 miles back and forth from Irvine, the seat of Estill county. This was a three day trip over rugged country. As a large land and slave owner which gave him the reputation of being the wealthiest man of his day in Estill and later Breathitt county, he often found it necessary to make this journey. Other settlers at even more distant points found the county seats remote, considered ^{their} ~~the~~ interests ~~_____~~ neglected and, as was some-

times the case, their land rights outraged.

Insert A

COHIS 1

In the southern part of present-day Breathitt, forming part of Perry county's territory after 1820, it was necessary to travel as far as 45 miles to Hazard for the recording of legal papers and to attend court sessions.

It was out of such conditions that feeling arose for the formation of Breathitt county. The movement for the erection of the county *from the known facts,* undoubtedly was strongest and ~~it~~ originated at the point where Clay, Estill and Perry, *the* three counties yielding territory, met. The inhabitants in this region ~~were~~ *lived at the most remote point* from their county seats. # After some discussion among the most prominent farmers ~~of the region,~~ *of the Si Bens, Panbowl and Quickstand sections,* it was decided that the most forcible man among them was needed to carry through the proceedings necessary for the creation of a county.

Jeremiah (Jerry) South, one of the early timber men of the region,

volunteered for this task. Jerry South, a native of Madison county, ~~had~~ *had taken* ~~up~~ *on the south side of the North fork two miles above* a tract of land in the fertile Panbowl section ~~near~~ Jackson ~~county~~.

He married, Millie Cockrell, daughter of John and niece of Simon Cockrell,

Sullivan and Sr. From this it would appear that the Cockrells took a particularly active interest in the formation of Breathitt county.

Box 1
File 10

in 1839

Jeremiah South traveled over a large area advertising and circulating the petitions for the formation of a new county to be called Breathitt.

He then went to Frankfort where he approached the Kentucky legislature.

~~For the services~~ he performed, ^{all of these services} without ^{remuneration} ~~remuneration~~ of any kind.
Jeremiah South, for ~~the~~ ^{his} ~~initiative~~ ^{initiative},
has been deservedly named "The Father of Breathitt County."

COHIST



On January 28, 1839, the House Committee on Propositions and Grievances first reported the bill to establish Breathitt County. Two days later, after reading, engrossing and submitting it to a select committee composed of Representatives Harris, Thornburg, Morris and Buford the bill passed the House. During its passage through the Senate a motion was made to amend the bill by striking out the name "Breathitt" wherever it occurred in the bill and leaving it blank, however it was voted down by 24 to 11. After this branch of the legislature amended the bill, it was returned to the House which concurred in the Senate amendments. The last finishing touch, the signature of Governor James Clark, was added on February 9, 1839, thirteen days after it was first introduced on the floor of the legislature.
According to the provision of the act, ^{however,} Breathitt County did not function as a separate unit of government until April 1, 1839.

omit title

Breathitt County's Namesake

Box 1
6/12/17

the county's

John Breathitt (1786-1834), ~~namesake~~ namesake, was a schoolteacher, surveyor, lawyer, state legislator and governor. ~~During his varied career~~

he acquired considerable property, consisting mostly of lands, by his

thrift and industry, ~~John Breathitt~~ He was twice married and had three

children. He was ~~well~~ ^{known} for his courtesy to all and was popular in political

insert A
below

and law circles. When he died on February 21, 1834, after serving as

governor of Kentucky from 1832, he was well on his way to a career of

greater public honor. ^{In 1800} His father, William Breathitt, removed from Virginia

~~in 1800~~ where John, the eldest of his five sons and four daughters, was

born. Although he took up several small tracts of land in Logan County,

Kentucky, and owned a few slaves, he did not have sufficient wealth to

send his children away to school. John made the most of his scant

opportunities for schooling and by diligent study of the books within his

grasp made himself a good surveyor. He was appointed a deputy surveyor

of public lands before he became of age. He read law under Judge Caleb

Wallace of Woodford County, and was admitted to the bar in 1810. In a

short time he had built up a lucrative law practice. ^{insert A} In 1811 he was

elected Logan County's representative to the State legislature and in

this capacity served until 1815. In 1828 he was elected lieutenant

governor of Kentucky. Politically, he was an ardent supporter and

a great favorite of the Democratic party. He warmly espoused the election

of General Jackson to the presidency in 1828 and again in 1832. His

success in accumulating wealth enabled him to help his father in liberally

educating his brothers and sisters.

COHIST

Box 1
File 15

EARLY SETTLEMENTS.

(1) "Breathitt County was the eighty-ninth formed in the state. It was carved out of Estill, Clay and Perry Counties, in 1839, and is situated in the mountainous region. The land is generally poor, rough, and hilly. ----- in 1880 it had a population of 7, 742. Coal and iron ore abound and large quantities of coal are annually shipped down the Kentucky River. Salt is manufactured to a limited extent.

Jackson, the county seat, was named for the old hero of New Orleans, General Jackson. It is a small insignificant village. Strongville and Crockettville are small places. "Hon. John Breathitt, elected governor of the State in 1832, furnished the county with a name. Mr. Breathitt was born in Virginia, in 1786, and came to Kentucky with his parents in 1800 and settled in Logan County. He was of studious habits and by his own energy and industry managed to secure a good practical education. He was a surveyor and school teacher, and accumulated considerable wealth, mostly in lands. He was admitted to the bar in 1810, and soon secured a lucrative practice. He served several terms in the Legislature; was elected Lieutenant Governor in 1828, and governor in 1832, but died before his term expired, and while still in manhood's prime,"

Bibliography

(1) History of Ky., by W.H.Perrin, J.H.Battle, G.C.Kniffin; eighth edition; page 561; Published 1888, by F.A.Batty & Co., Louisville, Ky., & Chicago, Ill.

(Taken from private notes of M.F.Bishop see

(Ky. Historical Society, Frankfort, Ky

The Original Boundaries of the County omit title

COHIST

Box 1
6/10/17

The boundaries of the county, as defined in the act establishing it, included portions which were later incorporated into four ~~newly formed~~ ^{other} counties. Owsley in 1843, Wolfe in 1860, Lee in 1870 and Knott in 1884 were given Breathitt territory. Perry alone of the three counties from which Breathitt was formed is still contiguous with its territory.

The original boundary began on the Middle Fork of the Kentucky River where the Lower Twin Creek empties into it. From this point it extended in a southwardly course to the dividing ridge between the South and Middle Forks and up this ridge to the right hand fork of Long's Creek. The boundary then ran down this stream to the Middle Fork, then in a straight line across the Middle Fork to the head of Strong's Branch. It then followed the dividing ridge between this branch and Elijah Bolin's Branch to the North Fork "at a fishtrap," crossed this stream in a straight line to Lost Creek where the Ten Mile Creek empties into it. From this confluence it extended in a straight line across this creek to Troublesome at the Mouth of Buckhorn. Then, it ran up the dividing ridge between Troublesome and Buckhorn to the Floyd County line. From this point it extended to the Morgan County line and up this line to the head of and down Lower Devil's Creek to the North Fork. A straight line from the confluence of Lower Devil's Creek and the North Fork to the confluence of Lower Twin Creek and the Middle Fork completed the circuit of its boundary.

Randolph, Helen F.

Box 1 File 12

BREATHITT COUNTY

POST-OFFICES IN 1874
(Spelling of names follows that used in 1874)

JACKSON

Jett's Creek

Lost Creek

(COUNTY SEAT LISTED IN 1874 IN CAPITALS)

BREATHITT COUNTY

(The 89th in order of formation; erected in 1839, out of parts of Clay, Perry, and Estill counties)

JACKSON is the county seat and leading town.

(Lewis Collins's History of Kentucky,
Vol. II p. 95, 1874)

WATER SUPPLY. The county is bounteously favored with a water supply. The North Fork of the Kentucky River flows in a northwesterly direction across the district near the center of the county. Quick-sand and Troublesome Creeks, large streams, and their numerous tributaries, drain the eastern and southern sections. The Middle Fork of the Kentucky River winds its way across the western part of the county.

("Kentucky Resources and Industries") p. 139,
State Journal Co, Frankfort, Ky.)
(County Maps, Louisville + Nashville R.R.)

BREATHITT COUNTY

<u>TOWN</u>	<u>POP.</u>	<u>TOWN</u>	<u>POP.</u>
Altro	100	Guage	50
Arrowood	50	Guerrant	40
Barwick	85	Gunn)	
Bays	57	Wolverine)	
Beech	100	Haddix	52
Betsmann	30	Hampton)	47
Canoe	100	Simpson)	
Chenowee	25	Hardshell	75
Clayhole	170	Hays	
Copebranch	75	Homestead	25
Copland	75	Houston	31
Crim		Howards Creek	
Crickettsville	500	Hurst	30
Curt		Isolation	6
Dalesburg	20	Jackson	2,109
Dumont		Jetts Creek	75
Elkatawa (Ry. Gentry)	140	Juan	39
Five Mile		Kick	
Frozen Creek	360	Key	37
Gambill	20	Kragon	121
Gentry (P.O. Elkatawa)	140	Lambric	10
		Lawson	35
		Little	

BREATHITT COUNTY (Cont.)

<u>TOWN</u>	<u>POP.</u>	<u>TOWN</u>	<u>POP.</u>
Lost Creek	40	Stevenson	50
Moct	30	Talbert	24
Morris Fork		Taulbee	26
Ned	100	Three Mile	
Noble	35	Tolson	
Noctor	60	Turkey	100
Oakdale	32	Valjean (Salesburg)	20
Ohio & Ky. Jct.		Vancleve	75
Paxton	22	Verneda	
Portsmouth	75	War-Creek	25
Press	320	Warshoal (Wolverine)	150
Progressive		Whick	80
Puckett		Widecreek	
Quicksand	90	Wilhurst	54
Riverside	200	Wilstacy	
Roosevelt (Wolf Coal)		Wolf Coal	250
Rousseau	34	Wolverine (Warshoal)	150
Saldee (Copland)	75	Yeadon	
Simpson (Hampton)	47		
Sky	12		
Spencer			

COHIST -

read
Box 1
6/18/17

BREATHITT COUNTY

Historical Letter to the Editor of Jackson Hustler. ("1893")

"Gillmore, Wolfe County, Ky.

July 2, 1884.

(1)

"Editor Hustler: - The first settlement in Breathitt County was made at the mouth of Troublesome Creek, in 1792, by Samuel Haddix, the father of all the Haddixes in the county. He came from Clinch River, Virginia. There was not a foot of land cleared in the county at that time. They lived on venison the first year. There was nothing of which to make bread, nearer than Clinch River. There were plenty of Indians here at that time. I have a bell that my grandfather brought on his cattle from Virginia, that is now over 100 years old. They camped on Lost Creek, at the Mouth of Ten Mile, and their cattle ran away during the night. They heard the bell nine miles distant. Alex McQuinn stayed with them and was their trapper. He caught fox, coon, wolf, etc. Herman Hurst was the shoemaker for the party. Deer, elk and buffalo were abundant. In 1834 Col. John Haddix, grandfather of Judge Linden and the Patricks put a horse which he called Printer, on a coal boat, at the Mouth of Troublesome and took him to Frankfort to ride home. He went through all right. When he was taken from the boat he could not stand up, but soon recuperated and carried the Colonel home. He was sold at the sale of the Colonel's property, after his death, for \$40, being at the time 27 years old. They used grapevines for cables in those days, for cabling their boats to the shore."

(signed)

"Respectfully,

^m
"Samuel Haddix."

Bibliography --(1) Newspaper "Jackson Hustler, John Jay Dickie proprietor, Jackson, Ky. 1893." Scrap book, Horseback Library, Breathitt Co. Library, Jackson, Ky.

Box 1
6/12/17

SUPPLEMENT

"Tom Noble came from Scotland to Virginia, then returned to Scotland, married and came again to Virginia, settled on the Clinch River or Shenendoah Valley."

"I don't know whether he was the father of Nathan or not. Somewhere late in the 1870's the Noble's came into Kentucky. Nathan, Bill and Enoch came. They were brothers. Nathan's wife was Virginia Neace, one quarter Indian. Her two brothers, Austin and Henry came too. (Jake Neace came later). (Sam Allen came later). They brought mules, horses, guns and dogs. A gun and a dog was worth more than a thousand acres of land in those days.

"Henry Noble was my grandfather. He was the son of Nathan Noble and Virginia Neace. Henry had 9 sisters and 3 brothers. Henry was the youngest one. Henry married Isobella Akeman, my mother. (The Akeman's had come in there). I'm Henry's son and I married" (Granville Pearl Noble, age 92, born 1847) "Isobella Neace. Yes, related to me. Henry Noble had 9 girls and 4 boys. I had 12 children, 7 boys, 4 girls. (2) Sons of Granville P. Noble: "Elisha joined the U.S. Army before the Spanish-American War." (Author of Bloody Breathitt) "He was crippled and was discharged, did not fight in Spanish-American War. Jake and John enlisted in the Spanish-American War. They returned home." (Jake shot and killed several men and escaped, a fugitive from justice, several years ago. Jerry got in trouble some years ago. I do not know if he served time in the State Penitentiary or not. He did business, general store in Jackson for several years, but returned to the country about 3 years ago). Elijah taught school many years, now in ill health. His wife is County Court Clerk.

(1) "One of my great uncles settled down South somewheres; they call the place Noblesville. Yes, Nathan's brother. Yes, I believe Nobelsville is in Alabama. I believe his name was John Noble. Nathan and the people who came with him came

through the Licking River and across to Buckhorn Creek. I don't know if they crossed the mountain between Licking River and the Quicksand or not. I recall that they told about Nathan and his party coming through the Cumberland Gap, because a big snowstorm came on and they had to stay there about two weeks. I have heard them mention Green River, too. They came down streams and through the forests. They marked their line they traveled through. My grandmother told me this. She was 113 years and a few months old at her death. Oh, she's been dead about 40 or 50 years ago, for my children are over 50 years old. They said Tom Noble came here to Virginia from Scotland when they throwed America open for people to come in. "No, they never had trouble with Indians. They told me about the Indians coming one time. They come through from Chillicothe, Ohio, they had a village there. The Indians went straight through here. They were on the way to Flint Mountain, after flint. Flint Mountain is on the head of the S. Fork of the Quicksand Creek.

"The early Nobles are buried on the Noble family burying ground on the old home place. They had rock sides and ends to their graves, but some of them have been torn down. The graveyard is on the Solomon Combs home place. Yes, he's related. his mother was a Noble. "I can read, but I can't write. I learned a lot of things from Nature. I was about 7 years old when I first went to school. My uncle, Lawson Noble, taught the school. The schoolhouse was on a hill and down over the bank, in a hollow, was a creek. The schoolhouse was built of logs, logs split for seats. One of these logs stood out from the wall with the split side up and we laid our books on it. I ran away from school one time. Uncle Lawson wouldn't let me out. I watched my chance to slip out when Uncle Lawson wasn' lookin'. I had to leave my book and cap on this split we used for a table, then I raced down into the hollow and across the creek. Next morning when I returned to school, Uncle Lawson asked me why I ran away. I told him I just could not stay there any longer that day, for I'd got to worryin'. He gave me a lick or two, but not very hard, then laughed at me. It was my first time in

school and I'd not got used to it. This school was at the mouth of Leatherwood where it empties into Lost Creek. The building had a dirt floor and no windows. They cut a hole for the door. They had a fireplace that you could light the fire from inside or from outdoors. It was built that way. "When I was about five years old there was only one store in Jackson. It was near where the Jefferson Hotel now stands, on the same side of the street.

"We had an awful hard time during the Civil War. They had took our horses and we had to dig holes in the ground to plant the corn in. We couldn't get a price for anything about the middle of the war. I was about 18 years old then. I was called pretty wild. Uncle Lawson, my teacher, was killed then. One time me and my sister were going to the mill. We were took prisoners by Capt. Bill Strong Union Army. He had the Home Guards. They killed a lot of people around here then. Captain Bill was afraid we would tell we had seen something. They kept us about 2 days and one night. Before they took me and my sister prisoners they shot at us, Jacks Fugate told me 'I was tryin' to shoot as many men as I could, tryin' to kill two at a time.' "He shot me through the wrist, see the scar there?" "Now when people get to fighting, I tell them the law is alright, if you don't bother the law, it won't bother you. We raised flax and cotton, and the women made all the clothing. The women did the field work, too. The men did the hunting for the meat for the families and to get leather for coats and boots. I would take rocks, small stones and kill all the squirrels we'd need for a meal when I was a boy.

"All kinds of wild animals were plentiful then, plenty of wild turkey, and lots of pigeons, so many they'd darken the sun at times. They all left all at once, don't know where they went; some people said they went across the sea.

"Yes, we'd salt wells, one on Lost Creek. I made salt, myself, during the Civil War. We would pump by hand the salt water, then we'd put it into the big salt keetles and boil about two days and a night, when it'd boil down and we'd have salt. The neighbors came a long way to get the salt. During the war we just

made enough for use, because we couldn't get a price for anything.

"I lived at Leatherwood. I had about 600 acres of good timber and some coal veins, till I had to give it up. I went over near Hazel Green, (Wolfe Co.), and lived there 10 years. I owned timber there, white pine, spruce and sweet gum. Another man set a mill on my place and we sawed all I didn't want to float down the river. Buck Creek was a line on my place. We cut logs and floated them down the creek to the Red River and then on to market.

(2) "Father owned only about 600 acres, about two miles above the mouth of Leatherwood. It had fine timber on it, white oak, chestnut oak and yellow poplar. It had five veins of coal. Jake got into trouble and sold it, father sold it." (This is the brother who escaped several years ago. I do not think they would like this about Jake published).

"The Akemens, my mother's people, lived on one side of the Kentucky River, and Allan Moore's family lived across the river. This was up at Barwick. (Note) Mr. Josiah Akeman lives on the James Moore property. James was a son of Allan Moore, and the father of Mrs. Cora Noble, County Court Clerk. Her husband is the Mr. Elijah Noble mentioned earlier here and in this bibliography. His father, Granville Pearl Noble, lives with them here in Jackson, the elderly man who has been ill lately.

"My father had a two-story log house. We climbed a ladder to up in the attic. I remember the first Indian I ever saw. At home they had scared us children with tales of what the Indians would do to us. There were two full-blooded Cherokees, Jackson Porter and his wife. Polly Porter came and lived at the mouth of Troublesome about 1885. She was the woman doctor (midwife, yes). They were friendly. Later, they moved to Lost Creek. They had two boys, Dave and John Jackson Porter. They had two girls, Marg and June.

One day John Jackson Porter came to our house when I was just a little fellow.

COHIST Box 1 5/17/17

I climbed into the attic and looked down the hole I had climbed through. My mother had him come into the house and he was sitting by the fireplace, getting warmed. I stuck my head out so far I lost my balance and fell in the Indian's lap. He grabbed me and I was so scared I caught my hands into his long black hair and pulled his head back so far the Indian said I nearly broke his neck. He finally loosened my hold, for I thought I had to fight him first or he's fight me,

"John Jackson Porter married a white woman, a Miss Couch. Dave married a colored woman. Some of their younger generation around here near Jackson now; they look like Negroes, but they are Indian Blood."

Bibliography: Granville Pearl Noble, 92 years of age
Elijah Noble, his son, both of Jackson

Quotation from "Bloody Breathitt" copyrighted

"Virginia Noble (Virginia Neace before marriage), was born 1767 and died in 1880, being 113 years old. She became a bride in 1780, a mother in 1781, having resided in what is now Breathitt County more than 99 years. Malinda Neace (Malinda Allen before marriage), was born 1767; married 1780, became a mother in 1782, died 1879, being 112 years old, having been married 99 years, been a mother 97 years. Each of these great grandmothers saw their fifth generation.

"As a basis fixed for these settlements, is on the fact that Pickett and Marshall made entry of lands under Virginia in 1785 for 23,000 acres beginning at the mouth of Troublesome Creek, then running up the North Fork to a certain point; then Northwest, running through a field that Austin Neace had cleared and cultivated for four years. These people lived here in seclusion for several years not knowing of what country or nation they were citizens. They wanted quiet and seclusion and for a long time found it. To them it was a no man's land. At their coming, after they had settled, so far as they knew they were without a country. If they cared for law they did not know where to go, to whom to apply

Thus they were without law, a law unto themselves. Each a monarch, a patriarch and lord over his acres. On account of this seclusion history took no cognizance of these settlers until about 1800, when land speculators, laying claim to these happy folks homes and possessions. This caused no little uneasiness among the settlers.

"Nathan Noble, having accumulated some money, bargained for most of the east half of the Pickett and Marshall 23,000 acre patent (about 10,000 acres in all), made secure, as he supposed, homes for all his children. Other settlers under other grants from Virginia, mostly as what is known as the Ross and Curry patents, made (page 40), settlement as best they could for their homes and were for a time left in peace and quiet. At first Fayette County covered the lands, then Clay and Perry, before becoming Breathitt. That portion north of Quicksand lay mostly in Estill County. For this reason there were but few marriages between the early inhabitants of the county north or south of Quicksand Creek.

"Some years later other land speculators came who claimed superior titles to those who previously sold these lands to the settlers. Before bartering with these last claimants, a council was held among the settlers at which a conclusion was reached to dismiss these new claimants at the muzzle of their flintlocks, which they did. By the time other claimants arrived, the settlers had learned to define their boundaries, already holding a shadow of titles. After several of these land agents had been secretly dispatched, the settlers had no further disturbance as to their possessions, until Breathitt was made a county and courts established within reach of the people. The Kentucky Union Land Company in after years made purchase of these extended marked boundaries from the settlers. Other large boundaries were likewise purchased in the same company, until in 1900 it had title in Breathitt County alone to some 200,000 acres of timber and coal lands. Later this same company under the name Lexington and Eastern Railway Company

built a railroad into the county, extending as far as the county seat. This road was completed early in 1892, or near that date (p. 41). This gave new interest to holders of old patents and the courts were soon flooded with litigations, many of which were on the court's docket for many years. Many efforts on the part of the Commonwealth of Kentucky were made to invalidate these old patents by possession, limitations and various other statutory regulations. This was hard to accomplish since Virginia by compact granting of Kentucky sovereignty of statehood forced her to recognize all grants made by her prior to this contract. Unfortunately for Kentucky most every foot of her territory had been entered and patented before this compact was entered into. Among the last of these grants was a large area of lands covering most of eastern Kentucky beyond the Pickett and Marshall grants entered in many different grants and passed to the possession of Ross and Curry. These holdings amounted to 1,500,000 acres. This title finally passed to German owners which had an eye to colonizing this extensive region with the secret intention of being able to control the power of the young republic to her interest by a majority of German population among the citizens of the country. This purpose soon fell to naught when Germany found she could not control the government in this way. The title to this vast territory was transferred to the Kentucky Union Land Company by German owners. In the transfer the Vons appeared in great numbers together with other extended titles of lordship and honor. These patents for a long time were thought to be laid by random, but later every grant was found to be perfectly laid, beginning corners well fixed, and courses and distance well and accurately defined and marked. There was no conflict of territory, but all made a well defined block of 1,500,000 acres. These grants were laid in several cases, 10 years after Breathitt territory had been settled by the afore-mentioned (p.42) settlers. William Noble & others making their settlements assisted in making these entries."

Breathitt

"William Noble had made his home near the mouth of Buckthorn Creek of Troublesome ten years before making the entries covering his home and had cleared away the timber and fenced in large fields which he was cultivating at the time. (Chap. XII).

The writer is familiar with all he has written through ancestral legend and personal knowledge. His ancestors both on his father's and his mother's side were the first settlers of the county, having migrated from Virginia and settled on Lost Creek and Troublesome Creek in 1781, where they resided until their death. Some of the ancestors have continuously resided there since. The writer recollects having seen buried his great grandmothers who were each more than 100 years of age. Those great grandmothers were before marriage Neace and Allen.

The parties that first settled were Nathan Noble and wife; William Noble and wife; Enoch Noble, all brothers. Their sisters who came with them were: Millie married a Mr. Watts; ~~Patsy~~ married Andrew Miller; Mary married Flint Fugate; Mollie married a Mr. Abner. Others of the party were Samuel Allen and wife; Austin Neace and wife; sister of Samuel Allen. These parties settled in what is now a part of Breathitt, Perry and Knott counties. They were all young, none being over 20 years of age. For this reason they were not Revolutionary soldiers. Early in the autumn of 1779, these youngsters, in trying to evade the marauding forces of the English soldiers, then infesting the State, had been driven far back on the eastern (p.38) slopes of Appaladhian Mountains of South-western Virginia for shelter from such outrages being committed against the patriotism of the day.

After spending the spring and most of the summer in preparation to entering their long, lonesome life-journey beyond the western slopes, they finally took a farewell of all that was near and dear to their youthful lives and started, they knew not where, the women never to return. Whether these parties were married according to English laws, or only a confession of their plighted love and faith

in matrimonial laws as nature writes upon the heart and prints upon the mind of true and faithful lovers before witnesses only, the writer has never been able to learn; but a living reward of this truth is written in their life history and their homes were true and virtuous. (It was 6 or 7 years, according to court records of Breathitt Co. before a murder case came into the courts, but"----- many slander and adultery cases were tried then.)"

"The oldest of the Noble brothers had gone with George Rogers Clark on his Northwest conquest, and a brother of Samuel Allen, also. They liked the country so well that they went to live in Indiana after Clark's conquest. Their offspring still resides in Indiana and Illinois. One of the old man Noble's sons was one of Indiana's first United States Senators; another her 6th governor. These boy's names were James and Noah; but which was U.S. Senator or governor, the writer cannot say. (p. 39) XII Chap. "Sometime late in September, the party left Virginia, slowly wending their way westward, when in early October they arrived on the Licking River. A fire broke out. Their flames continued their ravage until the Licking Valley and the Quicksand Valley were cleared of their fruits and their game and offered no attractions to the homeless home seekers. On the second night of the fire some of the men ascended the summit of the range of mountains lying between Quicksand and the Licking to find the flames still sweeping earth and sky. About midnight, just as the men had returned to camp, a heavy rain began to fall and continued until next morning. This extinguished the flames and brought hope to the stricken home-seekers. On the morning of the 4th day after the fire the party having decided to move farther west, beyond the reach and sweep of the flames.

On the fifth day in their journey they crossed from Quicksand to the waters of Troublesome Creek, the Cole's Fork of Buckthorn. (Both Cole's and Buckthorn are in Knott and Perry Co.). Plenty of food for both man and beast was found and joy again filled hitherto desponding souls.

After spending a few days here a close survey of the surrounding country

was made; trees and rocks were marked in such a way as to distinguish the journeys they had made. At each turn, whether by way of crossing from one watercourse to another, whether turning from the main stream up some branch of it, or coming down some fork to the course of the main stream, unmistakable markings were made on prominent trees and rocks. At points where such connections and deviations occurred, a pointer was made, pointing the direction they were going, also pointing they way they had come. A continuous marking was only made across the divided; there being markers and pointers made at the foot of the hills where the crossings started; also where the crossing connected the next stream. These markings, in general, were only made at mouths of streams to show whether their journey had led up or down them.

"The next morning, after leaving camp, the party moved slowly down Buckhorn Creek to its mouth where it pours its waters into Troublesome Creek. (Note: According to the map of Troublesome Creek, Cole's Fork of Buckhorn and Buckhorn Creek each rise in Knott Co., Buckhorn flows through Perry County and its confluence with Troublesome Creek is in Perry Co. Here a camp was set late in the evening of a late October day. (P. 46). The entire party spent several days here, during which time William Noble and family decided to make this their permanent home.

Many of the party, all save Nathan Noble and wife, Austin Neace and wife, and Enoch Noble decided to spend the winter with him, there being many rock houses in nearby vicinities promising comfortable quarters, plenty of game for food being also present. Nathan and his party took their leave of this camp early in November, journeying down Troublesome to the mouth of what is now Beaver Dam, after making the usual markings. Following the small stream to its head the party crossed over to what is now known as Troublesome Caney. (The map shows this spot in Breathitt), Here a camp was set, game procured for the party's meals. After supper the party retired amid the usual protest of the panther and other nocturnal creatures of the woods.

Box 1
5/1/17

Next morning after making the usual markings, the party turned up Caney and what is now Cockrell's Fork of Lost Creek, another much larger tributary of the Troublesome. At the foot of the hill the usual markings were made and the journey continued to a branch (p. 47) of Cockrell's Fork; here the usual markings were fixed, then the party journeyed to main Cockrell's Fork; the usual markings here were entered and the party journeyed down the fork to near its mouth to where camp was set for the night. This was past the middle of November, 1780. Nathan's wife was soon to become a mother, so for this and other reasons, a suitable place was sought to spend the winter. Nearby was found a rockhouse large enough to shelter the entire party. Here they made ready for winter. But Nathan Noble, not being a hunter and not satisfied with the provisions of a cliff, set to build a log hut for the winter large enough for the entire party. During the day he cut and made timber for the hut; after the (p. 48) other men returned from hunting, they helped to place the logs and soon comfortable quarters were prepared." (P. 49, Chap. XIII)

Bibliography: (1) Bloody Breathitt by E.L. Noble, copyrighted in the United States of America by Mrs. Calla B. Noble, 1936. "All rights reserved."

Pubs. Jackson Times Pub. Co., Inc., Jackson, Ky.

BRASHNET COUNTY

"BITS OF BRASHNET COUNTY HISTORY"

("1893")

"Origins of Names of Streams"
(1)

"Troublesome Creek got its name from the fact that in early days there was a very troublesome crossing near its mouth. Parties going up and down the Kentucky River always had trouble at that point, hence the name of the stream. The name is said to have been first given by Colby Haddix, one of the early settlers. (The confluence of Troublesome Creek with the North Fork of the Kentucky River is a little above the Haddix Bridge, recently destroyed by flood, in the village of Haddix, and about eight miles south S.E. of Jackson directly on the Ky. & Va. Highway No. 15. M.F.B.).

"Lost Creek, also got its name from Colby Haddix. He had been out hunting and got lost on the stream. After two or three days he was found and from the little episode the creek has ever since borne the name of Lost Creek. "George's Branch got its name from George Miller, who died on the creek. (George's Branch has its confluence with the North Fork of the Ky. River about 15 miles south of Jackson, near Whick a station on the L. & N. Railroad M.F.B.) "Montescaffold got its name from the fact that Wiley Cope, Charles Depaw and a man by the name of Ashbury had a hunter's camp up the stream in the early days. They also had a scaffold near the camp upon which they would hang their game and barbecue whenever they wished. (This is on the South East part of county, M.F.B.)

"Cane got its name from the large patches of cane which formerly grow in its bottoms. In former days this was a great place to manufacture the outfit of looms, since the canes were larger and better than could be found at other points in the vicinity.

"Frozen Creek got its name from the fact that the smooth-flowing water at the mouth of the stream is always frozen over in the winter time. The ancient

trace which came down War Creek ---lead across the Kentucky River at the mouth of Frozen, and here on account of the ice was always a troublesome place to cross. The early travellers oftentimes had to put sand over the slick ice before their unshod horses could make a safe transit. "The Boone's Fork of Frozen was named for Daniel Boone. Adams Birchfield, one of the early settlers of Breathitt has left behind the story that when he first came to the county he found a hunter's camp on this branch of Frozen and nearby, the name of the great hunter was carved on a beech tree that indicates that it was his camp. There was also another tree on the Thomas Strong Fork of Frozen on which Boone or someone for him cut his name in the early days of Kentucky."

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Turkey Pens - In the earlier days of
B. weather there were lots of wild turkeys
one way they had of capturing these turkeys
Build a pens of logs, leave one opening
at the bottom for the turkey to go in, put
some covers inside the pens. After Turkey
gets inside they never think to look down
around the bottom of pens to get out
Always looking up. George Bryant had one
of these pens made. Went to see if he had
caught one of these wild turkeys, sure
enough he had one in. As pen was
only a small bay of about four feet
so he got inside and caught the
turkey after coming out with turkey
it was so powerful it flew away with him
off of one ridge across to another ridge
In flying over he crossed a small stream
which was afterwards named Turkey Pen
Bryants Creek. An old Lady named
Sally Bryant settled on this creek,
afterwards went by name of Bryants
Creek.

Creek Names { title

Breathitt County

Margaret Bishop

Customs

Holiday Observances

Customs: We celebrate the Fourth of July. I know that not many people around the county do so, but we have celebrated the Fourth of July now, for the past 31 years. We always have a program, including Athletic contests.

We have 100 yard dash, 200 yard dash, relay race, high jump, broad jump, and long throw in base ball. We have the sack race. Have you ever seen one? We take a meal or gunny sack, and they jump into a sack and hold around their waist, full length of the sack, and run that way. The goal is generally ten yards.

We have the nail driving contest. They have lots of fun with that. They get one half pound of eight penny nails and a hammer and go to work to see who can drive the nails the fastest, men and women both try this race to see which will drive their nails the quickest.

During the Fourth of July when Governor Sampson was governor of Kentucky we had the biggest celebration ever seen in this section.

BREATHITT COUNTY KENTUCKY MARGARET F. BISHOP

FOLK CUSTOMS

240

(I think that was during 1928). We always have an address along about 11 o'clock, and then a big dinner, picnic style. In the afternoon we play baseball.

- (1) "Adventure For Freedom" (This material is typical of
(the Breathitt People.

"It is interesting to note the contribution made by the Mountain People to the idea of independence and the spirit of democracy. General historical statements can be had at best only approximate. Many Scotch-Irish that did not go into the mountains eagerly joined, both in thinking and in action, with their bolder and more direct kinfolk of the frontier. Hannah says, 'It was Patrick Henry and his Scotch-Irish brethren from the Western counties that carried and held Virginia for independence.' (page 53) "Because they lived far in the wilderness, with no protection from the settlements or government officials, they learned to protect themselves. This habit of self-reliance, of personal independence, added to their resentment of British aggression, made them inevitably resisters of tyranny." (A very small percentage of Breathitt countians today know that King George III was a born German; they consider him English until told different) "And their remoteness from polite society, together with their Scottish bluntness, made them assert their determination with unmistakable clearness and force. Such men, expressing vigorously their positive convictions, strongly influenced the whole community and naturally became leaders of thought and action. The Palantine Germans, the Dutch, and the French Hugenots, with similar background of persecution, easily followed their lead.

"The English settlers also that seeped into the Mountain population from Virginia had inherited traditions of prompt and resolute action that readily fused into the frontier spirit of independence. (page 54) "And it was just because all the Scotch-Irish felt and behaved the same way no matter where they lived that their widespread settlement actively leavened their different

communities and made possible an organized unity of feeling and purpose that was continental in its scope.

"Even so brief an historical sketch as this would be incomplete without some consideration of the large share the Mountain People had in fighting for independence---as well as in talking for it.

"George Washington led a company of the Mountain men against the French in 1754, but was driven back at Great Meadows. The following year when General Braddock came to punish the French for their insolence Washington accompanied him with a hundred Mountain men from North Carolina, young Daniel Boone being among them. (page 56)

"Mountain men---Morgan's Riflemen and Nelson's Riflemen. Washington had led these frontiersmen before, and he welcomed them gladly at Cambridge. They brought with them, of course, their own hunting rifles, and thus were the first to use rifles in warfare. They were of great service to Washington, not only on account of their skill as sharpshooters, but because of their cool courage and determination. They were men who could be trusted to act alone with fearless judgment. It was their quality of personal independence that won the battles of King's Mountain and Cowpens and drove Lord Cornwallis to his surrender of Yorktown.

"The Mountain men were keenly aware of Ferguson's published threat to hang them and destroy their homes. When they heard of his march toward the frontier settlements with eleven hundred well equipped soldiers, they gathered by scores at Isaac Shelby's summons and a thousand met at the Sycamore Shoals of the Watauga River. "They pushed on through the snow encumbered forests very rapidly, some on horses and some on foot, scarcely stopping to eat or sleep until they reached Cowpens the night of October sixth. Here they had expected to find the enemy. But Ferguson had adroitly slipped away.

"Several hundred men joined them here, bringing news of the British encampment thirty miles away. They slaughtered a few cattle, swallowed some hastily cooked beef, and in less than an hour all had fit horses---perhaps seven hundred and fifty---hurried on. Many eagerly followed on foot. They marched all night in the rain, and reached King's Mountain, on the top of which were the British, about three o'clock in the morning. It was a long mound sloping up on three sides, but a sheer precipice on the fourth. Without waiting to rest or eat, the frontiersmen attacked Ferguson's soldiers, entrenched behind baggage wagons on top of this mound. Isaac Shelby had told the Mountain men to shelter themselves as much as possible behind trees and rocks; to aim carefully; and to 'get' the British. His final instruction was, 'Every man must be his own officer, and use his own judgment.'

"The British commander and 224 of his soldiers were killed, 163 were wounded, and 716 surrendered as prisoners. Of the Mountain men 28 were killed and 68 wounded. This surprising victory turned back Cornwallis' expedition, and was the first step in his defeat.

"Daniel Morgan with his riflemen struck another astonishing blow at Cowpens the next year (December 17, 1781), when he routed Tarleton, who lost 100 killed, 258 severely wounded, and 600 prisoners. The rest fled. A British writer says, 'during the whole period of the war, no other action reflected so much dishonor on the British arms.' (page 58)

"In the War of 1812 a large proportion of the land forces were men from the Mountain region. In a report to the United States Senate in 1834, the committee mentions five hundred pensioners of the Revolutionary War that were even then living in the mountains of Kentucky. The rest of

Breathitt County

Box 1 File 17
COH 7

Appalachia could undoubtedly have shown as great a proportion. In the Civil War the Mountain People were overwhelmingly on the side of the Union, and furnished far more than their quota of fighters.

"With such noble history in mind, it would seem scarcely necessary to notice an erroneous statement made long ago by a careless writer, but it has been so widely quoted that a brief reference to the facts must be made to correct it. This statement maintains that the Mountain People took their origin from Indents, Redemptioners, and Convicts. (Bound by indenture, see note in Bibliography No. (2),) "As a matter of fact very few of the convicts deported to America had committed gross criminal offenses. Most of them were victims of religious or political persecution merely and should under no circumstances be identified with the low criminal class. (page 59)

"Indents were persons bound by written agreement (indentures) to work for a specified number of years. Their labor was sold so that for a time specified they were virtually slaves. Because they were free after the specified time they were often called Redemptionists. The sale of Redemptionists was not abolished till 1820.

"The whole system was largely a scheme of ship owners. Some of them paid emigration agents three florins for every person over ten years old whom they induced to embark. These agents, pretending to be friends, fleeced the emigrants. In many instances with the connivance of the ship owners, the passengers' baggage and food supplies for the voyage were not put on board, then exorbitant sums were charged for food, and the betrayed passengers were forced to sign an agreement to sell their labor for several years to pay their passage. To mention a few cases: "(first) A noble lady banked one thousand rixthalers with one of these agents, who stole it,

and she, with her two half-grown daughters and a young son, were sold in 1853.

"(second) John Reiner, who was abundantly supplied, was robbed by the ship-captain of money, books, and drugs, and was forced to sell himself for seven years.

"(third) Fred Helfenstein, probably a lineal (page 60) descendant of the Emperor Maximilian, similarly was forced to sell himself as a Redemptioner in Georgia.

"Abraham Gale of Maryland sent for his wife and two sons. They sailed from Dublin, but fell in with a rascal who sold them ostensible to pay passage, although Gale stood ready to pay it over again.

"Instances of this sort indicate that being a Redemptioner was not necessarily a disgrace. But while such victims were far too numerous, only the grossest ignorance could imagine that the five millions of our Mountain People could have sprung from so small a source. Besides this the Redemptioners were obviously not free to go out to the frontier, and most of them, after servitude was ended, naturally became part of the seaboard population where they were. It is evident that very few of these 'bound out' could ever have penetrated into the mountains, certainly in numbers large enough to have an perceptible influence either for good or evil upon the Mountain People. (page 61)

CHAPTER FOUR

ELIZABETHAN VIRTUES

"There can be no doubt after careful consideration that the geographical factors of the country have had tremendous influence on the Mountain People. The rural problem which confronts us in all parts of the country is here very strongly accentuated. As everywhere else, it is roughly measured by the distance of the rural community from its agora. This agora

must signify a place not merely for buying and selling, but for the exchange of thought as well. It is the forum as well as the market-place. It is the heart and center of communal life. Here is the nucleus of transportation, education, legislation, religion, and recreation. (page 66)

"It is, of course, not quite accurate to speak of the characteristics common to them as racial, since the Mountain People are not all from one race or nationality. Broadly speaking, however, they constitute a race, built out of the like-minded folk from among the English, French, Germans, and Scotch-Irish. They were a peculiar people when they came to America. (page 67)

"The Nonconformists from England, the Scotch from North Ireland, the Protesters from Germany, the Huguenots from France, were all loyal to a personal conviction and indignant at a personal tyranny.

"The quiet courage of the pioneer faces as part of the day's work the dangers of the woods; wild animals, tree-limbs broken off by a storm, the torrent of water during a tide in the creek that carries everything in the narrow valley before it; landslides after long rains have softened the whole side (page 69) of a mountain; or quicksands in the fords of the river. He is used to going into all these dangers alone. He does not depend on his neighbors for help; he expects to manage somehow by himself. This quiet confidence in meeting emergencies, this habit of self-sufficiency, does not fit the Mountain man for gregarious enterprises. He is rather suspicious of cooperation. A man who asks a neighbor to help him undertake some task that every man usually does for himself must be lazy or incompetent---or 'afear'd.' Such a man will bear watching. Some such suspicious mood as this is back of the Mountain man's slowness to cooperate.(page 70)

(Many of the Breathitt countians consider they can do what any highly trained person can do, and do it without training. A common question is,

"Did you learn it, or, just pick it up?" M.F.B.)

"Then there is the Mountaineer's lack of enthusiasm for work, as such, and his strongly developed love of leisure. He has inherited the Calvinistic vividness of the primal curse which laid work upon man, not as a delight or a means to a joyful achievement, but as a stark penalty, a doom to be escaped whenever possible. " (If a persob is unusually industrious according to the views of the Breathitt countians, they will say, "She" or "he" is the workingest person I ever saw," or, "I ever seed," according to the amount of education they have acquired.) "If one is fastidious, querulous about comforts, dissatisfied unlesshe has this and that, of course he must spend laborious days to procure these coveted things. But if one is satisfied with Nature's own providing and finds unalloyed pleasure where the Naiads of the streams and the Nymphs of the forest have never been distrubed, why reproach him for indulging in philosophic and contemplative leisure. (page 70)

"Our family breakfasts are standardized. We all eat the same patent cereal and the same brand of bacon. We all have similar twin-beds and similar bathtubs. We wear the same undergarments and the same collars. The Mountain People, however, have not reached this stage." (they are reaching for it, in food and clothing, or, a great number except the very isolated ones. M.F.B.)

"Being strong individualists, they take no pains to subdue their personal preferences in order to agree with what the social majority has declared proper. A Mountain man is not ashamed to avow his dislike of coffee or grapenuts, asparagus or soup. "I'm obleeged to you, I wouldn't choose," settles the matter without an explanatory apologies. He has never adopted the slogan of the mob, "Let's make it unanimous!"

"Living mostly out of doors, with no very near neighbors, and with

this strongly developed tendency toward personal freedom, we can scarcely expect him to have a highly developed social consciousness, a trained sense of civic solidarity. (page 71)

"This love of nature does not express itself in songs or poems about the woods, the flowers, or the sky. It is not a matter of words. The Highlanders' delight in it is largely inarticulate. Their joy is not in describing their contact with Nature, but in the contact itself, in feeling Nature's soothing touch upon them, in the things they can do out of doors. "Uncle Bob Stallins," an old pioneer still living "back in some purty rough country," illustrates the essential boyishness of their out-of-door ambitions.

"Do you know Mr. Stallins?" a Mountaineer was asked .

"Uncle Bob Stallins! Why, this creek were named for him. He's been right puny this winter, but he's peart. He had kille d ninety-nine bar in his lifetime, and were fixin' fer another hunt, when he tuk sick with a misery in his stummick. The doctors told him he'd got to die. But he prayed the good Lord to raise him up to kill jest one more bar, and shore enough he done it." (page 72)

"It might be expected that men so adept in all the circumstances of their lives and so resolute and independent in spirit would show capacity for self-government.

"Most men of strong individuality and independent mind have the gift of persuasive speech. They can explain their aims and actions clearly, forcibly, and, perhaps most important for the gaining of interest, sympathetically. As might be expected oratory is a characteristic gift of the Mountain People. Those who do not "foller speakin" and listen for hours with keen and eager enjoyment. They take unusual delight in being swayed by eloquence. (page 85)

"They are frequently referred to as stolid, impassive, listless. As a matter of fact they have strong and deep feelings, which are both intense and lasting. But their feelings do not play upon the surface of their natures. Their faces are immobile unless deeply stirred. In religion their feelings play a prominent part, leading to extravagant actions in "protracted meetings" and, in the case of the women, at funerals. In the courts of law, where men are not visibly stirred by emotion, they are largely governed by their personal feelings. Evidence has little chance against kinship or enmity. Even in business dealings an opportunity to make money may be declined because of personal feeling.

"In sickness friends and kinsfolks gather, and sometimes seriously impede recovery by crowding into the room and conversing continuously. They are more than willing to sit up all night or do anything else for a sick neighbor; or, in case of an accident, even if not very serious, to make personal sacrifice. The claims of sympathy are paramount. A typical instance will illustrate this: A young cow mired down in thin mud away up on the edge of a steep hill. The mud acted like quicksand, and the helpless animal was sunk to the body before she was discovered. Neighbors gathered, got ropes around her, and dragged her out upon solid ground. She was exhausted and could not stand. Night was falling. It began to snow heavily,---twelve inches fell before morning,---and the cow was wet and chilled. Men went down to the foot of the steep, muddy hill and brought straw and an old carpet on which they laid the animal and covered her. Then they discovered to arise during the night, she would fall off the narrow ledge and be killed. So some of the men cut down young trees for posts, others went down and brought a post hole digger, others a ten foot gate. With these they struggled up the steep and slippery hillside, holes were dug, posts set,

the gate nailed to them, and the cow was protected against falling off the ledge. Some of the men offered to stay up there all night in the snowstorm. The next morning the cow was dragged upon a tarpaulin, and a lot of men all around it eased her down to a place level enough for a one-horse sled. This she was slid upon and dragged away to the barn, where a sling was made for her, her legs and body rubbed to restore circulation, and windproof walls temporarily put up around her. Night was falling the second day when neighbors left. A day or two earlier these men had been too busy to come and work although they needed the money offered, but because there had been an accident, each man came promptly and would accept absolutely no pay for all his unusual exertion. Such unpaid neighborliness is very common. (page 87)

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- (1) "The Land of the Saddlebags, author James Watt Raine, Berea College, 1924 Chapter 3, pages 53, 54, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61; Chapter 4, page 66, 67, 69, 70, 71, 72, 85, 87. Loaned by Lees College Library, Jackson, Ky.
- (2) An ancestress of Mrs. Poly Ann (Deaton) Turner has information on Indents.
- (3) Private notes of a writer.

COHIST

Box 1 File 14

THE HARD YEAR

In the spring of 1874 rain was so continuous that farmers were unable to plant their crops. As a result little was planted and ~~an~~ the people of Breathitt and other nearby mountain counties came to actual want. Many families subsisted on bread and milk. ~~If the Bluegrass, especially the people of Montgomery County,~~ had not come to the rescue, there would have been widespread starvation.

98 The people of the Bluegrass ^{who} responded liberally to all calls for help, Wagonloads of provisions, contributed by the people of Montgomery County, were hauled from Mount Sterling, its county seat.

Green Trimble of Hazel Green in Wolfe County and Captain L. C. Cash of Mount Sterling were very active in procuring and transporting provisions contributed by the Bluegrass people. Hazel Green was a depository and from there food was distributed through the mountains. People would come for miles leading pack horses and return with heavy loads of substantials.

A number of Breathitt citizens traveled to Mount Sterling and other parts of the Bluegrass soliciting provisions. Stephan Williams, John L. Hagins and T. T. Cope in the company of Captain Cash went to Mount Sterling to solicit aid for the destitute people of Breathitt County, and especially for those of Quicksand, their own community. Captain L. C. Cash accompanied them. A small amount of money ^{that} they had ^{collected} was invested in supplies. They went to mills and solicited flour and meal. In Bourbon County one mill contributed one thousand pounds of flour. Others gave smaller amounts. Farmers contributed bacon and other articles of food. The firm of Chiles, Bean and Company of Mt. Sterling was the largest single contributor. They solicited supplies as well as contributed them ~~for~~ from their stock. The supplies were all assembled at their place of business and at least two wagons sent from Breathitt returned to the county laden with life-saving cargoes.

Dog days start about August 21. last toward the later part of September. Said to be one of the most poisonous time of the year. All snakes, chicken hawks go blind, gives the women quite a relief about their baby chicks for the hawks' cant see how to catch them. Dogs also go mad. When people are bitten by a mad dog they are taken to a mad stone where they are cured. The water is also considered poison and mothers' keep their children out of water. Every body is glad when dog days are over.

Box 1 File 1A

COHIST

Commencement exercises at Jackson City School, May 10 to May 20.

Eight Grade Graduation exercises come before the High School.

High School has Baccalaureate Sermon, Class Night, Class play and graduation exercises.

School Fair of Jackson City Schools is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club, October 1 - 3. Contests in athletics, displays in arts, singing contests and contests in spelling and theme writing.

Awards in money, books, blue ribbons, etc. are given to the winners.

Basketball Tournament - March 7. District tournament consisting of Wolfe, Knott and Breathitt Counties. Awards are given to winners of the tournament, runners up, sportsmanship.

The Rosenwald School (colored) started this year, the Rosenwald Minstrel, it is to be an annual affair; proceeds to go to the library of the school.

Quicksand Fair at the Robinson Agricultural Experiment sub-Station three miles east of Jackson.

The Fall Festival held on the last Thursday and Friday in October has been an annual affair for ten years. All of the neighboring counties are invited to visit this fair and to enter their products, livestock and handicraft in the display. Prizes are awarded.

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BREATHITT COUNTY

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"Large burial mound located on property of Mr. Miles Back of Quicksand. Large Mound in village of Quicksand situated on a high elevation overlooking the river. Has been partly excavated. Many artifacts found in the neighborhood. Visited by W. D. Funkhouser.

"Village site near Quicksand, about 3 miles up from the mouth of Quicksand Creek on the property of Sandford Brown. Many graves and a great many arrows and surface materials. "In a level place there is a round bottom. That is, the creek circles almost around the level area, and according to tradition was used by Indians as a race-track for their ponies." "Observation mound on cliff above Big Branch of Quicksand Creek, about 2 miles from mouth of this branch."

"The Welsh Tradition" which gives the honor of the first settlements of the Welsh sometime during the twelfth century is also not without supporters and is discussed in the following chapter on "The Stone-Grave People". The tradition is based on the account of Prince Madoc which has been often quoted to support the theory. Peculiar type of stone graves which are found rather commonly throughout the state. After examination of a very large number of stone graves we believe that we are justified in reaching the following conclusions: (1) That this type of stone cist, wherever it is found, represents a single group of people (2) that these are not naturally associated with mounds, even though they may be mounds near them, (3) that the graves are all constructed on the same pattern, that they may show slight variation in their structure, (4) that the dead were seldom if ever buried with artifacts, and (5) that this group is as distinctive and represents as definite a culture as any one group with which we have to deal. In support of these conclusions, we may note certain general observations which we believe are worthy of consideration. Regarding the structure of the grave we may say that they are usually close to the surface and shallow. The skeletons in all the graves which we have examined were fully extended and lying either on the back or on the side.

In rare instances were found two skeletons in one grave. We have never found artifacts in a stone grave."

Ancient Life in Kentucky by William Webb
William Delbert Funkhouser 1928

The old people of former generations have handed down the tradition of the Indian Village on the farm of Sanford Brown. There was about six acres of bottom land of a soft loamy soil, black in color, and no vegetation would grow in it, when the natives walked through it they would sink in over their shoe tops, and their shoes would be greasy. The supposition is that this ground was a burial ground for their dead, also, an ancient "garbage disposal" for all the bones, hides, fats, and other parts of game they did not eat. It would seem impossible for the Indians to have carried this loam over the mountains on their backs as is the supposition of one writer.

On the mountain tops are to be found many altars built of stones piled on top of one another. These altars are always built on top of the hill facing the sun and are known as the altars of the Sun Worshipers. One is to be found on the farm of County Judge George Little.

Dr. Wilgus Back, surgeon and owner of the Back Hospital of Jackson, has on display a skeleton, which he says is of an old Indian Squaw. He says that she was hunch backed, had various artifices in the grave, a pestle, needle made from a deer's horn, jaw bone of a deer, and five joints of an alligator's vertebra. In his collection of Indian relics there are hoes, pipes, arrow heads, ornaments, and many other artifacts. G. W. Sewell, has a collection of artifacts that were inspected by geologists from the University of Kentucky and they were found to be the usual articles found in Indian Mounds. No Indians have lived in this county since the Revolutionary War. The settlers are of the Anglo Saxon stock. No foreigners or negroes are found except the original negro slave descendants.

Printing Press. J. J. Dickey late of Flemingsburg, started publishing the first newspaper in Jackson. The Jackson Hustler, in 1888 was in a small office building on the southeast corner of the public square. This newspaper

is the predecessor of the Breathitt County News, then came the Jackson Times a weekly paper which is the only newspaper published in the county.

Folklore. Some customs that are peculiar to this county are the Memorial meetings, held every Sunday during the late summer and early fall. When preachers were few and traveling hard and dangerous, people of the hilly country had to bury their dead without holding funeral services. So when a preacher did get into that community they held a service for all the ones that died in his absence. Now that custom is still observed, although, there are two undertaking establishments in this city and the funeral service is held in a day or two after death. Then a year from that day they have the memorial service. It is not uncommon for a widower to hold a memorial service for his late wife, and his bride prepare the feast. Friends of the deceased come to the church. Four or five preachers are invited to preach an hour or two each. The family prepares a feast of all the seasonable vegetables and meats, enough to feed one or two hundred persons and serves it in the church yard. The service lasts all day. Many people of Kentucky and West Virginia speak of the "church" as the "Church house" and the **YARD** as the "church house yard".

Workings. This is another custom that is still observed in the mountains. When traveling was hard the people lived miles apart, there was not much social intercourse, so they had "workings". Several farmers would come and work a day for one of their neighbors and a big dinner was prepared for them by their wives. They would help each other in this manner and spend a social hour or two at the same time. The young folks took advantage of "workings", called in a fiddler or two, and had a dance in the evening.

The Fall Festival. Held at Quicksand, Sub-station of the University of Kentucky Experimental Department is worth attending. Date - last Thursday and Friday of September of each year. The 4-H clubs display and the school children have a field day. Berea College, Whitespoon College, and Hindman bring displays of

needle work, and wood work. These schools teach the "Fireside Industries" and they offer their exhibits for sale and take orders for furniture. Domestic arts of every kind are shown, many old quilts of quaint patterns, looms and spinning wheels, old guns, pots, and cooking vessels of other days, some old coins. The forestry department have an educational display. Dean Cooper, and President McVey of the University, give interesting addresses. Fiddlers contests, and hog calling contests are held, and folk songs are sung.

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT: -250

The early settlers were of the Anglo-Saxon stock. Being of the middle class, they were accustomed to physical labor, and the difficulties of wilderness life was a matter of nothing to them. Their determination to overcome the hardships of the new country, to establish homes and develop their own governments and ideals, are in themselves evidence enough of the hardy stock. With this knowledge as a background we can easily understand the great economic and industrial development, as well as the social development.

Breathitt County has contributed to the outside world such men of letters, business, and culture, as Alfred Combs, business; Sam E. Hager, son of Henry and Elmira Combs Hagar to the ministry, missionary to Kobe Japan; Thomas F. Hargis to the legal bench; Thomas Marcum, law; A. J. Russell, to the Legal Universities; Thomas Terry, education; and many other notables of both state and national fame.

Important Personages. Culture, J. J. Dickey and E. C. Guerrant; religious Prof. Blanton of Center College, John Goff, Logan, M. Cr Marion, and A. C. Leonard (donated library) to education. Political James Hargis, Edward Callahan, J. B. Marcum, M. S. Crain, David K. Butler, Granville Miller, Breck Combs, Wm. Combs, J. Wise Hagins, (had clock installed in court house when he was county judge) Nathan Day, (killed in saw mill while in office). Industrial lumber mills, Kentucky Lumber and Veneer Company at Camp Cristy, Day Lumber Company, Jackson, Ky. Swan Day Lumber Co., Sewell Fork Lumber Co., Day Bros. General Merchandise, M. S. Crain, G. M. J. Wise Hagan, Hotel, Population

1890 14,322, 1930 21,143, growth in population in forty years was 47.6 per cent

Progress Report, State Planning Board

It is time the people of Breathitt County had some plan by which her five principal streams should be bridged. These bridged are a prime necessity. The business of the county cannot be successfully carried on without them.

This volume of our business is increasing and demands it. To decide that this work is never to be done is to imitate the Indians. They bridge no streams. They are more consistant, however, than the white man who opposes bridge building. They have no commerce. The pony and the bark canal are sufficient for their needs.

The white man who makes roads build houses, promotes commerce, but will not bridge the streams, is a poorer manager than the Indian. How are these bridges to be built? There are a large number of people in Breathitt County who would like to see all her streams bridged, but they have never asked themselves the question, how is it to be done? We know of but three ways, first by private enterprise; second, by communities, third by the county. Does anyone think that private individuals will ever build bridges over Troublesome, Frozen, Quicksand, or Middle Fork? Will money invested in these ever bring an income? We unhesitatingly answer never.

There is but one place in Breathitt County where capital invested in a bridge would pay, and that is at Jackson. If the people of the county adopt the private enterprise plan, then there will never be but one bridge in the county.

There is no escaping this conclusion. Can we depend upon these different communities to bridge these streams? We answer no. Such things have never been done and we cannot hope that they will ever be done. The only way that these bridges ever will be built is by the county. Jackson can have a bridge without the rest of the county, but no other bridge can be built that way. It

Box 11
File 13

is like log rolling and house raising, we must help one another. In union there is strength. Together we can build all these, divided we can build but one.

We ask the people seriously to weigh these propositions. There is but one feasible plan. To accept it means bridges over all the streams but one.

Page 4

The Jackson Hustler
April 17 - 18-91

A community that will not provide such necessary means certainly does not deserve mail.

Life is too short to wait till the streams run down before business can be attended to.

Box 1
File 13

BREATHITT COAL INDUSTRIES

(1) " An Act to incorporate the Breathitt Coal Mining and Manufacturing Co.,
" Be, it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:
"Sec. 1. That J.W. Cardwell, T.Y. Fitzpatrick, Samuel South, E.E. Hume, W.T.B.
SOUTH, and S. Trimble and their associates and successors, are hereby created
and constituted a body politic and incorporate, by the name and style of the
Breathitt County Coal and Manufacturing Co. and by that name they ---" to
have a common seal and to alter same at pleasure; to engage in mining, drift-
ing, drilling, and boring for coal, iron or other materials, petroleum, ore,
natural gas, salt water, and other mineral products or substances;" ---" to
buy, erect, or conduct all saw-mills, forges, furnaces, coke ovens, refineries,
work-shops, mills, mines, and all machinery and fixtures deemed necessary or
proper in carrying on said business; timber manufacture thereof.

"And build, or cause to be built, any railroads, pipelines, tram roads, or
other roads to the Kentucky Union Railroad, its branches in operation, or any
other railroad that may be hereafter constructed in the counties of Breathitt,
Lee, and Perry, in the State of Kentucky ; ---

Sec. 10. " The principal office of the said company shall be at Jackson,
Breathitt County, Ky, and it may be changed or removed when deemed expedient,
and the company may have branch offices at such places in Kentucky as may be
deemed necessary.

Sec. 11. " When twenty thousand dollars shall have been subscribed, and such
portion paid up as the directors may require, the company shall be deemed
fully organized and may proceed with its business.

Sec. 12. " This Act takes effect from passage"

("Became a law without approval of the Governor,
April 27, 1888")

BREATHITT COAL INDUSTRIES

(2)"An Act to incorporate the Breathitt Coal, Iron and Lumber Co., " Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Kentucky:

Sec. 1. "That Henry Worthington, J.T.Sullivan, W.P.Devon, and F.A. PRAGUE, of Covington, Ky; J.W.Frazer of Mason County, Ky; Nicholas Patterson, of Cincinnati, Ohio; and A.C.Marshall of Dayton, Ohio,; and their associates and successors, are hereby created and constituted a body politic and corporate, by the name and style of the Breathitt Coal, Iron and Lumber Company, whose principal of business shall be Breathitt County, Kentucky,--

Sec. 2. "The principal office of said county shall be in the city of Covington, State of Kentucky, and it may also have an office in Cincinnati, Ohio.---

Sec. 30. " This Act shall take effect from and after its passage."

("Became a law by the failure of the Governor to return within ten days.")

(Chapter 1215, pp.730-738)

(3) Road laws were passed, providing Supervisors or Supts. and for general conduct of all persons concerned. (Chapt. 1032, p.p.1375-1384.

"Approved April 24, 1890."

Bibliography

(1) Acts of Kentucky Legislature, date 1885-1886

(2) Acts of Kentucky Legislature, date

(3) " " " " " 1890.

The Rise and Fall of Coal Production

Box 1
File 13
B

In coal mining as in agriculture, Breathitt has seen better days.

Coal and natural gas, the principal mineral resources of the county, are the only ones of any commercial importance. At one time Breathitt ranked high in coal production, but ^{in 1934} ~~today (1940)~~ it ~~is~~ slipped down into nineteenth place among the State's twenty-two ^{coal} producing counties.

~~In this county~~ there are about seven seams of which only three, (1) fireclay or No. 4, (2) Whitesburg or No. 3, and (3) flag or No. 7, can be profitably worked ^{at the present time}.

The upper veins of coal have been depleted, and lower unworked veins can be mined only by shafting to their level. Consequently, ~~production decreased 64.4 per cent during 1928-34.~~ The R.T. Davis mine near Jackson is the only large mine now operating in the county. Elsewhere individual ^{farmers} ~~miners~~ ^{sometimes} with a helper or two, work "coal diggings" for a local market and for their home.

Small amounts of coal to supply the needs of the primitive mountain home have undoubtedly been ^{"stripped"} ~~used~~ since the first settlements. Wood, as long as it was plentiful, was used almost without exception for fuel. ~~"Farmer diggings," which are still worked in almost every part of the county, played an increasingly important part in the home economy as the timber was cut out.~~

~~Coal~~ ^{not} Coal production for a market "down the river" was already well established ^{on the Kentucky River} in 1835 when 75,000 bushels (3,000 tons), valued at \$9,000, were marketed. The Board of Internal Improvement reported for 1835-~~1836~~ ¹⁸³⁶ that the principal veins mined at that time ^{did not} ~~effectually supply~~ ^{the} ~~markets~~ ^{markets}.

Lexington and Frankfort Mines referred to in the report were near the mouth of the South Fork, near the mouth of Troublesome Creek, sixty miles up the North Fork, "where it is found in better quality than in any other part of the United States"; and near Hazard, fifty miles up the same fork. Among the mines reported on the main river the following year were twelve

Box 13
File 2

B

or fourteen on the North Fork between the Middle Fork and Hazard, and several on Troublesome and Quicksand creeks. The Troublesome mines were located near its mouth and up its north fork, where coal from openings on George's Creek was highly valued in central Kentucky. The mines on Quicksand were located from one to four miles above its mouth. The "Round Bottom" coal, mined on Quicksand, carried at base a superior cannel, averaging about two feet in thickness. ~~The coal taken from openings on Troublesome and Quicksand was barged to the Kentucky and then to market.~~

The Haddix mines at the mouth of Troublesome Creek were probably worked as extensively in 1838 as any other mines in the upper Kentucky River basin. The cannel coal, 273 feet above low water, which was mined here was noted for its hard and brittle qualities. It sold at a higher price because it was more expensive to mine than other coals and because it was considered a better coal. Cannel coal can be split very thin with an ax and the thin pieces ^{will} catch fire from a lighted match.

Shipments of coal down the Kentucky River in 1838 totaled 200,000 bushels or 8,000 tons. In the census of 1840 Clay County was credited with a production of 88,950 bushels, Estill (including Lee) with 98,525 bushels, and Breathitt with 21,017 bushels. There were 28 men employed as miners at this ^{time} in the county and the capital invested was placed at \$442. The census of 1860 mentions only Breathitt County, where there were six establishments and a product valued at \$7,550. In 1880, ~~the~~ 500 ~~hundred~~ tons were taken from a mine on Spicer's Branch (North Fork), ~~in~~ ~~Breathitt County~~.

Practically all the mining and shipping of coal was done by the land owning farmers, ~~no~~ ~~operated~~ principally in the autumn and winter when they were not engaged in lumbering or tilling the soil.

In 1854-1855 the Kentucky Geological Survey noted that, "The main coal has been entered in several places near the river above and below Jackson and an extensive business is here carried on in the coal trade which supplies most of the ready cash circulating in the country."

no # Mines for commercial production were opened on streams capable of floating a flatboat or a raft, at least during "high tide." Good seams that were not conveniently located were not worked until the railroad reached them. # Mr. Tom Haddix, whose father, William G., owned coal mines at Haddix, remembers trips to Frankfort and other points enroute in coal boats and on log rafts.

no # Coal was mined ^{then} ~~in these days~~ with a hand pick, ~~the~~ dirt ^{being} ~~was~~ removed with a mattock, a grubbing hoe, and shovel. When rock was struck, it was removed with a two-pointed pick. In a cannel coal mine the common coal lies on top of the vein, and is about one foot thick. This was cut away before the cannel coal could be reached. At one place near Haddix a hill was mined through from one side to the other, or about 600 feet from opening to opening. Mr. Tom Haddix helped get out what was considered the largest block of cannel coal ever mined in those days, and one of the largest blocks ever to leave the Kentucky River Basin, ~~the size of~~ ^{Cube.} ~~four-foot square and thick.~~ A Scotchman came here, looked at the cannel coal, and then ordered a block to take to the World's Fair at Chicago in the 1890's. It was cut out with a hand [#] pick, and pulled out of the mines with a yoke of oxen. The Scotchman paid \$10,000 for this block, which took a premium at the World's Fair. Afterwards it was called "Premium" coal. The mines at Haddix were first opened around 1852 and were shut down in 1928.

delivered in wagons or sleds, and is dumped in front of the houses where it remains exposed to the weather until it is consumed. The coal delivered brings five to eight cents a bushel.

A "farmer digging" produces five to seventy-five tons of coal annually, and is worked in the most primitive fashion. The excavation is usually carried not more than fifty or seventy-five feet beyond the outcrop, although tunnels of two hundred to three hundred feet are seen. These are worked until fall of roof is imminent and are then abandoned. They are not under State inspection, and drainage and ventilation are ignored. The most accessible coal is usually mined, but in some places a better quality is sought with some labor.

The industry was well established in 1835, when 75,000 bushels (3,000 tons) valued at \$9,000 were marketed. From that time development, though constant, was slow, and it was not until the coming of the railroads that the industry assumed larger proportions than that of a modern huckster's trade. In 1880, when probably the maximum tonnage was shipped by water, there was an output of but 27,473 tons.

As long as shipments were made by water the location of collieries was determined by accessibility to navigable stream rather than by the quantity or quality of the deposits.

Production for an outside market began at an unknown but early date. Until railroads penetrated the region the river was practically the only outlet, although occasional shipments by wagon were made from the lower counties. Workable deposits at water level first outcrop along the main stream in the vicinity of Beattyville in Lee County, whence shipments may have been made shortly before 1801. In that year an act of the legislature for the improvement of the river to South Fork provided special toll rates for coal.

Box 1
6/13

Blacksmith shops, logging engines, and sawmills consumed most of the local supply until the railroad era. Coal has now displaced wood for fuel. Even in the remote districts, stoves and grates are found in the log cabins. The coal outcrops on almost every farm and in many cases the farmer mines for his individual use as necessity dictates. As a rule an entire neighborhood is supplied by two or three men, usually native miners of some skill. The mine is leased and the owner is paid a royalty, which at present varies from ten to twenty-five cents per ton. The coal is mined by order and

Box 1
File 13

however, handicapped even the most pretentious enterprises, and the methods of production were almost as crude and haphazard as those applied in the "farmer diggings" of to-day.

At first the coal was obtained from outcrop by a process known as "stripping." Mather in 1838 states that at points on Middle and North Forks the expense of mining was "very trifling" and consisted merely "of prying up so much rock" which was "easily effected." In the commercial openings by that date, drift mining appears to have been generally adopted, but this newer method was not much of an improvement. Natural drainage and ventilation were depended upon and props were not used so that excavation was continued only to the danger point, and when that was reached the mine was abandoned and another was opened. Many of the tunnels were carried but thirty or forty feet into the hillsides. Most of them were not more than sixty or eighty feet in length and none exceeded a hundred feet.

The Kentucky Geological Survey in 1875 described the methods in vogue at that time: "The practice is to open a drift from which a few boatloads of coal are taken when, as soon as it is far enough underground to render it a matter of some labor to get the coal to the mouth of the drift, it is abandoned and another one is opened. The so-called mines are therefore but a series of shallow pits."

The coal fleet consisted of flatboats propelled by long oars. Sometimes ordinary lumber rafts and canoes were pressed into service. Sandbars or the short natural pools in the stream served as shipyards where the rough boats were constructed of timber from the surrounding forest. There was no provision for storage. The boats loaded directly from the mines during the low water of autumn were tied to await freshets sufficient to carry them over the obstructions in the river. Exposed to sudden and

violent rises they frequently broke loose from their moorings and were dashed to pieces on the rocks.

Yet in favorable seasons, the coal industry netted the farmer a considerable profit, and it was in fact the source of most of the money circulating in the region.

In 1838 shipments were made to steamboats on the Ohio. Some of this was probably carried down the Mississippi to sugar mills in Louisiana, but Frankfort, Lexington, and other points in central Kentucky received most of the cargoes. Since there were no repositories along the river, the coal was dependent for the most part upon chance markets and often its sale was forced.

This fact and the risks of river passage rendered the industry financially so hazardous that, as soon as the means of transportation in central Kentucky were improved, competition with Pennsylvania coal became impossible and shipments were restricted to points not far distant from the coal field.

Shipment by rail began immediately upon the completion of the line to Jackson and Beattyville. From that time until the extension of the road up North Fork, the commercial mines were confined to Breathitt and Lee Counties. The territory exploited was practically the same as that of former years, and the methods were but slightly improved so that the output, although increased, was small when compared with the product from other sections of the coal field. It was not until 1913, when Letcher County began to ship by rail, that the Kentucky basin became an important

mining center. In that year 1,141,604 tons were produced, valued at \$1,429,144.

It is only at the headwaters of the Three Forks that the seams are of sufficient thickness and extent to warrant large undertakings. Here, since the era of railroads, a gradual transfer of mining lands from resident holders to outside capitalists has taken place. Railroad extension has accelerated the consolidation of numerous small holdings into extensive tracts until now most of the valuable land is under the control of corporations by right of ownership, lease, or option.

In 1925 Breathitt County pro-

duced 177,029 tons of coal, but ~~coal production on a large~~ ^{on a large} mining scale
has decreased until it can no longer be considered the ^{county's} main industry ~~of~~
~~the county~~ aside from agriculture.

Box 1
file 13

COAL

The coal of this region is a pure bituminous of which there are a number of varieties. The geological distribution renders the upper counties richer in the quantity of the mineral than the lower counties.

Wealth Untold

Breathitt County Coal Fields. Thirty-two feet on the same piece of land in six veins.

When Col. L. C. Bohanon and W. M. Haddix bored for salt water at the mouth of Troublesome Creek, this county in 1837-38 they passed through a vein of coal sixteen feet thick. This we have from the Col. himself. He said that they

kept a journal of their work, and marked the mineral through which they passed. They tested it and found it to be a good article of bituminous coal. This on the bank of the river. Across the bottom, a few hundred yards distant, is a mountain range and in that mountain there are five veins of coal aggregating 16 feet in thickness. They vary in thickness, though all are workable.

This vein below the bed of the river must be widely extended. The value of such lands cannot be estimated. Think 32 feet of coal deposits below the same surface. On the south fork of Quicksand Creek in a mountain range with 57 feet of coal in it divided into 11 veins. One of the veins is 12 feet thick. No test has ever been made of what lies below the bed of the creek. If the 16 foot vein at the mouth of Troublesome extends to that point, then there are 73 feet of coal on this land. These things seems fabulous, but they show for themselves. Surely we have a great country, awaiting the touch of capital and enterprise to develop its wealth.

Handwritten notes: "Pittsburg" and "Frankfort"

David Trimble, in his report to the legislature, February 12, 1833 (House Journal, 1837-1838, p. 468) notes that "any quantity of the coal can be had at the pits at two and a half cents per bushel. It sells at fifteen cents per bushel at Frankfort wholesale, and is supposed by competent judges to be superior to the Pittsburg coal for manufacturing purposes." Within the mountains, the coal was sold at Irvine and other points along the river for ten cents a bushel. (House Journal, 1837-1838, Appendix, p. 176.) There are no records of expenses and profits involved in the transactions for the Kentucky River coals, but the following data for mines on the Cumberland River in 1837 are probably typical of all commercial mines in eastern Kentucky at that time. (House Journal, 1837-1838, Appendix, p. 131.) The coal was shipped down the upper Cumberland from points seventeen miles or more above Burnside to Nashville, Tennessee, a distance of about 344 miles. The distance from Hazard, the head of coal-boat navigated on the Kentucky, to Frankfort is 255 miles. The expenses on the Kentucky were not so great because of a shorter distance from mine pit to boat and thence to market, but the market price of coal was less.

Disbursements

One boat load (3,500 bushels)	3315.00
Mining and delivery at mouth of mine	
(per bushel).....	\$0.025
Hauling to landing.....	.055

Box 1
File 13

Disbursements (contd.)

Loading.....	.005	
Bailing.....	.005	
Total cost aboard boat.....	.09	
Boat.....		149.00
Hands and expenses (\$0.35 per mile).....		120.00
Total cost at Nashville.....		575.00

Receipts

Total value at Nashville, one boat load (3,500 bushels at 23 cents).....		805.00
One boat.....		35.00
Total value.....		840.00
Net profit per boat.....		265.00

In Breathitt County the mines were confined to the neighborhood of Jackson until 1903, when the Ohio and Kentucky Railroad was extended from that point up Frozen Creek into Wolfe County. A high grade cannel coal has been mined at a number of openings along the road. (Annual Report, Kentucky Inspector of Mines, 1903-1904, p. 154; Ibid, 1911, p. 52.)

The production decreased in Lee County from 94,597 tons in 1905, to 30,152 tons in 1913, and in Breathitt County from 42,355 tons in 1904, to 6,000 tons in 1913. (Reports, Kentucky Inspector of Mines. Mineral Resources of the United States, United States Geological Survey.)

In some instances mineral rights only are sold, while surface rights are retained by the farmer; the best coal land, varying from twenty-five to forty per cent and more of the area, has been held awaiting the railroad for development. From twenty to eighty per cent of this is owned outright by the companies. (Eighteenth Biennial Report, Kentucky Bureau of Agriculture, 1908-1909, p. 150.)

Shortly before

Box 1
File 13

the entrance of the railroad, small companies were formed, fairly extensive tracts of coal lands were leased or purchased, and more men were employed in each mine. Among the corporations chartered around this time were the Breathitt Coal, Iron and Lumber Co., and the Breathitt Coal Mining and Manufacturing Co. The first of these was principally composed of men from Covington and the State of Ohio. The incorporators in the latter were J.W. Cardwell, T. Y Fitzpatrick, Samuel South, E.E. Hume, W.T.B. South, and S. Trimble. *Insert A*

op. 1
op 1

Articles in The Jackson Hustler "drummed" the potentialities of the county at this time ^{as} ~~were~~ vigorously ^{as boom town} ~~then~~ a chamber of commerce. ~~It~~ ^{was} ~~been~~ ^{time of} ~~town~~ In the June 21, 1889, ~~some~~ land speculators were reported as paying \$2.00 to \$200 per acre for coal and timber lands.

The Progress of mineral developments in this section of the mountains is still unabated. New veins and banks of coal are being discovered almost every day. In fact, our people as a class, are just now beginning to see the necessity of having all their banks opened so that the coal may be seen. They have learned by time and experience that a speculator is ten times more apt to make purchase when he can see what he is buying than he is where he has to act by heresay or guess work.....

In an article entitled "Wealth Untold," The Hustler of March 20, 1891, exaggeratedly reported thirty-two feet of coal in six veins on the same piece ^{of} land, ^{and} after mixing a little imagination with a little addition, it concluded that "These things seem fabulous, but they show for themselves. Surely we have a great country, awaiting the touch of capital and enterprise to develop its wealth."

The touch of capital and enterprise was somewhat like the golden touch of Midas. It was a blessing with a booming.

B
OX 1
file 13

Until the entry of the railroad, coal production was comparatively small in Breathitt County. Mines were centered around Jackson, on the North Fork below the town, and near the mouths of Troublesome and Quicksand creeks.

no # After the Kentucky Union R.R. reached Jackson in 1891, practically the same mines were worked and few changes were made in mining methods. Coal was shipped by rail from only Lee and Breathitt of the Upper Kentucky River counties. In 1903 a line was extended from Jackson up Frozen Creek into Wolfe County, and a high grade cannel coal was mined at a number of openings along this road.

It was not until 1913 when the railroad was built into Letcher that this region became important for its coal production.

ⁱⁿ net forth the act incorporating the Breathitt Coal Mining and Manufacturing Co

illustrated the extensive range of activities ^{enjoyed by this firm} ~~enjoyed by this firm~~ ^{indicates the bondholders hopes} ~~indicates the bondholders hopes~~

The firm was empowered to engage in mining, drifting, drilling, and boring for coal, iron, petroleum, natural gas, salt water, and other mineral products or substances; to buy, erect, or conduct all sawmills, forges, furnaces, coke ovens, refineries, workshops, mills, mines, and all machinery and fixtures deemed necessary or proper to carry on its business, including the manufacture of timber; to build, or cause to be built, any railroads, pipelines, tram roads, or other roads to the Kentucky Union Railroad, its branches in operation, or any other railroad that should be constructed in Breathitt, Lee, and Perry counties.

Insert A

proprietor's certificate of this period.

Box 1
File 13

Insert I

no # Annual coal production in ~~Breathitt County~~ has fluctuated widely over the last few decades. In 1904, 42,355 tons were mined and in 1913, 6,000 tons. During the World War and later during the "boom" of the 1920's production followed the upward ^{surge} trend of the heavy industries.

no # In 1925 the county produced 177,029 tons of coal, and in 1929 coal production reached 208,656 tons. By 1934, it had fallen to 71,401 tons, a decrease of 64.4% during 1928-34. There were 308 employed coal miners in the county in 1928, but in 1934 this had fallen to 194. During this same period the average number of days worked fell from 229 to 140.

The Early Scotch-Irish Presbyterian Schools

The emigrants to this country from Scotland and Ireland had many things in common and mingled naturally and constantly wherever they settled.

During the bloody persecutions which prevailed in Scotland many of her best citizens were banished to America. Some of them were transported as felons because they would not violate their consciences. Others fled because they were denied the mode of worship which they believed in most accordance with God's word; while there were others who were attracted by the prospect of improving their temporal condition, which had been so impaired by fines and imprisonments to which they had been subjected.

After the battle of Dunbar (1650), a large number of prisoners were sent to the plantations, as they were called, to be sold for slaves. The same disposition was made of many who took part in the Pentland rising and the battle of Bottiwell Bridge. The oppressed congregations also furnished many colonists who, were denied all religious freedom at home, fled to this country. A large number of these were Presbyterians and settled from the years 1670 to 1680, on the Elizabeth River, Virginia, and in the lower counties of Maryland, and established churches twenty years before the close of the century. North Carolina was largely indebted to the early Scotch colonists for many of her most honored citizens. As early as 1729, and again in 1736 and 1739, there were large arrivals of emigrants who occupied the fertile plains along the Cape Fear River. The Rebellion of 1745 caused many Highlanders to leave their native land. Many of them landed at Wilmington, then made their way into the interior of North and South Carolina. Some of these were voluntary exiles but most of them fled from Scottish persecution.

Though the emigration from Scotland began at an earlier period than that from the North of Ireland, it never assumed the magnitude nor the organized form of the latter, especially from the years 1715 to 1750. During these years America received large accessions to its Protestant population, most of whom were Scotch-Irish and in hearty sympathy with the Presbyterian Church. There were three causes impelling the inhabitants of Ulster to desert a country which they had reclaimed from barbarism. These were religious bigotry, commercial jealousy and the oppressive measures employed by landlords.

"Dr. Baird, in his History of Religion in America, states that from 1729 to 1750 about twelve thousand annually came from Ulster to America". These emigrants entered the country mainly at Boston, Philadelphia and Charleston. A large number of them were Presbyterians. They first occupied the eastern and middle counties of Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland. Many found their way from central Pennsylvania to the fertile lands of Virginia. Later on western Pennsylvania was occupied by the descendants of the settlers in the middle counties of the State and those of the more southern colonies passed westward to the country then called "between the mountains", now known as Kentucky and Tennessee.

For the most part, these colonists had been tillers of the soil in their native lands, and on their arrival on our shore went immediately to work to make homes for their families. As a consequence, prosperity attended their well-directed endeavors. Churches and schools at once took their proper places and flourished in all their settlements.

The indebtedness of the Presbyterian Church in America, to the churches of Ireland and Scotland can scarcely be overestimated.

p 299. Presbyterians have ever been the earnest advocates and patrons of general learning. The academy of John Calvin, established at Geneva, to which so many of the youth of Europe resorted, is well known to fame. One of the

On his way back he traveled up Lick Branch, passing a low gap in the mountains. Here Big John Aikman, who since his release from prison had found the life of a feud gunman irresistible, had been waiting for some time. With him were two boon comrades. When the old captain reached easy range, they fired on him from the dense evergreen woods. The first shot killed Strong and the next one the captain's faithful old mule. His grandson was apparently untouched, as the Breathitt feudists never harmed the children of their deadliest enemy. Big John and his accomplices ran out to the fallen body of the old chieftain and fired on him several times to make certain that he would never rise to fight again. The assassins then hid themselves in the woods until night when they stole away to report the success of the ambush to their chieftain.

(NOTE: The write-up of feuds has not yet been completed.

The best known and most eventful of all the Breathitt feuds - the Hargis-Cockrell feud - as well as a few later killings, such as that of Callahan, are now being written.)

BREATHITT COUNTY

ECONOMICS "THE HARD YEAR"

read in full
Box 1
6/10/13

(1)

"T.T.Cope deposeseth:

"The Spring of 1874 was very similar to this present year. The rain was so continuous that the people could not plant their crops. Very little was raised. The year 1875 is known as the "Hard Year". The people came to actual want. If the Blue Grass people had not come to their rescue there would have been real starvation. Many families subsisted on bread and milk.

"The people of the Blue Grass responded liberally to all calls for help. Wagonloads of provision were hauled from Mount Sterling which was contributed by the people of Montgomery County. The people of Mount Sterling were especially liberal. (page 77).

"Green Trimble, of Hazel Green, (Wolfe Co., M.F.B.) and Captain L.C.Cash (there are none of the family here now that spell their name with Cash. MFB) of Mount Sterling were very active in procuring and transporting the provisions the Blue Grass people contributed. Hazel Green was a depository and from there food was distributed through the mountains. People would come for miles leading pack horses and return with heavy loads of substantials.

"During the Summer I accompanied Captain L.C.Cash and two men to Mount Sterling to solicit aid for the destitute people of Breathitt County. The firm of Chiles and Bean contributed and solicited, at least, two wagon-loads of provisions. A large amount (page 87) of the supplies was brought to the county in canoes and push boats, by the way of Beattyville (Lee County) NEAR THE CONFLUENCE OF THE South Fork and Middle Fork of the Ky. River with the North Fork of Ky. River. M.F.B.). Much seed corn was included in those supplies. The largest contributions were made by the people of Montgomery county. (page 91)."

"J. L. Hagins deposeseth:" (2)

"During the "Hard Year" Stephen Williams and I went to Mount Sterling in the interests of the suffering people of Breathitt County, and especially of Quicksand, where we lived. Captain L. C. Cash accompanied us. We had a small amount of money to expend which was invested in supplies.

"We went to mills and solicited flour and meal. In Bourbon county one mill contributed 1,000 lbs. of flour. Others gave smaller amounts. Farmers contributed bacon and other articles of food.

"Chiles, Bean & Co. of Mt. Sterling, contributors. They also solicited for us. The supplies were all assembled at their place of business, and upon our return we sent wagons from Breathitt which returned laden with life-saving cargoes. (page 93).

"Another thing was added to our misfortunes which made the case more desperate. It was something remarkable. The county was infested by millions of grey squirrels that attacked the corn fields when the corn was in roasting ears, and almost devoured the crops. Some fields were completely destroyed.

"James and Stephen Williams employed men and paid them wages to kill squirrels to protect their crops. They' (the squirrels)' could be seen everywhere: along the country roads, on house tops, in gardens and orchards and swimming the streams. It was like the grasshoppers in Egypt.

"There was no mast that year, which was against us (page 95). The cause of this was a very heavy freeze the 16th and 17th of April which killed much of the tops of the beech trees and destroyed the mast of other timber. Later, the ground was covered with dead limbs of the dead timber." (page 97)

(2) J. L. Hagins deposeseth:

"A cousin of T. T. Cope's, James S. Cope killed 65 and 89 squirrels with a double barrel shot gun in one afternoon." (page 95 in margin).

Box 1
File 13

Breathitt County

(3) "Green Strong deposeseth:"

"Reuben Smith was appointed by the County Judge to distribute supplies at Jackson. He used the scales in making distributions. Canoes and push boats went as far as Millers Creek for supplies." (page 97)

Bibliography

(1) "Breathitt County History gathered by J. J. Dickie, date not given.

written in longhand, legibility difficult. This Dickie is the man who edited the Jackson Hustler for several years and opened the Lees Institute. M.F.B.

This T.T. Cope lives in Lexington. He was, for several years, City Police Judge of Jackson, about 12 years I think. I know him very well.

M.F.B.

(2) J. L. Hagins family will appear again in this work.

(3) The Strong family will appear again.

Box 1
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The manufacture of salt was carried on in the Kentucky basin for a longer period than elsewhere in the State.

The works at Leatherwood, 113 miles above Beattyville, were established by General White and Colonel Brashear, and for a time produced 250 bushels a week which was considered ample for the local demand. (Kentucky Senate Journal, 1835-1836, Appendix, p. 38.) In 1838 there was a capacity of fifty bushels a day and sufficient water for a yield of three times that amount. (House Journal, 1838-1839, Appendix, p. 120.) The Kentucky Geological Survey of 1854-1855 (Old Series, Vol. I, p. 228) notes: "At the mouth of Leatherwood Creek salt was reached at one hundred feet but not very strong; the borings were afterwards sunk by Brashear four hundred and ten feet..... at which depth a fine brine was reached yielding when economically worked a bushel of salt from sixty-five to seventy gallons."

The works on Troublesome, fifty-two miles above Beattyville, were situated one and a half miles upstream near the mouth of Lost Fork, and in 1838 the daily capacity was ten bushels. The brine obtained at 420 feet produced a bushel of salt from 100 gallons. (House Journal, 1838-1839, Appendix, p.120; Kentucky Geological Survey, Old Series, Vol. I, p. 211.) This is probably the establishment referred to in the Census of 1840 as in Breathitt, with a product of seventy bushels and three men employed.

Until the railroad reached Jackson (forty-six miles above Beattyville) the price of salt in this section of the valley was at times one dollar a bushel (Kentucky Geological Survey, Old Series, Vol. I, p. 211), and until the extension to headwaters a haul of sixty miles was necessary from the supply at Jackson. Much of the salt used in this section was hauled through Pound Gap from Saltville, Virginia. (Verhoeff, The Kentucky Mountains, p. 160, Note A.)

Box 1
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During 1818 a small quantity of salt was manufactured "high up" on Middle Fork. (House Journal, 1818, pp. 180-182.) An act of November 7, 1821, refers to the Garrard Salt-Works which were probably located near the junction of Cutshin Creek in Leslie County, fifty-nine miles above the mouth. (Kentucky Geological Survey, Old Series, Vol. 7, p. 214.) This well was mentioned in a State report of 1836 but was not in operation at the time. (House Journal, 1836-1837, Appendix, p. 93.) A State report of 1838 (Senate Journal, 1838-1839, Appendix, p. 121) notes: "I was informed that about eight miles above where the survey was commenced (crossing of the Manchester-Hazard road, 68 miles above the mouth) a considerable quantity of salt was formerly manufactured but for some cause the works are not at present carried on and I am not apprised that any of this article is now made ~~now~~ or near the Middle Fork." These works were not revived and borings made ~~later~~ at other points were unsuccessful.

Box 1
File 13

Acts passed at the First Session of the Thirty-fourth General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. 1836-p.p.321-322.

Chapter 276. "An act to establish a state road from the mouth of Troublesome Creek to the Sounding Gap of Cumberland Mountains."

"Whereas", it is represented to this general assembly, that a road from the mouth of Troublesome Creek, in Perry County, by the way of the town of Hazard, to the Virginia line at the Sounding Gap of Cumberland mountain, would greatly promote the intercourse between the two states, and essentially conduce to the convenience and benefit of the population of the Country through which it may pass:

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. That the board of interval improvement for the State, be, and they are hereby instructed to cause an engineer in their service to repair to that quarter, survey, and locate an eligible route for a road from the mouth of the above named Creek by the way of the town of Hazard, to the Sounding Gap aforesaid."

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, that the said board be authorized to appropriate, and expend for the construction of the said road, provided they shall be satisfied as to its utility. A sum not exceeding three thousand dollars, which amount they may draw from the fund for interval improvement, for that purpose."

Sec.3. Be it further enacted, that the said road, when opened and constructed, shall be placed in the charge of the County Court of Perry County, who shall place the same upon the same footing with the other roads of the County, as to working and repair, but shall have no power to alter, change, or discontinue the same."

Approved, February 25, 1836

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT
BREATHITT COUNTY

ETHNOLOGY etc. Racial groups, the population of the county are of the white race. They own the land which has been handed down from father to son for the last century or longer. Each new owner develops his holdings, and follows the business trend of his day. Industrial communities have been developed, since the roads are better for travel, and there are more roads although Breathitt County has few roads compared in size of area as other counties, and progress has been retarded for that reason. Taking into consideration this fact, Breathitt County has developed in industry and culture more than other counties that have had better roads, and other transportation facilities.

BREATHITT COUNTY

270

Ethnology, etc. Racial groups, the population of the county ~~is~~ of the white race. They own the land which has been handed down from father to son for the last century or longer. Each new owner develops his holdings and follows the business trend of his day. Industrial communities have been developed, since the roads are better for travel, although Breathitt County has few roads as compared to other counties of the same size. Poor roads have retarded the progress of the county.

Personal observation

Box 1 COHIST 17

Farming in Breathitt

The new "Era" will be characterized by a revolution in farming. Heretofore corn has been the principal and it might be said, the only crop.

The result is the land is exhausted, and a great deal of it is abandoned. This is certainly bad management. No farming can be considered profitable that does not preserve the fertility of the soil.

The raising of grass is the only method by which farming land can be kept up in this region. There is no profit in cultivating exhausted land. The labor is greater than cultivating richer soil and the returns not half as great. The most successful farmers in this county are those who have sown grass freely for many years.

We would instance among this number, the Crawfords on the Middle Fork and Twin Creek. Of course, the sowing of greas means also raising of stook especially sheep and cattle. That business will be more profitable in the new "Era" than in the old.

There will be a large population of miners and timber men to feed. Who will want beef and mutton. If Breathitt does not furnish these, adjoining counties will. The market is here. As we ring out the old and ring in the new, let our farmers adapt themselves to the changed conditions.

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First Travelers

The vanguard of the English and French empire builders was formed by Indian traders and fur hunters. They brought back to the settled communities and to the centers of government and commerce the first knowledge of the unsettled, unexplored land to the west. Before the McAfee brothers (*see below*) ventured into Kentucky they either consulted Daniel Boone or at least with *like him* men who had ~~direct~~ *gathered their* information from ~~him~~ *personal experiences*. From the very outset their company not only had a distinct idea of procedure but also of the particular region which they wished to make their permanent home.

There is little doubt that, long before the travels of Gist (*see below*) and the McAfee company, hunters seeking pelts, adventurers exploring the land, and scouts seeking a way back into Virginia followed the two upper forks of the Kentucky river and thereby passed through the present territory of Breathitt County. Profits in the fur trade sent men into remote and dangerous parts of the western wilderness.

Over half a century before the opening of Kentucky, articles suitable for trade with the Indians were transported across the mountains and floated down the Ohio to be exchanged for furs and skins. The Shawnee village of Eskippakithiki, mentioned by early Scottish traders as Little Pict Town, was located at Indian Old Fields, in what is now Clark County, from about 1713 to 1754. A trail used by French traders led from the Illinois River, crossed the Ohio near the mouth of the Kentucky, and passed by the site of Eskippakithiki. From there it continued on to Cumberland Gap and entered the country of the Cherokees in Carolina.

John
Finley
1752

John Finley, on his trading voyage in the autumn of 1752, reached the Falls of the Ohio, where frequent Indian encampments were held. On his return up the river he met at the mouth of Big Bone Lick a band of Shawnees who escorted him and helped transport his cargo of goods over an old trail up the

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Kentucky River to Eskippakithiki.

Hunters, traders, travelers, and early settlers alike tended to follow these old Indian paths as they had been largely determined by the best natural advantages of the country through which they passed. An ancient trace that branched off the Warriors' Path roughly followed the Kentucky river along its North Fork and passed through the area now embraced by Breathitt. It lead on to "Sounding" (Pound) Gap which the Indians continued to visit as a hallowed hunting ground even after the coming of the first white settlers. Reminiscences of old-timers also suggest the possibility of other paths in Breathitt that were used by the Indians when they came into this area to hunt. One of these went up Frozen Creek and more than likely departed from the North Fork at the mouth of War Creek which it followed for a short distance. Another path led to Flint Mountain where, as the naming of the mountain would imply, the Indians obtained flint. These paths, marked by the large game of the forest and the Indian, were later used by early settlers.

The route through Pound Gap, although of minor importance as an avenue of early immigration when compared with Cumberland Gap, opened into the important drainage basin of the Kentucky River two miles from the headwaters of its longest and upper fork. It was one of the natural, if more difficult, arteries of travel. By following this north fork of the Kentucky and then the main river to its confluence with the Ohio at Carrollton, the traveler passed through 420 miles of varied country, ranging from the rugged highlands of the Cumberland plateau to the rolling plains of the Bluegrass.

Colonel Abraham Wood, who as the enterprising commander of Fort Henry in Virginia combined business with government, inadvertently sponsored the first known trip made either by a British colonial or an Englishman into Kentucky. In 1673 he sent two young Virginians into the West on a trading mission to the Cherokees. It was during one of the misadventures of this

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expedition that the British in the person of Gabriel Arthur, a clever but illiterate lad, first penetrated as far west as Kentucky. Young Arthur was probably an indentured servant in Colonel Woods' employ, while James Needham, his superior, was a colonial gentleman. Needham returned to Fort Henry after reaching the Cherokee village where he left his young companion. After reporting to Colonel Wood he attempted to again visit the Southern Appalachian Indians, but was killed by a treacherous Occaneechix Indian.

Gaberiel Arthur continued to live with the Cherokees, going with them on raiding parties and otherwise living as an Indian brave. In the spring he accompanied a party of Cherokees to the village of the friendly Kohetons on the great Kanawha to the north. On their return home the Cherokees went out of their way to attack a band of ~~Shenandoah~~ ^{another} Indians. In this encounter Arthur was wounded and taken prisoner. When the ~~Shenandoah~~ ^{he was taken} ~~took him~~ ^{his captors} into custody ~~they~~ suspected he was no Cherokee because of his long hair. Scouring off the accumulated, sun-baked grime with water and ashes, they found that his skin was white. ^{He was then taken to their village, which according to one version of Col. Wood's account, was} ~~his captors took him~~ ^{across the Ohio} ~~to their village~~ ^{on the} lower Scioto ~~where~~ ^{and here} they bestowed every attention on him, ~~and~~ ^{allowing} his wound to heal ~~they~~ set him on his way back to the Cherokee country.

Young Arthur, dressed like a redskin, hardened, bronzed and grimed by an outdoor life, most likely passed through eastern Kentucky along the old Warriors' Path. This route, following a less rugged course, passed through eastern Kentucky west of present-day Breathitt county. It probably crossed the Kentucky River near the mouth of Station Camp Creek, at Irvine, in Estill County. After swimming this stream Arthur continued on through Cumberland Gap to the Cherokee country in Carolina. Shortly afterwards he left his Indian hosts and safely made his way back to his patron, Colonel Abraham Wood, at Fort Henry (now Petersburg).

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It is possible, although not too likely, that Dr. Walker, surveyor for the Loyal Land Company, touched points within the present territory of Breathitt County during his explorations in 1750. A careful study of his journal, together with an examination of the topography of the section will show possibilities in several directions, including the South and Middle forks of the Kentucky River. Kentucky historian J. Stoddard Johnston³ has placed Dr. Walker's course more to the west, across the headwaters of Rockcastle River. If so, it is difficult to find in this region the streams described.

In the course followed in 1751 by the Ohio Land Company's scout, Christopher Gist, however, there is little if any doubt about his passage through Breathitt. Johnston in his annotation of Gist's Journal (First Explorations of Kentucky, p. 154) says: "Upon my theory that he passed during these days from the waters of the Red River to those of the North Fork of the Kentucky River, he would have encountered the country and laurel thickets described, and also coal in Wolfe and Breathitt counties then and afterward. There is no laurel (Rhododendrum Maximum) west of this point."

The two days, March twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth, upon which Johnston makes this inference, Gist entered the following notation in his journal: "These two days we travelled thro Rocks and Mountains full of Laurel Thickets which we could hardly creep thro without cutting the Way." (Ibid., p. 154) The following day when Gist was more than likely still within the confines of Breathitt he made this entry in his journal: "Our Horses and Selves were so tired we were obliged to stay this Day to rest, for We were unable to travel - On all Branches of the little Cuttaway (North Fork of the Kentucky) River was Plenty of Coal some of which I brought in to the Ohio Company." (Ibid., p. 154).

The laurel thickets which made traveling so difficult for Dr. Walker and the coal on all branches of the "little Cuttaway" were also the most

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noteworthy features of this country for Gist. He continued along the North
York and returned to Virginia by way of Pound Gap.

Daniel Boone wandered over and hunted in so much of Kentucky that legends of his sojourn in Breathitt County can be safely based on this fact alone. Until recent years there stood near the mouth of Frozen Creek a giant sycamore tree with a hollow trunk. The old people of this region claim that Daniel Boone and several other men who were with him stayed in this tree one night. According to this same story, they were nearly frozen to death and the next morning they decided to call the stream Frozen Creek. (The name ^{was} Frozen ^{was} according to another legend was given to the creek by some early settler or traveler who arrived in the region in the winter time when the smooth-flowing water at its mouth was frozen.)

The legend of Daniel Boone in Breathitt is partly supported by the naming of Boone's Fork of Frozen Creek, which is in the section where he is supposed to have hunted. Adams Birchfield, an early settler, told the story during his lifetime that when he first came into the county he found a hunter's camp on this branch of Frozen ^{Creek} and on a nearby beech tree was carved the name of the great wilderness pathfinder, indicating that it was his camp. Daniel Boone or one of his companions also cut his name in the bark of another tree along the Thomas Strong Fork of Frozen Creek. (see p.)

The pioneer legends of Breathitt County also claim that Daniel Boone camped ^{in the} ~~at the~~ two caves near Blanton Bridge, ^{# a short distance north of Jackson on State 16.} ~~In the outer wall of one of these caves is a small hole big enough to take the muzzle of an old rifle. Boone is locally reputed to have shot several attacking Indians from this cave. About ten feet from the opening of this cave is the other. In this one, a big flat topped rock that narrows at the bottom, somewhat like a mushroom, is said to have served as Boone's table. Both caves first appear to be a rock cliff as they are in a big rock. Their openings are about ten feet from the ground.~~

~~and one of them can now be entered only by climbing a small tree and the other only by clambering up the creviced rock to its small opening.~~

The McAfee brothers, who played a prominent part in the early settlement of the Bluegrass, came through the land of Breathitt on their way back to Virginia during the first part of August, 1773. Two of them, James and Robert, kept separate and sometimes contradictory journals of their trip up the Kentucky River and its North Fork. Although the entries in these journals are brief, they form the most complete of the early records of travel up this stream before the period of settlement in this area.

On August ~~5th~~⁶ this company, which also included another brother, George, a brother-in-law, James McConn, Jr., and Samuel Adams, traveled twenty miles from a camping site on the North Fork, twelve miles above the mouth of the South Fork, and passed a "big creek" (Holly Creek) into the present territory of Breathitt. It "rained some all day." James wrote that there was "no good land still" and Robert commented on the "bad ground" which made travel difficult. At one point it was necessary for them to raft across

the river. They camped that evening about six miles above the mouth of Frozen Creek. On the next day (August ~~6th~~⁷) they passed the mouth of Frozen ^{Creek}. James noted for the travel on this day that "Some good bottoms were seen--" and Robert wrote "The River was something opener that we had good coming that day--" The journey of this day brought them into the heart of present-day Breathitt. From a point of six miles above the mouth of Frozen Creek they followed the winding course of the river past the site upon which Jackson, Breathitt's county seat, was established sixty-seven years later. On the evening of the seventh they had reached the mouth of Quicksand, where they camped for the night.

August ~~7th~~⁸, the following day, was Sunday. James remarked that the hills were very high and full of greenbrier and some laurel, and Robert

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that "The river was very crooked so that we had to cross near 20 times and very often to our middle." The hills through here are so steep and so close to the river edge that it was often impossible for them to get a foothold, especially in the "bends." Neither of the McAfee brothers commented on Troublesome creek, a large fork of the river which they passed on the morning of this day. They either had to ford Troublesome ^{Creek} or else pass its mouth on the western side of the North Fork. The difficulties of this day -- the thick greenbrier and laurel bushes, and the repeated crossing and recrossing of the river -- probably obscured this event of the morning. On this same day towards evening, when they had reached the present Breathitt-Perry line, James saw and brought down with his rifle a buck elk which supplied them with food the next four days. They naturally camped on or near the spot of the killing and had a feast. On the ninth they entered the territory that is now embraced in Perry county.

After the McAfee brothers, hunters, alone or in groups, penetrated this same mountain wilderness, following the various forks of the Kentucky river and going up their tributaries in search of game. // In this connection it is interesting to note that neither of the McAfee brothers make any remarks on game, with the exception of the buck elk they killed, during the three days they were passing through Breathitt territory. Omissions from their journals, however, mean little as James did not even mention the killing of the buck elk. // The first period of general settlement, beginning and ending with the Revolutionary War, brought around twelve thousand people into Kentucky. Many of these were great hunters who wandered over large sections of the state in search of fur-bearing game.

Aside from several possible settlements along Lost Fork and adjoining territory, in the 1780's, the next group of travelers or visitors of historical note in Breathitt were the patent surveyors. The James Reynolds patent or

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grant, issued in 1786 had been surveyed in 1784. The several patents held by James Ross and David Curry were surveyed in 1788. Other patents held in this region by Virginia veterans of the Revolution were surveyed around this time, although none of them, as far as is known, were taken up or in any way disposed of.

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FOLK CUSTOMS

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Box 1
file 17Breathitt
Morris Fork Community Customs, Treatment of Missionary:

COHIST

The Rev. Samuel Van de Meer came from New York City, where he had worked in the slums. Mrs. Elizabeth Blackman, who was located in Leslie County and with whom he had previously worked with in the slum district of New York City, invited him to spend his vacation with her during the Summer of 1923. Here he met Dr. Harvey S. Murdock, head of the Buckhorn College, Perry County. During the following Winter, 1923-24, Rev. Van de Meer taught school at Freeman's Fork of Long's Creek, Breathitt County, and boarded about with the pupils in their homes. This was a voluntary school.

"I conducted Sunday School and preaching services. We had no church, but twenty-one people confessed Christ. We had some trouble, but the people became attached to me, and I prayed about a great deal about my work, for I wanted to go to South America in the Mission field.

"Among those, who confessed Christ, was the worst man in the community, most lawless man, Lewis Strong--no he'll not object to giving his name, but there is one man whom I cannot give the name of.

In February when I returned to New York City, Buck Fox, age 50 went to Buckhorn, and then rode three miles to Chavies to the train to see me. He said, We're not saying goodbye, and Lewis Strong rode three miles, horseback, to Chavies, and as I was about to board the train, Lewis handed me his watch and chain asking me to take it, to look at it and everytime I looked at it to remember him in prayer.

After reaching New York City I took first aid work at some of the medical clinics in Brooklyn, for three months. During this time I received several letters from Lewis, and from the children to return to come back and continue the work. I had a letter from Dr. Harvey S. Murdock to come back and continue the work. He had the Morris Fork

field in view although I did not know about that.

In the late Summer of 1924 I returned to Sandlin, on Freeman Fork, Breathitt County, and was greeted enthusiastically by the people. I taught school at Sandlin three days a week, and on four nights a week I had the adults at school. An average of twenty pupils attended all that Winter. We used the county school house at Sandlin at nights, and for lights we used pine knots, and wicks in bottles filled with kerosine oil, for we had only one table lamp. These other lights were used on the desks. During this time I taught school three days a week at Morris Fork. We also had Sunday School and preaching services. At the schools all of the adults entered into the spirit of the work, none laughed at the other, some made awfully progress."

(To reach Morris Fork from Jackson, you drive across the county bridge, take the first right turn and you are on the Jackson-Booneville Highway southwest. After driving seven miles you reach Old Buck (a stream), turn south, and drive up about five miles to Canoe, up the Middle Fork, River of Kentucky seven miles to the mouth of Long's Creek where Crockettville is located, then drive up Long's Creek three miles. Morris Forks is situated about one mile or one-half mile from the confluence of Morris Fork with the Left Fork of Long's Creek, as there are two forks of Long's Creek, one is called the Right Fork and the other is known as the Lefe Fork). Sandlin is three miles beyond Morris Fork, on the Long's Creek.

"The people came in 1926 from Morris Fork to me and wanted to build a dwelling for me, they offered building material, lumber, and labor. However I had been warned that Morris Fork was a wild community and I was told that it would be a waste of time to go there. I had been holding Sunday School there on Sundays. I was conducting three

Sunday Schools at that time. Mrs. Blackman and I had lived in the little house which we had been able to get, but at this time it was sold, therefore the necessity of building.

I was getting \$50. dollars a month during 1925-26. We built a community house first, six rooms to begin with. In June, 1927, I was married and in the Fall the Forest Hill Presbyterian Church of Newark, New Jersey, became interested and asked me to be their missionary. The people of Morris Fork and Breathitt County resent the word missionary as missionaries go out to the heathen, so we call this a Community House, Community Church and school. The children call me 'Uncle Sam' Yes, we had trouble there when I first went there. Soon after I went there, officers came and broke up 13 stills. However, some lawyer told me not long ago that for the past five years no major crime had been committed at Morris Fork."

"I have shrouds on the choir. Yes, they call them shrouds. Yes, I mean a vested choir, they wear white robes, but the people call them shrouds.

For instance some of the choir members come in overalls, and one may wear a pink dress and another may wear a red dress. Yes, it is distracting. I wish to have a quiet place of worship where we can consecrate on worship of God. We have just as quiet place to worship in now as in any city church."

The Rev. Mr. J. M. Bemis of Jackson Presbyterian church told me about his Rev. Van de Meer wishing all of the members to take some part in building the Morris Fork Church. Each one did something; even a little child of about two years of age held a hammer in her hand, with the hand of an adult grasping the child's hand and a small nail was driven.

Buckeye bark is used in making Christmas boxes. The bark is turned inside out, and the corners pleated to form a square, then the surface is spotted with indigo to make them pretty. (This was many years ago as related by Mrs. Susie Lovely of Quicksand.)

People make gravy out of the blood of rabbits and the blood of chickens.

Groundhog grease is used on shoes and boots to make them waterproof.

Sasfrass tea is used as Spring tonic. It is served with cream and sugar at meals.

Another good tonic is one made from yellow-dock, polk root, yellow root, mayapple, wild alum, crowsfoot, ladies' slipper, blood-root, queen-of-the-meadow, and all mixed with whiskey after the herbs have been steeped, and the dose is one tablespoonful three times a day.

Polk berries are mixed with whiskey and used to cure rheumatism.

Mrs. C. C. Gose gave these remedies to me, and she continued, "Steep whahoo (wild cucumber), and mix with rock candy and whiskey, for a cough.

Mix turpentine and sugar and apply to cuts and burns.

Mix turpentine and lard, or turpentine and mutton tallow and use as a base for ointments. Use the early leaf buds (young buds), with mutton tallow to make salves.

Goose grease is used to rub on the chest in cases of croup and chest colds.

Brown paper wet in vinegar is applied for sprains."

CUSTOMS AS TOLD BY A FORMER SLAVE:

Scott Mitchell, claims his age as somewhere in the 70's but his wool is white on the top of his head. Negroes don't whiten near as

quickly as white people, evidently he is nearly 90, or there-a-bouts.

"Yes'm I 'members the Civil Wah, 'cause I wuz a-livin' in Christian County whah I wuz bohn,,right wif my masteh and mistress. Captin Hester and his wife. I wuz raised on a fahm right wif them, then I lef there.

Yes, Cap'n Hester traded my mother en my sister, 'Twuz in 1861, he sent em tuh Mississippi. When they wuz 'way from him 'bouy two years he bot em back. "Yes, he wuz good tuh us. I wuz my mistess' boy. I looked afteh her, en she made all uv my cloes, en she knit my socks, 'cause I wuz her niggah.

Yes, I wuz twenty yeahs old when I wuz married. I members when I wuz a boy when they hed thet Civil Wah. I members theah wuz a brick office wheah they took en hung colohed folks. Yes, the blood wuz a-streamin' down. Sumtimes theah hung them by theah feet, sometimes they hung them by theah thumbs.

I cum tuh Kentucky coal mines when I wuz 'bout twenty years old. I worked et Jenkins. I worked right here et the Davis, the R.T. Davis coal mine, en at the Bailey mine; that was a-fore Mistah Bailey died.

When I worked for Mistah Davis he provided a house in the Cutt-Off, that's ovah wheah the mine's at. We woaked frum 7 o'clock in the mawnin' til 6 o'clock at night. Yes, I sure liked tuh woak for Mistah Davis. I tended fuahnaces (furnaces) some, too. I sure wuz sorry wen (when) Mistah Davis died."

CUSTOMS IN HAULING:

Wooden sleds are still used by some of the poor people in this county for hauling over bare ground, even in Summertime. A few days

FOLK CUSTOMS

240

ago I saw a man on Main street and Broadway with one horse and one mule rigged up to a wood sled. The right runner had been shaped out of wood, but the left runner was split pole with one edge hewn off slightly, very crude. Stakes were stuck along the two sides of this sled to hold in the articles which the man was hauling. The articles were an iron bedstead and a mattress. When he got down town near the county bridge he rested his team.

I saw another of this kind several months ago, but only one mule was hitched to it. I understand that there are several of these sleds operated throughout the county.

HOME MADE FURNITURE:

A number of the county people in the country make the rustic furniture, a double seat with a back, and arm chairs. These usually go in sets of three pieces, one of the chairs may be a rocker. The maker brings them to the city and sells them. Most of the purchasers will use them for their porches or lawns. However, some use them for inside their offices. Hickory chairs and rockers are made, and disposed of to very good advantage, too. These latter are finished smoothly, and have split hickory woven bottoms, with ladder backs to the chairs.

In the Club house at the Robinson Sub-station at Quicksand, the superintendent Major Roger Jones showed me a very beautifully made Dutch cabinet, used in the dining room. This was made by the farm carpenter. It has two drop leaves, one at each end. In the upper part are two shelves and fronted with racks, like plate racks. Two doors inclose the lower part in which are two shelves, and just above these shelves are two drawers. A one armed chair of walnut was made for the farm foreman since he has been crippled. This large arm is

for Mr. Barnes to use as a desk table for writing purposes. The back is a ladder style with four bars for extra height. The seat is of hickory bark. The back legs are $3/4$ inches and square below the seat. Another chair in the living room of the Clubhouse is a fan back and is cream color hickory, and a tan bottom.

Two nice dining tables (not extension), are made of solid walnut, too. One table is two and one-half feet by five feet, and the other is two and one-half by eight feet. The name of the carpenter who made these is Enos Hardin, and he is employed at the Robinson Sub-Station, of the University of Kentucky Extension, at Quicksand, Breathitt County.

Box 1 file 17
COHIST

BREATHITT COUNTY KENTUCKY

MARGARET F. BISHOP

FOLK CUSTOMS

240

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Rev. Samuel Van de Meer, April 7, 1937.

FOLK CUSTOMS

COHIST
246
BON!
File 17

Another story of Mrs. Bays', "'When a-buyin' sugar, I got fifty cents' worth, fer I had to double it up 'mong neighbors en sell ten cents' worth.'"

"It's lucky to hev a picture of the dead in a casket."

"If you hear a knock over the bed, the dead are comin' back to talk to you."

"One man didn't want his children a-go'in' to school, 'cause when they come home they'd want sheets onto ther beds".

Mrs. Susan Frazier, age 70. "Old Jimmie Cope, one uv the early settlers, he lived on Cope's Fork uv Frozen Creek, wuz a witch doctor. Them Cope's is all superstitious; and old uncle Johnny Eldreidge, he lived on Peg Fork of Frozen Creek, he wuz a witch doctor, too. Both of these men've bin dead for several years.

"I heerd of a man and he had a whole lot of cows you know, and they were sick. He'd go to a witch doctor, and the doctor he'd give him a silver bullett, and told him to lay down the fence, and the first cow whut'd come out to shoot it with the silver bullett; the cows, you know, wuz a-dyin'.

"He didn', the man didn' do whut the witch doctor told him the first time, so then another cow died. Well, he went to the witch doctor agin, and that time they said that he laid the fence down, and when the cow came out he shot her brains out with a silver bullett; and he said when he went to the house his wife wuz a-layin' there with her brains shot out, too, jist like the cow."

I suggested that someone fired the shot that killed the wife at the same time the man fired the shot to kill the cow, but Mrs. Frazier replied, "Aw, no, honey! it wuz his wife whut wuz a-bewitchin' the cows and thet wuz whut made them die. If you kill anything, whut

is bewitched, with a silver bullett the same silver bullett will kill the one whut bewitches them.

COHIST

"If your butter won't come when you churn, put you a silver quarter in the churn and the butter'll come."

"If the cow won't give down her milk, put a piece of silver in the cup or bucket where you milk and the milk will come, but I don't believe a word of it."

"Folks 'way back, said that one family got some bull frogs and fried them, and would not feed any to their children. When their father and mother went away from home, the children got some toad frogs, killed them, and fried them, and the toad frogs killed them. Honey, the toads were a part of Pharaoh's plague, and I guess that's why they wuz poison.

"It ust to be, before I wuz married the last time, at Pence's Branch (on the line between Breathitt and Wolfe counties), we'd quilt two quilts a-day. Ther'd be seven or eight women of us. When the quilt wuz finished, four women would git holt one each of the four corners, and someone would pitch a cat in the center of the quilt, and the one whut the cat jumped out nearest to, would be married first.

When we'd have them quiltin's the women'd run a set, square dance, and swing partners. Aw, yes, honey, we'd invite the men, too. They'd come âfter the quiltin's wuz over, and then we'd all dance. That's when we'd do some of our courtin'."

Box 1
File 17

INTERVIEWS:

Mr. Miles Bach, age 83, United States Commissioner, Cons.

February 9, 1937.

Mr. S. J. Cockrell, and Ollie James Cockrell, Lawyers Cons.

February 8, 1937.

Mr. H. June Jett, Age 54, Consulted February 10, 1937.

Mr. Kash Williams, Age 53, Consulted February 15, 1937.

Box 1 File 1A

CEMETERIES:

A stone house is built over the grave of the late Curt Jett, on the farm now owned by J. S. Hollon, Jackson postmaster. The slabs of stones forming the sides and ends are sunk about two feet into the ground, and stand about two feet above the ground. One large slab of stone covers this structure. This type of covering was used to keep the wolves and other wild animals from digging and disturbing the dead.

The nearest route to this cemetery is by the Jackson-Booneville highway. After reaching Jackson motoring over the Kentucky-Virginia highway, cross the Breathitt County bridge, which spans the North Fork of the Kentucky River, to South Jackson where you will find two forks of the road. (If you come by rail or airplane you will already be in South Jackson). Follow the fork of highway to the right, which about one block away runs under the L. & N. Railroad.

You continue over the hills, and through Shoulderblade Gap, for about eight miles. When within about one mile of the big new cement bridge which spans the middle Fork of the Kentucky River, you take the right fork of this road, turning at Juan. You travel about two miles when you come to the J. S. Hollon farm on which the stone grave-house is located. Continuing to travel along this county road about one mile more, you come to a small bridge. This bridge spans the Turkey Creek at its mouth where it empties into the Middle Fork of the Kentucky River. Kentucky River has three forks up here, N.S. and Middle.

The farm lies to the right of Turkey Creek, continuing due south for about two miles. On the hillside, to the right of this bridge, stands the farmhouse (the main farmhouse was burned several years ago), and a little farther along on a high point of land lies

the cemetery.

Box 1 File 1A

At this time of year, or throughout all of the Winter months, traveling is very difficult. It is necessary to travel on Horse-back.

The Hollon farm is the home-site of the original farm, consisting of about 20,000 acres, purchased by Mr. Steven Jett in 1820 (Breathitt County was not formed until 1839). He died about 1864, and this property passed into the hands of his children. His son, Curt Jett, inherited the acres on which stands the cemetery, and considerable more, later selling much of the land. Mr. Curt Jett is the man who is buried under the stone grave-house. He died in 1880, and his son Samuel Jett heired this property. In 1890 the property was sold to Ed Callahan by Samuel Jett, who during 1907 sold it to the late Mrs. James Hargis. Mrs. Hargis, gave the farm to her only daughter, Evelyn, L. Hogg, in 1908. During 1933, Mrs. Evelyn Williams (formerly Mrs. Hogg) sold this farm of 300 acres or more to J. S. Hollon.

(This information was obtained from H. June Jett, a great great grandson of Mr. Steven Jett; Mr. Kash Williams, husband of Mrs. Evelyn Williams; and Mr. Charles Terry, President of the First National Bank of Jackson). (This Mr. June Jett is a brother of the Curt who shot and killed the lawyer James B. Marcum, during the Hargis-Cockrell fued.

Marcum was killed during 1903, later Jett was convicted and served several years in the Frankfort penitentiary, then paroled. During the administration of Governor Ruby Laffoon, Curt Jett was granted a full pardon.)

Other cemeteries, all situated on hilltops, and anywhere from one-half mile, to two and one-half miles from the central part

of the city of Jackson, include: Combs, King's Branch, and the Snowden, south of Jackson; Strong's and Marcum Heights (the latter on a very high hilltop just outside of the city limits), both to the East of Jackson; Sewell's, northeast of Jackson; Town Branch, southeast, and Joe Little's James Little's and the Hagin's cemetery are on the west of Jackson; besides many private family "burying grounds."

MEMORIAL CUSTOMS:

Special memorial services are held by the Kiwanis club of Jackson, Breathitt County, when a member dies.

When Dr. Wilgus Bach, who owned and operated the Bach Hospital at Jackson, died on May 28, 1936; and when Lawyer O. H. Pollard, (generally known hereabouts as Judge Pollard) died January 29, 1937, memorial services were held at the regular Thursday night meeting of the club, following the burial of the deceased.

The following poems are contributed by the author who permits you to use them in this book. The author has lived in Jackson, Breathitt County for nearly 15 years.

"MOUNTAIN SOLDIER'S GRAVES"

BY, M. E. Fletcher Bishop.

"Not near the church, God's House,
Nor hills they often trod---
Our mountain soldiers sleep
Beneath an alien sod.

"The light of day shines bright.
In trees bird voices sing
And herald forth sweet peace,
Or softly trill, then wing.

Box 1 File 14

"While night her mantle wraps
About these mounds in love,
The gleaming stars shine out
From Heaven's blue above."

Breathitt County, Kentucky is the only county in the United States that contributed voluntarily, her quota of men during the World War.

A tribute to Dr. Wilgus Bach.

"A MISSING FRIEND"

By M. E. Fletcher Bishop

"Resting from their recent labors,
Lying on his breast
Surgeon's hands of healing
Find unbroken rest.

"Thronging come the seekers,
Climb hospital's stair---
Sorrow stricken faces
Question, 'Where, oh where?'

"For his ever kindly presence,
With healing comfort fraught,
Passed through Pearly Portals---
Gained the Peace he sought."

Box 1 File 14

"A WISH----DIRECTIONS"

By M. E. Fletcher Bishop

"Bury my ashes beneath the sod
Of Kentucky's mountains fair---
Those hills where often my feet have trod,
Those hills whose inspiration I did share.

"Place no flowers about the urn
In which my ashes lie---
Perhaps someone who was a friend in life
May plant wild-flowers on my grave,
Blue violets from the hillside,
Perhaps a spreading dogwood tree,
So when beneath the shining sky
Its shattered blossoms fall around,
While in death's sleep my ashes lie,
Their petals white may curtain o'er my mound."

Note---

I trust I am not presuming by sending in my own poetry.

Margaret F. Bishop.

CITY CUSTOMS:

There are no regular apartment buildings in the city. The apartments are above shops: drugstores, restaurants, and display rooms of automobile shops. In some of the buildings, offices and

LOCAL CUSTOMS

240

Box 1 File 1A

apartments are on the same upper floor.

Many of the apartment buildings are of brick, for after the fires of 1909 and 1914, the city passed an ordinance designating a brick area. Previously most of the buildings had been of wood.

Electricity had been used since 1902, city water used since 1929 and sewerage since then. The installation and use of gas was started the latter part of the year 1936. (Several homes throughout the country have used gas, privately owned, for many years). Some of the streets were paved during 1929-30, and more of them are being paved now.

Many families in the city continue to use water from their wells, but the public health department is doing much to close them. Frequent flooding of the North Fork of the Kentucky River, which surrounds about three fifths of Jackson city, when heavy rains cause much water to pour down the hillsides, overflowing the creek beds, and then the river, contaminates these wells. The city water supply comes from the Kentucky River. It is medicated frequently, particularly when the river is low.

A few operators of the stores keep open store, at least a few hours on Sunday; some of the others will "go into the store an git yeh sumthin' that you forgot to git on a Saturday."

It is not uncommon to see truck loads of barrel staves being moved through the city on Sundays, also, cattle are moved then, and household goods, loaded on trucks or on wagons, pass through the city on Sunday.

The people moving claim they can get the truck, and have a man to move them without loss of a work day.

Children roller-skate on the streets and side-walks, generally during the afternoons, because they must go to Sunday-School first. The picture show is open Sunday afternoons, but not Sunday night, for the churches have preaching services then.

Houses where whiskey and beer are sold usually have a restaurant sign hung out as well as the whiskey sign.

HOSPITALITY:

A stranger is watched, as they do not know, but what "the stranger might be a revonoorer, "or, as they claimed just after the World War, "Him or her might be a spy."

If you have been "brought on by some uv the home folks," you are accepted much more readily. For, "If ccusin so and so brought him, or her, here, they's all right."

When they find out that you do not "nose into anyone's business," they become more cordial. If they think you are not shrewd, and that they can "put somethin' over on heh," they'll "sure enough do et."

They "sure admire a man ur woman whut can shoot ez straight ez eny uv us fellers."

In discussing a newcomer, "a native" said, "Yeh better watch fer her, she's plumb smart (shrewd). How'd I know? Why my wife she's bin a tradin' ther, but thet wumin's honest she wun't cheat no child. We sent curn down ther jist teh see whut she'd do. Mattie she cum back en said the wumin giv her 'xactly whut we'd sent fer."

If they like you they are staunch friends. They take their politics and religion very seriously, for the time being. If they realize that you are staunch to your own party or to your own church they say, "We sure got to admire so and so fer that."

They like to get the best of the bargain, always; to get as much as possible and give as little in return as they can.

(I refer to the "natives". as they call themselves).

The display windows usually are overstocked, and much of the goods are crowded without any design. (They are afraid that some other merchant might sell something they did not. Usually the stock is not kept in a cleanly condition.) (Again I refer to the "Natives!")

SHOPPING:

The country people "pack" (carry, bring) their farm produce in coffee sacks, flour sacks, and sometimes in pillow-cases. Returning home they "pack" their supplies purchased at the town shops, ("brought on" or "fotched on goods," or "store botten goods,") in these same sacks.

They ride on a horse or a mule, and swing the sacks one on each side of the animal caught or tied together above the saddle. The women do much of this work. They come in from the country "rale" (real) early of a morning. As one woman said, "We sure got teh git in here be-times, efn we wunt teh git 'roun' en seed them folks whut buys things offen us."

SUPERSTITIONS:

Mrs. C. C. Gose, "If a person comes to your door when the housewife is sweeping, the visitor will not be married that year."

Mrs. Cleda Bays Hugley, "If a cricket sing in a house, that brings good luck. Blow in the mouth of an infant that has thrash, by a child who has never seen its father, en it'll cure the thrash. She told this about the man and woman "a-lookin' for their hog."
"The man said, 'Liza, you go up this side uv the crick, en I'll go up this side, she might be up both sides."

BREATHITT COUNTY KENTUCKYFOLK CUSTOMSCUSTOMS HOLIDAYS

THANKSGIVING:

In Jackson, the only incorporated city in Breathitt County, Thanksgiving Day is observed with a Thanksgiving service held in one of the several churches: Presbyterian, Methodist, Christian, or Baptist.

The preacher who had been the last to come to the city is called on to preach the sermon.

The service is usually held about 10 o'clock in the morning, so that the housewives may have sufficient time to finish preparation of the usual mid-day dinner. (The night meal usually is called supper).

Oysters in some form, or some kind of a cocktail is served and by those who / "want to make as good a display as the best."

Roast turkey, duck, or hen, with dressing usually is the meat. / One woman expressed herself, thus: } I'd a-heap ruther hev me a good fat hen then one uv them blue turkeys. Turkeys is dry meat anyhow."

Vegetables include: mashed potatoes, cauliflower, and brussels sprouts (only during the last five years the brussel sprouts have been brought here).

Celery, several kinds of pickles, cranberry sauce or jelly. Some kind of salad, frequently a fruit salad with jello. With sometimes a frozen salad is served, especially during the past eight years during which time refrigidaries are being used here. The Home-makers Clubs, organized about five years ago, influence these meals, too.

Breads served / are: corn sticks, corn muffins, hot biscuits, and hot rolls. Drinks include coffee and milk, and wines. Frequently the dessert is egg custard

well spiked with whisky; or pies of several kinds.

Most of the stores in the city are closed on Thanksgiving day, or at least a part of the day. Up to about five years ago, many of the stores remained open most of the day. In the country the stores remain open.

CHRISTMAS:

On Christmas Eve, or the Sunday preceding, or some night during the week preceeding Christmas, each of the city Sunday Schools have a tree and a treat for the Sunday School classes.

Several years ago the church members would put gifts on the tree, for each other.

During late years most of the county schools hold a Christmas entertainment, a tree and treat for the pupils.

The celebration of Christmas, during 1936, had some features new to this county. The Breathitt County High School gave an entertainment during the afternoon of December 18. Chief of which was a play, "Why the Chimes Rang". Scene I, Inside the City Gates; and Scene II, Inside the Great Church.

Not a single student taking part had ever witnessed any kind of a religious service in either an Episcopal, Lutheran, or Roman Catholic Church.

The candle lighting, the offering of gifts at the church altar, and the vested choir, created a new atmosphere in the celebration of Christmas which has been lacking in the schools here-to-fore. Many carols were sung.

A tree, from which presents were given to the student body, members of the faculty, and several of the visitors, concluded the entertainment which marked a new era in Breathitt county education, and Christmas celebration customs.

Each class-room in the Jackson City High School, and in the grade class-rooms had a tree with gifts, a treat, and a short entertainment. Each county school had about the same celebration.

Each of the churches in Jackson had a tree and treat. However, they dispensed with the annual distribution of baskets to the needy, and co-operated with the local Kiwanis Club, and the Recreational Program leaders in a community distribution.

On December 21, a Christmas tree, the first community tree to be given in Breathitt County, was set up in a vacant lot on Main Streetm across from the Breathitt County Courthouse, and in full view of the prisoners in the Breathitt County jail.

The idea originated with the Recreational Program. The leaders of this ptoject, in the community, went before the Kiwanis club, and requested the club's sponsorship. A very short service was held by the pastors of the churches after President Fred Brodtkorb, Kiwanis Club, had given a short welcoming address.

Christmas is usually celebrated by a great deal of fire cracker shooting.

A bountiful mid-day dinner is served among all whom are able to afford it. This dinner is similiar to the Thanksgiving feast, except that egg nog and fruit cake are usually served, the fruit cake well stimulated with whiskey.

In many homes trees are decorated, and gifts presented therefrom to the members of the respective families. Stockings are hung up, for Santa Claus to fill. The children believe in Santa.

A customary salutation among many of the people, is: "Christmas Gift."

Most families try to be in their respective homes during Christmas. Very little entertaining is done for guests outside their respective families.

One woman in describing Christmas, said, " On Christmas us children hung up our stockings at an open wood fireplace. Now, I'll tell you the things we mostly got in our stockings.

"On Christmas Eve us childten had to go to bed early, 'cause if we didn't

Santa Claus wouldn't come. This was when we lived out in the country. I was raised on Hunting Creek, 15 mile up the Main Quicksand Creek, on the territory of Quicksand."

"Mostly we got stick candy them days, 'cause them days we couldn't^d git things fancy like we kin now-a-days. But my father had plenty (he was^a Holbrooks). Besides stick candy in our stockings, we'd git chestnuts, beechnuts, and hazel nuts; white walnuts and black walnuts, too. The white walnuts are long shaped, not like the store bought ones. Black walnuts are round, you know what they're like. We'd git apples, and maple sugar, too."

"We caked the sugar for stockings. We caked it in egg shells, by pouring the syrup into the shell after we'd taken the end out of the shell. When the sugar was hard we'd peel off the egg shell.

Another woman who had lived in the country, and was in her eighties, said, "We couldn't git no candy, but stick candy, peppermint, and it was good, too. In our stockings that we hung up in front uv the fireplace, we'd git apples and pop corn, the ear of the corn ready to pop. We always had a big dinner on Christmas, too. Fire crackers for the boys."

NEW YEAR'S DAY:

"On New Year's day we always had a good dinner, and we had to be good, so's we'd be good all the year, for whatever you did on New Year's day you'd do all uv the year."

"Folks would make what we called New Year's resolutions. Some of the men'd swear of^u drinkin when they'd make them resolutions."

New Year's day is ushered in with shooting of fire crackers, shooting of guns, whistles blowing, and bells ringing.

Watch night parties are frequently held in private homes.

REMINISCENCES OF OLDEN DAYS

Mrs. Susan Lovely who was reared 15 miles up the Main Quicksand Creek, said, "Quicksand Creek is 99 miles long, ³ must lacks one mile being as long as a river."

"We lived within a mile uv a store. In them days we could raise more peaches and apples, then we do now in the hills. I guess it must a-bin 'cause there was so much timber on the hills helped the soil. Leastways I hear tell that since the timber has all bin gone, that the soil runs off the sides uv the hills."

"My father had a sugar tree camp, too. We made all kinds uv sugar and syrup. We caked the sugar, mostly in tea cups and in bowls, and we'd sell them, too. We caked it for Christmas like what I told you, you know in egg shells."

"We'd notch a maple tree to git the sweet water. After we'd notched it, we'd bore a hole under the notch, and stick a "spile" into it so's the water'd run into the pail. We'd hev to freshen up them notches too. I've freshened trees a time or two, during the sap runnin' season. We'd chip off the wood that'd sort uv dried. Then there was the sap out uv birch and chestnut bark. It was sweet. We'd pull the bark off uv the trees, and then we'd scrape it. We'd do this during May and June, then it got too old. And just to think of all them chestnuts bein' gone now." (A blight has killed the chestnut trees during the last fifteen years.)

When asked about blood puddings, Mrs. Lovely replied, "Yes I've eat them many a time at my grandmother Holbrooks. They was hog blood puddin's."

"At grandfather's they killed their hogs nine and ten at a time. They'd ketch a hog and stab him and ketch the blood in a vessel. Into the blood they'd put cornmeal (to make it thick), salt, sage, and pennyriple, ~~for~~

for seasonin'. Then they took leaf lard from the inside uv the hog, and they broke it up into small bits, and scattered it all through the pudding. They beat the pudding well, too. Then they put the pudding into an iron skillet with legs under the bottom uv it. They set the skillet right over the hot coals in front uv the fireplace, on the hearth.

"We baked johnny cake, too, (corn cake, we called it johnny cake them days.) We baked it on an oak board in front uv the fire.)

"My grandfather allus said that the johnny cake what we baked on a board was a lot more tasty than what we cooked in pans and I think so, too; someways it tasted sweeter-like.

"When we'd have coffee, we'd put it in cans, and beat it with an axe handle end, (we'd not coffee mill them) and then boiled it. Biscuits was allus Sunday mornin'.

"Them days goods for the stores was brought up the river on rafts, and on boats, clear from Frankfort.

"We used to hev log rollin's, too. The men 'ud chop, and saw down the logs, when they wanted to clear a field to plant corn. Then all uv the folks all 'roun' there'd come up and have a log rollin'.

"You don't know what a log rollin's like? Well, the men'd roll the logs up into piles and set fire to them, make a great big fire. They'd burn them up. My! but I wish I had some uv them logs now, at what timber's bringin'! In them days there was so much timber we never thought we'd a-be a-needin' it later!

"On the same day's the log rollin's the women would invite the other women, and we'd hev a quiltin' party. And them what could^t quilt would pick wool. They'd pick it ready for cardin'. We'd have a big dinner the middle uv the day; and at night supper. After supper we'd hev a dance. We'd have some fellah

with a fiddle, and someone else with a banjo, to play the music.

"My mother didn' believe in dancin', and so we'd dance in the yard,
when we had parties at home.

"My mother wouldn' allow a banjo in her house. But I remember just one
time she did. Some man come to the door a playin' it. My mother, she told
him if he'd play hymns, she'd let him come in and play so's us children could
hear what the music was like. This was the only time my mother allowed a
banjo in her house. This was when I was little, and the first time I'd ever
heard a banjo played."

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Mrs. Elizabeth Powell, age 52 ----- 12/21/36.
Mrs. Susan Frazier, age 70 ----- 12/22/36.
Mrs. Susie Lovely, Age about 65 ----- 12/28/36/
Mrs. Emily Williams, age 89 ----- 12/29/36.
Mrs. Ervine Turner, -----12/ 29/36

BREATHITT COUNTY KENTUCKY

FOLK CUSTOMS

STREAMS NAMES, AND CUSTOMS OF NAMING

The Kentucky River has three forks in Breathitt County: South, Middle, and North Forks, and they are spoken of as, "Up on the Middle Fork" "Over on the South Fork" and "The North Fork" which flows around about two thirds of Jackson. At this section this river flows toward the north.

The creeks are the next large streams, then the branches, which mostly are branches of these creeks, and generally are named for an early property owner through whose land they flowed, or which they bounded. These branches and creeks have still smaller streams running from them which are called forks, and usually these are named for an early property owner through whose land they flowed, or which they bounded.

The names of the streams on the north of this county include, Creeks--Main Frozen, and Glory, branches--Still House, Cope's, Big Panbowl, Flat, Puckett, Steep Gut Hollow, and Warshoal. Creeks on the north east, are: Davis. Branches: Korg, Upper Negro.

Names of streams on the east include. Creeks--Hunting, Little Caney, Wolfe Pen, Little Frozen, Press Howard, Meatscaffold, Roark, Bradburn, Big Caney.

The branches include: Miller's, Dumb Betty, Calhoun, Winnie, Panbowl, Sugar Camp, Big Branch Quicksand, Carpenter, Peach Orchard, Big Lovely, Marshall of Hunting Creek, and Shack Allen.

Streams in the southeast, include: creeks--Main Quicksnad, Riener's, Rose, Big Lively, Meetinghouse, Dumb Betty, Sulphur Spring, and Shade of Lick Branch.

Local History & Geography

Box 1 File 4

FOLK CUSTOMSSTREAMS NAMES, AND CUSTOMS OF NAMING

Streams in the South of the county, include creeks: Troublesome, Lost, Caney, Wilfe, Howard's, Beaverdam of Troublesome, Barge, Leatherwood, Riley, John Little.

The branches include: Stray, Sebastian, Town, King's, Harvey's, Bridge, Beaverdam, Fish Trap, Coal Bank Hollow, Lick, Nix's, Ibbs Spicer, Red Bird Hollow and Dave Porter.

Streams in the southwest include, creeks: Canoe, and Crapple.

Branches include: Haddix Fork.

Streams on the West include: Creeks--Long's, Turner, Turkey, Shoulderblade, Cane, Old Buck, Bowling's, Elsome, Cow.

Branches Include: Trace, Cut-off, and Upper Cut-off, Siza of Cane Creek, and Steep Bank, Cow, Deading and Snake.

Creeks in the northwest include: Upper Twin, and Lower Twin, War, Rock Lick, Bryant's Punchoon Camp, Cedar, White Oak, Holly and Bloody.

Branches include: Bowman, Pence's Shacks, Marshoal.

The streams, designated as forks, include: South Fork, Quicksand, Fugate's, Spring, Canoe, Lyn, Licking, Main Bush, Richie of Caney, Fletcher's, Hunting, Steer, Hawes, Wolfe Pen, Cope Fork of Frozen, Slear, Turtle, King's, Peg's, Johnson, Nickell, Coles, Lewis, Sulphur, Cockrell, Combs, Laurel, Burton, Coal, Hood, Red River, Porter, Rose, Boone, Patrick, Stone Coal, Little Fork of Cane Creek, Larkin, Vires, Haddix, Steer Fork of Taulbee Branch, Jerry, Freeman, Sycamore, Belcher, Jones, Spicewood, Lewis, Colts, Glory, Davis, Pasture, Riley, Hurst, Tackett, Mudlick, Holly,

FOLK CUSTOMS

Local History + Geography

Nigger, Press, Rockhouse, Wilson, Belcher, Clemons, Robinson, Poplar, Lick, Jerry, John Duncill, Lick, Smoky Hollow, Wells, Horsebone, Road, House, Lish's, King, Four Mile, Morris, McIntosh, Larkin, and Spurlock.

Creeks whose location I could not learn to date, include: Two Mile, Main Big, Mill, Fields, Licking, Hughes, Campbell, Warn, Bow Bug, Sally Albert, Craft, Lone.

Branches include: Thomas, Snake, Dove, Tyra, Andy, Hay's, Stone, Old House, Bear, Sand Point, Hurricane, Oldfield, Slick Rock, Slate, Roaring Hollow, Little Shoal, Ford, Clover, Alum Cave, Perkins, Big Rock House, Horse Mill, Harvey, Jellico, Panther, Pasture, Deep Hollow, Cove Hollow, Turnip Patch, Tom Smith, Steep, Cove, Williams, Long Hollow, Rye Cove, Gmdiff, Garden Hollow, Board, Camp, Allen Cave, Foster, Mary Miller, Fortner's, Jim, Clover, Sally Bryant, Perkin's, Kate's, Old Haws, Mark Gap, Little, Ben Smith, Hollon's, Little Cudge, Terry, Lawson, Ballnob, Big Bridge, House Branch, Collins, Salmon, Allen Case, Cal's, Mullin's, Shoal, Cold Harbour, Falls, Mills, Stamper, Doty, Dry Bread, Laurel, Plaummer Mill, Solomon's, Bee, John Bach, Pig Pen, Charley's and Jake's.

FOLK CUSTOMS

240

Box 1
File 17TREATMENT OF MISSIONARY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS:

COHIST

SCHOOL CUSTOMS:

Rev. G. E. Durshal, pastor of the Brethern church, and superintendent of the Riverside Christian Training School related the following:

"During 1905 Mrs. Drushal and myself came here and opened the Riverside Institute, located on what now is the Kentucky-Virginia Highway No. 15."

Lost Creek is located about 12 miles East of Jackson, and there is a large bridge over Troublesome Creek at the village. About 15 rods southeast of this bridge is the confluence of Lost Creek and Troublesome Creek. Villages are usually built near the confluence of streams. Mr. Drushal operated this school, the grades and a high school, and the county operated a grade school, too, in the same buildings. This continued until about May 1931, at which time a disagreement between the Board of the Brethren Church and Mr. Drushal agreed to disagree, and he resigned.

This interview deals with his experience with the natives both before and after 1931.

"It was not unusual to have trouble in the early days of 1905 and along several years after."

Sometimes we had shooting, and other disturbances during religious services, however, no one in the buildings was shot.

When we first came here one man, native, said, "We don't want them educated furriners a-comin' in here a-tryin' to upset our boys en gels with edicatin notions."

After several disturbances, (it was pretty bad to be sure) several of the men here, about nine of us formed a Law and Order League, and had one of the members appointed a deputy sheriff.

FOLK CUSTOMS

240

COPIES

At one time, in the morning, I found a paper tacked on one of the gate posts nearby, and on it was written these words: '17 of us banded ourselves together and taken the black oath that if you don't stop that Law and Order work and let us alone we'll put you in Hell where you belong.'

We kept a close watch, but continued to school, Sunday School and preaching services. During a revival service held in October, 1908, a lot of shooting took place out on the old road (now the highway), and one man shot through the window at a candle light. The bullet hit the metal ceiling and then fell to the floor. I have the bullet, let me show it to you.

We had this man arrested next day and fined him \$50.00. In less than one year he became a good friend of mine.

Just before that paper notice about the Law and Order was tacked on the gate we had been warned by two good friends (one of them has since been an officer for the Federal government), that the buildings would be dynamited, but they never were.

One man of this section who went away from here after I came here, went to Chicago during the gangster period there, but he said, "I'm a-goin' to git away frum here en back to the mountains, for ther's too many killin's here."

Another man who checked up on the killings in Chicago and in the mountains, claimed, 'There are six killings in the mountains to one in Chicago.'

During the time we had the disagreement over the school property, the matter was taken into the Circuit Court in Jackson. During 1930-31 we taught school and otherwise operated under an injunction granted by the Judge of that court, Chester A. Bach. In May 1931 we gave up the buildings.

Yes, at the time the injunction was in effect we did have a little trouble, only one time. I saw a man draw his pistol and crack down on another, and he was a little fellow, too. The little fellow who was hit just got his knee hurt.

I've recieved ~~into~~ fellowship into the church around 900 people. We have one man who has come to services here every year since the church has been started. He comes six miles, away from the mouth of Smith's Brnach. There was just one time he did not get here, but he started. That time it rained and the mud was so bad and the water was so high he could not get here, but he started.

We had one native preacher here at the time, and he was not very favorable to our remaining, but before he died he was a good friend.

We celebrate the fourth of July. I know that not many people around the county do so, but we have celebrated the fourth of July now, for the past 31 years. We always have a program, including athletic contests.

We have 100 yard dash, 200 yard dash, relay race, high jump, broad jump, and long throw in base ball. We have the sack race. Have you never seen one? We take a meal or gunny sack, and they jump into a sack and hold it up around their waist, full length of the sack, and run that way. The goal is generally 10 yards.

We have the nail-driving contest. They have lots of fun with that. They get one-half pound of eight penny nails and a hammer and go to work to see who can drive the nails the fastest, men and women both try this race to see which will drive their nails the quickest.

During the Fourth of July when Governor Sampson was governor of Kentucky we had the biggest celebration ever seen up in this section.

(I think that was during 1928). We always have an address along about 11 o'clock, and then a big dinner, picnic style. In the afternoon we play base ball.

I considered leaving here early in 1931, but after I had written the letter to that effect to some friends away from here, my wife asked me if I was afraid of one man. I considered the matter and I prayed about it. My wife advised me to burn the letter, and I threw it into the fire.

We started then to build another school. We had to give the first buildings up, but a woman who owns this house we are sitting in now told us to come in here and live, and that we would not have to pay a cent of rent for it. Yes, she had a family living in it at the time, but they got another place, and she let my wife and me and then some of the teachers lived here for awhile, too, until we got a room ready in the school building.

That Spring we built the school building I showed you today. The first year we had all the faculty we had in the Riverside Institute, not a teacher, but what came with us. Some of them are with us yet. Our principal who then taught in the grades went to college and returned to us. Since her graduation from college when she secured her A.B. Degree, she has been the principal. We call this new school the Riverside Christian Training School. We have all of the grades, eight, and we have high school.

We conduct Sunday School, and preaching service in the chapel, Senior and Junior Christian Endeavor societies. Besides this I preach at other places, too.

Many of our friends here assisted us in building the new school. One man gave the land to us. The logs of which the building is constructed cost us only fifty cents apiece. On May 31 we had the

building ready for the Sunday Service on June 1, 1931.

The building was hewn with hand hewn shingles, 1800 of them had been hewn with a draw knife. The doors were of rough lumber and had iron strap hinges, while only two of the rooms had ceilings, finished.

When we started to build we did not intend to have two stories, but I suggested to the builders that instead of having a flat roof, we have a hip roof. They agreed, and by putting in these large dormer windows we made a nice large room. We use this room for a chapel. (The ceiling of the chapel is of unfinished small beams, a vaulted roof, not very high, but the acoustics are good. The bell is built in an open tower outside of the building and at one end of the building.

The bell was contributed by an old friend, Rev. Sylvester Lowman of Camden, Ohio. We rang the bell for the first services on the first day of June, 1931.

We had no windows in the chapel all Summer, nor downstairs either. The first windows we had were covered with parafine cloth. We had an old truck and we traded it for the boiler of a heating plant. We managed to collect and buy cheaply enough other pieces to complete a heating plant. We painted up the old radiators so we had a nice looking plant when the state school inspector came around again he said we could continue with our school. On his first visit he said that unless we could make the place more comfortable, windows and heat we could not continue.

We had help from a good many friends away from here, for we had nothing on which to start the building of the school, but Faith.

We opened the school on September 5, 1931. We have lost no students by opening this new school. We have 55 students and eight teachers, four of these teach in the high school. We now have the

COHIST
17

FOLK CUSTOMS

240 / 1 /

daughters and sons of some of our students that we had in our early years.

Most of the chairs, benches, and tables have been made by the students. A small carpenter shop, with meager equipment, is located in the basement; here the boys are instructed by the manual training teacher. This teacher told me of one of the students making a rolling pin from a beautiful piece of cherry wood, finishing it with a fine polish and taking it home to make biscuits with. They allow the boys to keep the articles that they bring their own material for.

The walls of the four large rooms in the school building on the lower floor are partly finished, some with paneling, and some with heavy paper. Windows are all finished. On the small campus is basket ball equipment. A small library is in book cases and shelves in the study hall, and upstairs in the chapel is an upright piano.

This chapel, Mr. Durshal said, "Seats 250 people, and we had one funeral service here in 1934, you remember the time the Barnett man was killed near Richmond when those men were being tried for robbing the mail driver of the pay-roll? It was his funeral and we had 350 people in the chapel, they were packed standing."

Few people in this locality have seen horses and buggies. They know nothing of horse and buggy days, or of wagons. They have always ridden horse or mule back, and now since the roads are being opened up they are thrown right from horse back to the automobile.

The school is across the large bridge which spans the Troublesome Creek and opposite the Kentucky-Virginia Highway which runs through the village of Lost Creek. This highway at this point is concrete which extends for about seven miles.

Mr. Drushal showed to me several picture slides which he expects to use with a stereoptican onlecture tours this Summer.

A prominent citizen of Jackson, a man who has lived here for many years said, "Mr. Drushal has taught the people of Lost Creek and all up through that part of the country all they know. They were ignorant when he came here among them." (This is the man who taught the present Breathitt County School Superintendent, Mrs. Marie Roberts Turner, she was graduated from his high school several years ago.)

At Lost Creek are a few cemeteries. The Strong cemetery is considered the oldest or near the oldest in the county. To reach it we cross the big bridge which spans Troublesome Creek, about one-half mile or less we cross a log in lieu of former swinging bridge over Lost Creek, and walk up a steep hill, or, we may go up the highway, Kentucky-Virginia No. 15, about a quarter of a mile, get the owner of a small boat, who lives there, to row us across Lost Creek, and then walk up the hill to the cemetery.

On reaching the cemetery we are rewarded by finding old tombstones, some cut in the shape of a coffin, and others of a square shape, cut from the native stone, and laid on top of the graves. Also we find some with slabs of stone upright like the sides of a building with end pieces standing upright and over the top of these and inclosing this grave like a roof is a large slab of stone.

In the village of Lost Creek I saw a man plowing a plot of ground with a small plow and one mule. Across from him, and a few furrows behind him in his plowing was an elderly woman with a hoe making holes in the furrows at nearly regular distances. After I had walked to the top of the hill next to this plot of ground where I could see the confluence of Lost Creek and Troublesome Creek, and had returned,

FOLK CUSTOMS

240

COHIST

this woman was plodding over the same ground; stooped over, she was dropping into these hollows she had so recently made with her hoe, small onions from her apron which she had gathered around her and held with one hand. She said, "Yes, and them shu'd hev bin put inter the ground last Fall."

Here is a story told me by Mrs. Clara Strong, whose home is at Lost Creek, but who is Breathitt County Librarian at Jackson. "I wuz at home the other week when an old lady come to see Father. She wuz telling him about a little girl. The old lady, I expect she is 65 years old. She said, 'I wuz out in the field teh plant some cern , jist this erly' en she sez, 'Here cum a man en he hed a little gel, (I guess she wuz two years old, will be in tater plantin' time anyhow). She said, 'They youngun begun to stream jist ez loud ez her voice 'ud roll, en we wuz plumb in udder end uv the field frum her (the little child). "She sez, 'I told Lige to runt and teh runt teh runt feast' (run fast).

"She sez, 'Lige runt en beaten me dere. Lige hed the youngun en a-jerkin' her 'round in his arm, en her jist a-streamin' (screaming) fer life. I drabbed (grabbed) her, looked her in de face, she's dist blue! I shuck her, en I shuck her, en I got a whiff uv her Bref, en I said, Ingerns, Ingerns! by grannies! (she means onions, wild onions are strong like garlic).

FOLK CUSTOMS

240

Box 1 file 17

COHIST

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Rev. G. E. Drushal, preacher and teacher,

Mrs. Ben Strong, Post mistress.

Mrs. George Keith, These three are of Lost Creek. all interviewed
March 22, 1937.

Mrs. Clara Strong, Librarian, Jackson, March 23, 1937.

Mrs. Ranie Roberts, Jackson, March 29, 1937. Age 66, mother of the
county school superintendent.

Mrs. and U. S. Commissioner J. S. Cockrell, March 26, 1937.

FOLK LORE AND QUAIN T CUSTOMS

BREATHITT COUNTY.

A custom peculiar to Breathitt co. and perhaps to other sections of the Ky. mts. is that of the memorial meetings, or services, held every Sunday during the late summer and early fall. When preachers were few and traveling hard and dangerous, people of the hill country had to bury their dead without holding funeral services. Then when a preacher came into that community, they would hold services for all those who had died in his, or his predecessor's absence.

That custom is still observed in Breathitt co., notwithstanding the fact that there are now two undertaking establishments at Jackson and several churches as well. A year from the day of the burial they have the memorial service, or "funeral," as it is called. It is not uncommon for a widower to hold a memorial service for his late wife and for his recent bride to prepare the feast. Friends of the deceased come to the church where four or five preachers have been invited to preach an hour or two each. The family prepares a feast of various meats and all seasonable vegetables, enough to feed 100 or 200 persons, and serves it in the churchyard. The service lasts all day.

Many people of the mts. of Ky. and West Va. speak of a church as a "church house" and of the yard as the "church house yard."

"Workings." This is an old custom still observed in the Ky. mts. When traveling was hard and families lived miles apart, there was not much opportunity for social intercourse, so they had "workings," so called. Several farmers would come with their families and work a day for one of their neighbors and a big dinner would be prepared by their wives. They would help each other in this manner and spend a few social hours together

at the same time. The young folks took advantage of these "workings" by calling in a fiddler or two and having a dance in the evening.

COHICT

BREATHITT COUNTY

Box 1 File 14

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Josephine Sewell, Field Worker.

Cora M. Noble, Co. Clerk, Jackson Ky.

~~Condense and tie to~~
Game and Fish Today

COHIST
Box 1
file 17 B ✓
Free copy

Fox hunting at night with a pack of lusty, full throated hounds and a well-wooded fire atop a hill is the sporting ideal that has been handed down to the Breathitt sportsman by his highland ancestors. The red and gray fox are numerous enough in Breathitt to "get up" a good fox hunt. Occasionally foxes are brought in to take the place of those shot while marauding.

The last of the large game that roamed the forested hills and watered in the numerous streams when the pioneers came into the State was either killed off or retreated to wilder country many years ago.

Rabbits, racoons ("coons"), opossums ("possums"), and squirrels still flourish and provide plenty of hunting throughout the county. Among native birds the quail and pheasant are fairly numerous and are not appreciably depleted by hunting. The wild duck, a migratory bird protected by Federal law, is hunted in season during the last two months of the year, although not many go south through this section of the country.

Breathitt, with around 150 miles of fishing water, is considered one of the best fishing counties in the State. The mouths of its numerous small streams, Quicksand and Troublesome creeks, and the North and Middle forks of the Kentucky River afford the fisherman excellent opportunities in every part of the county. Many of the streams are stocked annually by the State. The small and large-mouth bass and the wall-eyed pike (locally known as the jack salmon) are the commonest catch. In the Middle Fork, and there alone in the waters of the county, are found the northern pike and the muskellunge ("muski").

COHIST

Box
file 17

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B ✓

The Breathitt County Fish and Game Club is affiliated with the State Department of Fish and Game Protection, which is devoted to wild life conservation. Through its efforts wild life in the county is sometimes replenished by importing game, and because of its existence the State stocks the streams every year.

GENERAL TOPICS

COHIST

Twin Creek got it's name because there are two large creeks meet the Middle Fork River at Athol only a few yards apart they are known as upper twin and lower twin.

Oakdale vocation school is sponsored by the Free Methods Church. It's buildings is constructed of wood. It serves about (200) two hundred people.

Occasionally the women have quilting parties, and the men working such as corn gathering, log rolling, etc. But working are decreasing as well as dances. There are some people who still have dances - the old fashioned round dance. The young especially enjoy these parties. Gathering at post office and community stores are loafing or news reporting zones for the community. Sometimes a crowd gathers to see the passenger train at the station at Oakdale.

Fishes are are - perch, catfish, suchers sunfish, carp fish, Garrs fish, pike fish, Pistols, shotgun, twenty two guns is the most common but some- times you may see a rifle gun such as the Hog rifle and a high power gun.

Goods for winter - canned beans, corn, beets, peas, berries, apples, peaches, pears, not so many jellies.

1. Meat - mostly pork

Shuck beans are fast becoming extinct. Also is dried pumpkin and
cushams.

4. Sometimes a ball game or program.
5. If someone that is well noted is sick many people come to see them.

Breathitt County School Teachers

1. Mary Brewer walks about 2 miles each way. Age 13, she lives on Brewers Fork which runs southeast from the station at Oakdale. At the fourth house up the branch turn to your right and the first house built in L style or fashion. Three children walk this distance. There are others that walk about the same distance.
2. At least ten walk a distance of 4 miles daily.
3. This distance is walk over dirt road usually muddy and about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of railroad. About seven of the particular children come daily rain or shine.
5. (1) Bad luck to walk under a ladder
(2) Bad luck to turn back after starting without making a cross.
(3) Bad luck for black cat to cross your path.

(4) Certain people can blow in children mouth and cure certain ailments such as thresh, etc.

(5) Dead people come and haint people.

These are some of the beliefs that practically all of the children believe (ones I have just mentioned).

Less common ones.

1. Dead come back like beasts and
2. People can talk to dead.
3. Following some one and let them go around one side of the bush and the other person the other. This is believed to cause bad luck.
4. Two people washing together may cause a fight as to result.
5. Two people hoeing corn and hit hoes together through accident is claimed they will hoe corn together next year, etc. (There are many others that I know on both lists)
7. (1) Rat and cat (2) Frog in the meadow (3) Little white house on the hill (4) Round hound (5) Draw ball (6) marbles, etc.

Indoor games: (1) Going a hunting (2) Eraser (3) Bean bag & Pick up sticks

Box 1 File 17

COHIST

(S) puzzles.

Games that are underlined seemed to be old fashioned. We have learned many other games this year but they are the more or less modern games.

read
Box 1 G/13

BREATHITT COUNTY

GEOLOGY

"The Cincinnati Geosyncline runs approximately in a N.E.-S.W. direction, plunging under as a saddle and joined by the Nashville Dome in Tenn. This Cin. anticline separates what is known as the Appalachian, from what is known as the Middle Western States coal basin (Western Ky., Ind. & Ill.). Breathitt County is in the Eastern Geosyncline.

The line of the lowest structural elevation lies toward the S.E. Some of the principal structures in Breathitt County are as follows: the Wilhurst Anticline, lying on the N. has produced in the past a great deal of gas and some shows of oil; the Lambric Dome toward the N.E.; Cope Dome in the N.; and the Jackson Anticline in the N.C.. The gas areas which occurred in the north part of the county have since become practically depleted.

The upper horizons, such as Waxton sand, Weir and Berea sands, from Knott County produce Eastward. The corniferous limestone, known as the Ervine sand, has produced considerable oil in the Ervine and Big Sinking pools, located respectively in Estill and Lee Counties, have up to the present not produced any commercial oil in Breathitt County. The gas, however, comes from the Ervine sand occurring in two definite breaks, the upper and basic part.

The sedimentary beds consist of sandstones, shales and limestone in the upper portion of the series.

The S.E. part of the Kentucky Geosyncline is maintained by the Pine Mountain Uplift - an offshoot of the Appalachian Uplift. The Pine Mountain disturbance brings forth the controversial question when the Pine Mountain Uplift actually took place; in order to account for the slight angular unconformity of the beds laid down prior to the Miss. and Penn. measures.

Some contend that this Pine Mountain Uplift must have taken place toward

Geology - 2

the end of the Waverly series and prior to the Mississippian age at which time the Bog Line was deposited."

TOPOGRAPHY

"The N.W. part of Breathitt County dips toward the S.E. Sedimentary beds found in the S. eastern part of Breathitt County and Knott County dip toward the N.W. In the northern part of Breathitt county the watersheds run roughly in a W. easterly direction, including Wilhurst and Stevenson where the hilltops are about 1000 feet elevation, above sea level. In the southern part of the county the watersheds run, apparently in a N.S. direction including Wolfcoal Creek about 1000 feet elevation and the hilltops at this point 1300 feet above sea level." The creeks at this section empty into the North and Middle Forks of Kentucky river. Highknob, lying almost directly West of Jackson, is the highest point in Breathitt County. It looms against the sky to 2000 feet above sea level, while at its base are the tracks of the Louisville and Nashville railroad. Below the tracks, over an embankment of some forty feet, flows the waters of the North Fork of the Kentucky river. A few yards beyond the base of Highknob the river turns, flows along the Panhandle, out around the Pan-bowl some eight miles north turning back on itself till it again flows along the opposite side of the Panhandle where only about eighty feet of a ridge separates it from the turn near the base of Highknob. At one point, a distance of two city blocks, the base of Panhandle is only sixty feet thick. "This point was tunneled many years ago when a sawmill, grist mill and carding mill were in operation." "This Tunnel Mill was swept away by a flood many years ago." The dam above, that provided water power, was dynamited in 1925 when the Jackson

Box 1
File 13

City waterworks were installed. When the river is high the roaring water rushing through the tunnel may be heard for some two blocks in the city of Jackson as well, as over on the Panbowl. The valley is narrow and the City of Jackson is built much on hillsides. The formerly cone-shaped hills near the river were cut down and the swampy sections filled in. Traveling from the river you climb several hills successively, each hilltop has been leveled. You turn toward the E. to a steeper hill, continuing to climb till reaching the city limits beyond which rises Marcum Heights. A broad bridle or foot-path winds over successive small ridges Eastward to Quicksand, a distance of some two and one-half miles. This was the route^e traveled before the Ky. and Va. Highway No. 15, was constructed and opened about 1926-1928.

"The hills were densely wooded with fine timber, heavy undergrowth of shrubbery and along the streams and hillsides were a dense growth of fern brakes in the early years. The early settlers fed their cattle on the fern-brakes before the land was cleared to raise fodder and hay." The timberlands have been denuded, conservation was utterly disregarded, for the mountain people, anxious to obtain all profit possible from the sale of timber, had no conception of the erosion that would follow washing the rich virgin soil from the hillsides into the streams thereby raising the stream beds and again causing floods during the heavy rains. A very small acreage of virgin timber now stands in Breathitt County, considering the size of the county, "In view of the fact that the sands^t of the Pottsville and basal Alleghennies are not too hard, erosion has given a series of fairly broad valleys, contrary to the condition which exists in Lee county, Ky., where-in the hard Pottsville conglomerate has created sharp V shaped valleys. The following varieties of coal are mined in Breathitt; bituminous, designated in Breathitt as Fireclay and Haddix together with Cannel coal mined in the eastern part of the county."

B. 1
11/11

Bibliography, Kentucky Bureau of Mines, Lexington, Ky. (1)

State Highway Department Map of Breathitt Co., and obtained from County
Judge's office. (2)

Interview - the late Dr. J.S. Redwine, Jackson, 1937 (3)

Observation - the writer, during the past several years made notes for
personal use.

Interview - Mrs. S.J. Cookrell, Jackson, Ky., 2/11/39 (5)

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personal use.

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GEOLOGY

"The Cincinnati Geo.-anticline runs approximately in a N.E.-S.W. direction, plunging under as a saddle and joined by the Nashville Dome in Tenn. This Cin. anticline separates what is known as the Appalachian, from what is known as the Middle Western States coal basin (Western Ky., Ind. & Ill.). Breathitt County is in the Eastern Geo.-syncline.

The line of the lowest structural elevation lies toward the S.E. Some of the principal structures in Breathitt County are as follows: the Wilhurst Anticline, lying on the N. has produced in the past a great deal of gas and some shows of oil; the Lambric Dome toward the N.E.; Cope Dome in the N.; and the Jackson Anticline in the N.C.. The gas areas which occurred in the north part of the county have since become practically depleted.

The upper horizons, such as Waxton sand, Weir and Berea sands, from Knott County produce Eastward. The corniferous limestone, known as the Ervine sand, has produced considerable oil in the Ervine and Big Sinking pools, located respectively in Estill and Lee Counties, have up to the present not produced any commercial oil in Breathitt County. The gas, however, comes from the Ervine sand occurring in two definite breaks, the upper and basic part.

The sedimentary beds consist of sandstones, shales and limestone in the upper portion of the series.

The S.E. part of the Kentucky Geosyncline is maintained by the Pine Mountain Uplift - an offshoot of the Appalachian Uplift. The Pine Mountain disturbance brings forth the controversial question when the Pine Mountain Uplift actually took place; in order to account for the slight angular unconformity of the beds laid down prior to the Miss. and Penn. measures,

Some contend that this Pine Mountain Uplift must have taken place toward

Bot. File 13

Geology - 2

the end of the Waverly series and prior to the Mississippian age at which time
the Bog Line was deposited."

Box 1 F1R A

GHOSTS

We had heard three things about Chris Anderson before we ever came to visit him-- he was a logger, he knew all about the wars in Breathitt, and he was on familar terms with ghosts ;.. and of recent years, the world of spirits had become especially real ...

"Yes, folks, I'm gittin old. I know I'm gittin' old cause I'm all broke up, and then, too, people keep a-askin' me 'bout the ghosts I see ~~vvv~~ roundabout this way, folks think you have to be old to see ghosts and spirits.

"Now I'll tell you what it is: you have to be translated to see sperits. They be some as explains it this way: a sperit don't belong to this life, a ghost don't belong to this life ... you can't see sperits and ghosts with the natural eye. The Bible tells us that no man ever see God. But Moses talked to God ... Moses was translated Hit sure is a pity folks don't read the Bible more nowadays add study it careful ...

(Pine Mountain Yarning Logger," by Rena Niles, Courier Journal Louisville, Sunday Morning November 20th, 1939.)

160

The town of Jackson, Breathitt County, Kentucky is the only incorporated town in the county. There are many other smaller towns, and fifty-two post offices.

County Executive

R. A. Collier, Sheriff

Legislative

Fiscal Court

Judiciary

Judge George W. Little

Jackson Executive, Mayor-Chief of Police

A. S. Sizemore, Mize Hensley

Legislative

City Council of Town Board
consists of 6 members and the

Mayor, Mr. Price Sewell,

Judiciary

Police Judge, E. C. Hyden

The population of the town of Jackson is 2,109 1930 census

Breathitt County has a magisterial form of government and is made up of five districts.

Crime is prevalent in Breathitt County and a common nickname of the county is "Bloody Breathitt". A survey of the crime situation is being made by the government.

Personal observation

1-1
511

Breathitt County has a Corporate form of Government. The Corporate powers of the County are exercised by the Fiscal Court. The fiscal court consists of County Judge and four Magistrates. The County Judge is the presiding officer of the County and quarterly court also fiscal court. As presiding Judge of the County Court he presides at the trial of all misdemeanors, and felony cases, within the quarterly jurisdictions of this Court. As the Judge he presides over the meetings of the Fiscal Court. Fiscal court exercises all of the corporate affairs of the County. The County Judge is elected by the voters for a term of four years. The Magistrates are also elected by voters of their respective districts and hold office for a term of four years. County attorney is elected by the voters and holds office for a term of four years. His duty is to attend to Litigation for the County and give advise. Shall attend all county and fiscal courts held in his county and conduct all business and cases in said county touching the right or interest of the county. Oppose the allowance of all claims not legally presented. Give the Court and the several county officers legal advice concerning any county business, within the jurisdiction of any of them. He also attends Circuit Court held in this County and aids the Commonwealth's atty, and attends the Commonwealth's business.

Sheriff is also elected by the voters, holds term four years. He represents the executive or administrative power of the county. He appoints deputies. He executes are processes of the county and Circuit court, collects taxes, summons jurors.

County Court Clerk is elected by voters for a term of four years. Makes record of all deeds, issue licenses, takes care of ballot boxes, also clerk of Fiscal Court. Custodian of the public records ~~fax~~ of the county. Also the guardian of Administrator's settlements. Receives salary of the fiscal court and fees for services, as prescribed by law.

Tax Commissioner is elected by voters for a period of four years. He assesses the property of the county owned by each individual, and all persons subject to poll tax.

Coroner is elected by voters for the term of four years. Holds inquest where death is caused by violence. Also in other cases when called. He receives a fee of twelve dollars for each inquest that is held. Also serves processes when the sheriff is disqualified or refuses to act.

Circuit Court Clerk, is elected by voters for a period of six years. His duty is to keep a permanent record of all proceedings of the Circuit Court in the County, also issues automobile driver licenses. Is custodian of all court records.

Circuit Judge, although elected by the voters of three counties, Breathitt, Wolf and Moffigan, holds office for a term of six years, he holds three terms of Court each year in Breathitt County, March, July, and October. He presides over trials of all criminal cases, equity cases and common law cases.

Jailer is elected by voters for a term of four years, He is custodian of public property, and it is his duty to keep incarcerated in jail, all prisoners convicted in the Circuit court, and county court also Magistrate's court. Except prisoners sentenced to the penitentiary by Circuit Court. When new jail is completed he will also keep Federal prisoners. He receives a ^{per diem} allowance for his services for feeding prisoners, as provided by law. He or his deputies are always present when Circuit court or County court is in session he receives one hundred and twenty five dollars per month for furnishing, heat, light, and water also janitor service for the court house.

County Treasurer is appointed by the Fiscal Court of County, holds office for term of four years unless removed by cause. It is his duty as treasurer to disburse the funds of the county as directed by the Fiscal Court, on warrants authorized by them, and to keep a detail record of all money received and the funds to which the same belongs, and disbursement made from each fund, also make period-

Box 1
File 13

ical reports of transactions made by him. He receives a salary from the Fiscal court for his services.

County Farm Agent is appointed by the State. He assists the farmers with their farm problems and acts in an advisory capacity, in order that the greatest production and preservation of soil may be made. Receives salary from the state and from the county.

The county provides for an engineer and county surveyor, but don't have any.

County Superintendent elected by the school board of four members for a term of four years. The school board being elected by voters of county, hold office for a term of four years. Two members being elected every two years. The superintendent recommends the teachers, the board hires them, the superintendent supervises the conduct of the schools, Have county school treasurer and office assistant.

County Officials / omit title

COHIST

Box 1
6/17/17

The act establishing Breathitt County provided for (11) Justices of the Peace, who were to meet at the home of William Allen, at the mouth of ~~the~~ Cane Creek, on the first Monday of April, 1839. In a letter to ~~James M. Bullock~~ James M. Bullock, Secretary of State, dated February 22, 1839, Governor James Clark nominated for his advice and consent as justices of the peace these (11) men: Stephen Jett, Hardin Combs, Alexander Herald, Jeremiah W. South, Thomas Higgins, James P. Cope, Harman Hurst, Allen Moore, (Simeon) Bohannon, Claiborn Crawford, and Andrew Pence. Richard South was nominated sheriff and William Allen coroner of the newly formed county of Breathitt. After taking their oaths of office and qualifying their Sheriff, they were instructed to appoint a clerk. *John Hargis was appointed first clerk of the circuit court and* (Simeon) Bohannon was appointed the first clerk of both the county and circuit court. *Bohannon served only a short time, ~~and~~ resigned and was succeeded by John Hargis, in 1839.* *upon his resignation ~~and~~ was appointed to fill the vacancy, and he held* Tax commissioners *appointed in* 1839, appointed by the Breathitt County Court, were governed by the laws then in force on the subject.

both offices until the adoption of the 1891 Constitution which made all state, district and county officials

Its county seat, like that of practically all county seats, was centrally located so as to be equidistant to all parts of its jurisdiction. The three commissioners appointed to locate the county seat first located it opposite the mouth of Quicksand on the land of Nick Hays, which they considered a beautiful and central location. They drove down four stakes in an old peach orchard to form the four corners of the public square. After they had agreed upon this location and staked out the site of the courthouse, they investigated the title of the property and found that it was defective. Rather than establish it through time-consuming litigation they changed it to its present ^{Jackson,} site which was then part of the farm of Simon Cockrell. (For a fuller history of the location and early history of the county seat see the "History of Jackson," p.).

Box 1
File 14

CJHIST

Six constables to be appointed by the justices of peace who constituted the county court were instructed by the act to lay off the county into districts. Other constables were added and other constabulary districts were laid off in the next few years. One for the town of Breathitt (Jackson in 1845) was appointed in 1841, one for Holly and one for Troublesome Creek in 1846.

The Breathitt Circuit Court was first "holden" on the third Monday in April, July and October, as changed by an enactment after the passage of the act creating the county which ^{had previously} set it on the third Monday in May, August and November. Such matters as these were being continually changed by acts of the Kentucky General Assembly and by the State constitutions of 1850 and 1891. In his Recollections (p. 10), ^{J. Green} Trimble tells the story of the first circuit court held in the county:

"I attended the first term of the circuit court held in the county, which was held at the residence of Wm. Allen, on his farm at the mouth of Cane Creek, and with few exceptions, I attended every circuit court that was held in the county up to the beginning of the Civil War. Judge Joseph Eve was the presiding judge of the first court, and Silas Woodson represented the Commonwealth, and who at the request of the presiding judge, addressed the grand jury, giving the ablest instructions I ever heard delivered. Mr. Woodson afterwards emigrated to Missouri and located at St. Joseph, and was elected Governor of that State, one of the best that State ever had."

Among the early officials of the county perhaps none were ^{more} influential and certainly none served longer than John Hargis. He was clerk of the county and circuit courts for over half a century, representative of Breathitt and Morgan counties ^{at state's} the third Constitutional Convention, and county school commissioner for a number of years, including the first years of the operation of public schools in Breathitt. Another official who served the county in these early years was Thomas Hagin (later spelling "Hagins") who was a trustee of Breathitt Town and sheriff of the county.



SOME EARLY VOTING PLACES

COHIST

omit title

Box 1
6/10/17

early

One of the ~~in the area later embraced by Breathitt~~ voting places ~~County~~ was "the house of William Haddox," in the Troublesome Precinct of Perry County, which was changed by legislative act in 1837 from the house of Colby Haddix.

no #

Several other voting places established before Breathitt became a county included the house of Nathan Gibbs in the Quicksand precinct of Estill County, which was changed in 1838 to the house of Andrew Pence on Holly Creek, and the house of James McGuire, Jr., which replaced that of Archibald Crawford during the same year. # The voting places remained the same after the erection of the county unless changed by an enactment of the General Assembly. The house of Mr. Roger Turner on the Middle Fork which had been a voting place in Perry County and the house of Andrew Pence were continued by an 1840 act. (The 1840 act which mentions the house of Andrew Pence as an additional, that is, a new precinct is incorrect, since it was established as a voting place in an 1838 act.) At the same time

~~an~~ additional precinct ~~was~~ ^{was} established, ~~the voting place of one being~~ ^{as the voting place.} ~~with~~ the house of George Allen on Main Quicksand ~~and that of the other at~~ ~~the house of Andrew Pence on Holly Creek which (now flows entirely in Wolfe~~

~~County~~ # In 1841 the place of voting in the Troublesome Precinct, at the mouth of Troublesome Creek, was changed to the house of Alfred Combs, and the name of the precinct was to be known thereafter as "Nobles Precinct." ~~no~~

~~no~~ voting places changed frequently. In 1843 the house of William Howard replaced that of George Allen as the voting place of that precinct, and in 1846 Samuel Spicer's house replaced that of Roger Turner's as the voting place of that precinct. Another early voting place in Breathitt County was located at the house of Curtiss Jett.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL
WORK
BREATHITT COUNTY

Box 1 File 12

Emergency Relief. K.E.R.A. of Breathitt County is the only relief agency in the county. The relief agency has occupied six different buildings since it came into existence in 1931. At the time the office was liquidated in November, 1935 it occupied a building in South Jackson, and now the skeleton office force is using the County Judge's office as headquarters. Mrs. Della Davidson of Hazard, Kentucky is the supervisor, the office force has been cut to one stenographer, and interviewer. Only old people and unemployables are given aid, consisting of clothing, food, and small sums of money. In the past year 1,000 young men from Breathitt County taken from relief rolls, have been approved and accepted in the various C.C.C. Camps. In the year 1934 there were 2,200 cases on the relief rolls. Children of attending schools, whose families are on the relief rolls are fed a daily lunch. The allowance for this food is \$126.00 per month. County school having closed the feeding has been discontinued

Mrs. Della Davidson, Relief Supervisor

Church Organizations. The Missionary Societies of four churches carry on a constant relief program. Visiting the sick and needy, helping the destitute distributing baskets of food, and clothing and collecting old furniture, stoves, and bed clothing. In this way helping to relieve the suffering to some extent.

Public Health. Weekly program of local health office:

Monday - Home visits, maternal and child welfare, T. B.
Sewing Club women exams. etc.

Tuesday- Tuberculosis clinic: trachoma, various others

Wednesday- A. M. - prenatal and preschool clinics,

P. M. - Child health conference-different places each week
regularly

Thursday)
Friday) Home visiting and school

Box 1 File 12

Saturday A. M., Venereal Clinic.

Dr. Earl Gamble, Health Doctor

Different phases of health work. Birth and death statistics.

Commutable diseases, education and control

Venereal sanitation

Education, protection of food and milk

T. B. Service

Maternal hygiene

Morbidity service

School and adult hygiene, education

Crippled children (Lab. service)

Dr. Earl Gamble, Health Doctor

Example of need of Physician. Mother fell in labor and the efforts of

her 62 year old husband to secure a doctor failed. He consulted the Relief Department, but to no avail. Mother finally delivered twins tied the cords, cut them and dressed the twins with her own hands. Since then she and her husband have brought the twins repeatedly to the health office each time carrying them and walking the entire round trip of ten or twelve miles.

Social Service Record. December 31, 1935 patient (unmarried) age 21 years

mentality of about a three or four year child. Living with her father, three sisters, step-mother, two step-sisters, half sister, (daughter of her father and step mother), her father's mother and her step mother's mother and father, and a brother of her step-mother (the father of her child). The house is a frame house built on a very steep hill. It has two fairly large bed rooms and a long back room very loosely boxed, in which served as a kitchen and dining room, until the weather became too cold. The families then moved into the two large rooms. One group in each room. Furniture consists of four beds, one cot, two

Box 1 FILE 12

cooking stoves, and a few old broken chairs. The chickens roost under the porch. Found the patient lying on a cot using corn shucks for a mattress. One old dirty woolen quilt served both as a sheet and cover. She had been delivered by a mid wife 93 years old, her grandmother. Delivery taking place on the floor. After lying on the cot ten days on this same quilt without any attention, we finally persuaded the two grandmothers to let us partially bathe, clean and comb her hair. This baby was brought to the health office in about four weeks, in a dying condition. The elbow was bruised and the ankle, the baby was dirty and died while being examined. Death due to infection.

Dr. Earl Gamble, Health Doctor

Hospitals. The Back Hospital was finished March 20, 1916. It is located on Main Street on U. S. 15, built of native blue sandstone and is four stories high. All corridors, stairs, baseboards, and floors are of marble. Walls are plastered and painted a soft green. One elevator. Basement floor is divided into nurses rooms, dining room, electrically equipped kitchen, Office, reception room, consultation room, and X-Ray room, are on the first floor in the front end of the building. The modern operating room is on the second floor, and in this room there has been performed 19,000 operations since the opening of the hospital. The hospital is electrically equipped throughout. Thirteen beds, two bassinets, and twelve rooms are on both the second and third floors. The staff is composed of the owner of the hospital, Dr. Wilgus Back, a member of the College of American Surgery, having performed more than the required number of operations in a certain length of time. Dr. Frank Sewell, a graduate of Vanderbilt College, Nashville, Tennessee is assistant surgeon. There are three nurses, graduates of accredited hospitals.

Dr. Wilgus Back.

Red Cross. Every year there is a drive for Red Cross membership, and sale of Christmas seals. The percent of the proceeds received from this drive, that is allotted to this county is used to pay Dr. Frank Sewell for X-Ray service to

T. B. Cases

Dr. Earl Gamble, Health Doctor

BREATHITT COUNTY

250

Growth and Development. The early settlers were of the Anglo-Saxon stock. Being of the middle class, they were accustomed to physical labor, and the difficulties of wilderness life was a matter of nothing to them. Their determination to overcome the hardships of the new country, to establish homes and develop their own governments and ideals, are in themselves evidence enough to the hardy stock, With this knowledge as a background we can easily understand the great economic and industrial development, as well as the social development. Breathitt County has contributed to the outside world such men of letters, business, and culture as Alfred Combs, business; Sam E. Hager, son of Henry and Elmira Combs Hager to the ministry, missionary to Kobe Japan; Thomas F. Hargis to the legal bench; Thomas Marcum, law; A. J. Russell, to the Legal Universities; Thomas Terry, education; and many other notables of both state and national fame.

Important personages and industries during the development of Breathitt County:

Culture, J. J. Dickey and H. O. Guerrant; religion, Prof. Blanton of Center College, John Goff, Logan, H. C. Marion, and A. C. Leonard (donated library); politics, James Hargis, Edward Callahan, J. B. Marcum, M. S. Crain, David K. Butler, Granville Miller, Breck Combs, Wm. Combs, J. Wise Hagins, (had clock installed in court house when he was county judge) Nathan Day, (killed in saw mill while in office).

The following business concerns, now extinct, played a part in the county's growth: Kentucky Lumber and Veneer Company at Camp Cristy, Day Lumber Co., Jackson, Kentucky; Swan Day Lumber Company; Sewell Fork Lumber Co.; Day Bros. General Merchandise; M. S. Crain, G.M.J. Wise Hagan, Hotel. Population in 1890 was 14,322, in 1930 21,143. Growth in population in 40 year was 47.6 percent.

There are three hotels in Jackson, Kentucky. Two are located on Kentucky Highway #15 and one located in South Jackson.

Jefferson Hotel, A. and E., located on Main Street on Kentucky Highway #15 was built in 1912 and the present owner is Mrs. R. S. Webb of Lexington, Kentucky. It is constructed of cream brick, is five stories high, has 31 bed rooms six private baths, and three public baths. Rates \$1.25 to \$2.00 per day. Meals 35¢ to \$1.00 per day. Free parking space.

Stacy Hotel, located on corner of Broadway and College Avenue, on Kentucky Route #15, is built of red brick, and was erected in 1915. Three stories high, 18 bedrooms, two baths, A. and E. plan. Steam heated. Rates 50¢ to \$1.50 per day. No parking space. Stacy Garage and Filling Station next door.

Ewen Hotel, located in South Jackson near the L. & N. R.R. depot. Was built in 1900 by Captain B. J. Ewen. It is now owned by Mr. Harry H. Miller. This hotel is a large frame building with 18 bed rooms and 2 baths. American plan. Rates \$1.50 to \$2.00 per day. No parking space nor garage.

Hotel facilities in Jackson are up to the standard, they are built of brick, steam heated, have hot and cold running water. The managers are men of prominence, always courteous to their guests and anxious to please. They Grey Hound Bus passes in front of both the Jefferson and Stacy hotels.

Back Hospital. Dr. Wilgus Back, owner. The Back Hospital has twelve rooms for patients. Dr. Back discontinued the ward to make space for an X-Ray room. He has twenty-three beds but uses about thirteen and two bassinets.

The following fraternal orders are active:

The Masons and the J.O.U.A.M. The D.A. R. and the Eastern Star. The Kiwanis Club is active and has its regular meeting once a week, on Thursday nights in the Jefferson Hotel. They have "Ladies Night" and the

programs are always unique and interesting. At the last meeting the ladies had charge of the program, as it was Leap Year. Only the program committee knew that the ladies were to have charge and as each member was called on, as he started to rise his wife would threaten him with a rolling-pin or something similar and then she would rise and give his number. At that meeting the amount raised was \$70.00 for the Floor Sufferers.

A Business Woman's Club was organized last year, but not enough members paid dues and they never received the charter. The Natnan Britian Chapter, D.A.R. is inactive at present.

The American Legion Post, was named in honor of Lieut. J.J.C.Spencer, had at one time 50 or 60 members, after his death the Post members lost interest and some of them dropped out. They meet once a month. Capt.C.C.Cope, Mr. Frank Trusty, are prominent members.

Transportation. The Greyhound Lines operate busses through Jackson to Jenkins. The J. C. Wells private bus line runs from Jackson to West Liberty. Two school busses run from the county lines carrying high school children to and from the high school at Quicksand.

Normal conditions of roads in Breathitt County are good. The Highway Kentucky No. 15 is sand stone gravel and tar and is kept up by the Federal and State Highway. Normal condition of Kentucky 15 from Whitesburg to Winchester is good.

The electric lighting system was at first individually owned, but is now owned by a corporation, The Kentucky West Virginia Power Company.

("In what year was Jackson established?" This will be answered later.)

HOTELS

WREATHITT COUNTY

Jefferson Hotel, Herbert Spencer-Manager, Jackson, Kentucky

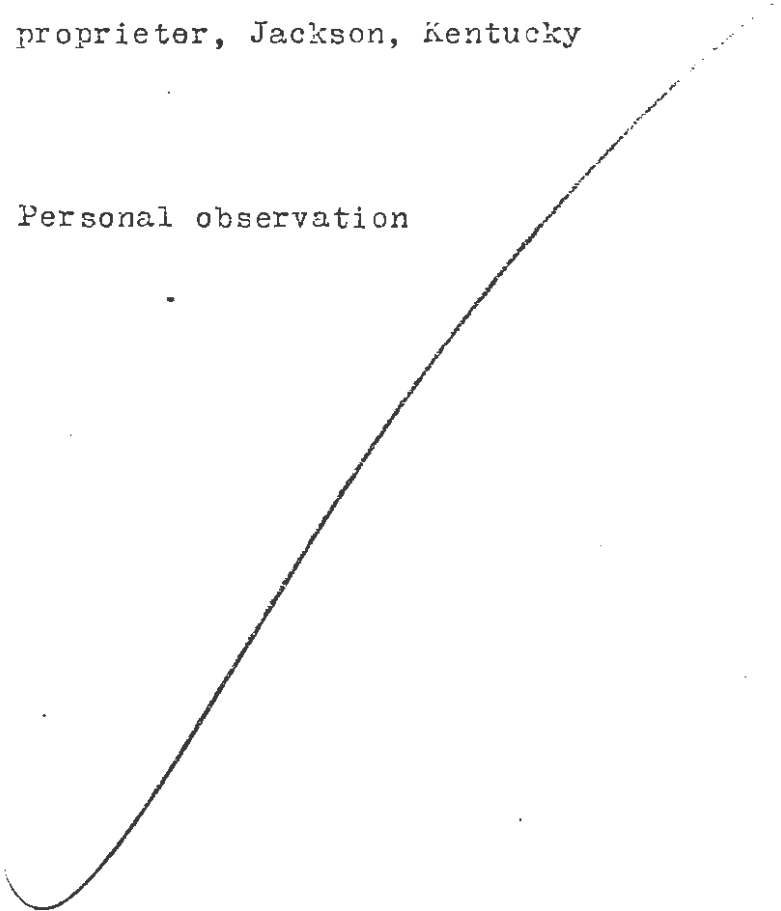
Ewen Hotel, H. H. Miller, owner- Jackson, Kentucky

Stacy Hotel, Adam Stacy, owner - Jackson, Kentucky

RESTAURANTS

Mrs. Harry Patton, proprietor, Jackson, Kentucky

Personal observation



REC.

Box 1 File 12

CLASS IV

510 HOTELS

By Josephine Sewell

BREATHITT COUNTY

Jackson Kentucky has three hotels, the Jefferson, A. and E., the Ewen, A., and the Stacy Hotel, A. and E. The rates range from 50¢ to \$2.00 per day. It has six boarding houses and thirteen restaurants.

The River View Tourist Camp, is located at Lost Creek, Kentucky, 12 miles east of Jackson on U. S. 15. Each of the five cabins has two beds. The camp is equipped with electric lights.



the racy turns of thought, the picturesque figures of speech and the quaint diction

HUMOR

COHESIVE
seriously conversation

~~the~~ the most distinctive ~~feature~~ features in the ~~of~~ of the Kentucky mountaineer is the lean, ^{with} painted humor, ^{it is} which ~~is~~ frequently ^{interspersed.}

^{insert A} ~~Out of the steep hillsides from which the hard-pressed mountaineer~~ ^{has} tries to wrest a living ~~has~~ arisen the most widely broadcast humor of the

~~people of appalachia.~~ Hill-dwellers, it is said, have one leg longer

insert C

than the other from walking along the hillsides. ~~The mountaineer pre-~~

~~bably will never weary of telling the "city hick" how corn is planted on those almost straight up and down cornfields. It seems impossible to~~

~~do much more than hang on to them, much less to plow them up with a mule and~~

~~plant corn on them.~~

insert B

When asked for an explanation, the typical mountaineer is apt to ~~say~~

~~stare~~ look at the stranger asking such a goll-durned question for a spell

and then in his wry manner reply: "Well, stranger, I'll tell y'u, y'u

git over on the other hill with yer shotgun, fill it up with corn, and

then blast away like hell at the other side." ^{insert C.}

The mountaineer also delights in leg-pulling and occasionally telling whoppers. Without the slightest indication that he is telling anything but

the gospel truth, he can go into factual details about something that

never happened or else was a [#] simple incident, badly in need of some

imaginative embellishment. ^{It isn't lying, it's simply enriching the poverty of reality.}

insert D

In the annals of Breathitt ~~County~~ old Simon Cookrell stands out as a character of great gusto, of unblushing profanity and withal a kind heart.

In his Recollections (pp. 16-18), J. Green Trimble, who knew him personally, relates two incidents that fill out the proportions of the man:

^{He} ^{he} ^v ^{uttered} ^a ^{sentence} ^{without} ^{it} ^{being} ^{accompanied} ^{by} ^a ^{profane} ^{oath}. On one occasion he

visited Irvine, the county seat, on business before the circuit court, and being so much in the habit of swearing, he swore a profane oath

in the presence of the court, for which he was fined five shillings,

CDHIST

the penalty prescribed for such an offense by our statutes. The court then adjourned for dinner, and the clerk presented Mr. Cockrell the fine for payment. He threw a ^D5.00 bill down on the table, and the clerk informed him that he could not change it. He replied that he did not want a ny change, that the clerk could keep the bill and he would swear out the balance. He thereupon commenced and cursed the court and all its officials, as the well as the rest of mankind, and such a profusion of profanity was never heard before. He then said: "If you are not watisfied, take the bill and go to Hell with it....^{Co}"

There was a protracted meeting held at Jackson by Rev. Joseph Nickell, who represented a denomination that preached the doctrine of baptism by immersion for the remission of sins, and ~~so~~ ^{that} the remission occurred in the act of baptizing. Fourteen person joined the church during the meeting, and at its close they all went down ~~to~~ the river to be baptizied. Among the converts was a man who had formerly been a tenant ^{of} Mr. Cockrell's and with whom he had had some difficulty. Mr. Cockrell happened to be in town that day and he followed along with the large crowd of over 150 persons to see the baptizing. As his former tenant was being immersed, Cockrell called to the parson in ~~his~~ loud and s^tentorian voice that could be heard distinctly a quarter of a mile, and said, "Souise him again, Joe^k for he's a da^m'd dirty dog, and it will take two dips to wash away his sins!"

Much ^{of} the mountain humor is based on misunderstanding and lack of education.

no # Mr. Frank Riffle, who operated a drug store in Jackson for maⁿy years tells the story of the man from "out in the country" who came into the drug store one day and asked for a bottle of liniment. When asked whether he wanted it for "Man or beast," as the liniment bottles were labeled, the man replied, "Nary one, I want hit for my ole woman."

Another incident this time in the Magoffin County Court occurred in a case involving a decision of land and the allotment of a dowry. A judgment had been rendered at the court previous, but from some cause or other no record had been made of it.

plaintiff's
The attorney ~~for the plaintiff~~ entered a motion to have a 'nunc pro tunc' issued. ~~for the plaintiff~~ *The attorney* for the defense replied that before the plaintiff could 'nunc' he must first "pro tunc," and having failed to "nunc" he could not, therefore, "pro ^tnunc." The judge ^{did his best to} look ~~ed~~ wise and ~~said~~ ^{then judiciously} that ^{right} he is ~~is~~, and ^{he} overruled the motion of the plaintiff.

~~The Jackson Hustler~~
~~March 1894~~

declared

The love of the mountaineer for his homeland was shown one day in a crowded court-room in Jackson. The question was raised as to the witness's mental competency. He was intelligent but supposed to be too ignorant to understand the questions .

The challenging barister said:

Bill, do you know where you will go to when you die?

"Wall," drawled Bill, "I don't know ez I kin say fer shure; hit's a question what's bothered smarter men 'en I be. But ef I has my way erbout it, and the Lord don't raise no objections, I'll be comin' right back to the Panbowl ez fast ez my wings 'll carry me."

(see p. [] for the "Panbowl")

half-grim

Insert E - p. 5

A ~~wild~~ ^{half-grim} incident in one of Breathitt's feud wars illustrates a virile type of humor, of the nail chewing variety, that is ^{often encountered in the} particularly dear to ~~traditions and annals of Breathitt.~~

~~the Breathitts.~~ In a raid following the invasion of the southern end of Breathitt by Eversole and his men, Big John ^K ~~Alman~~ was shot in the back as he ran up the hill in a stooped fashion. The bullet, it is said, stopped in his mouth. Big John, who had also stopped, ^{the bullet} spit ~~it~~ out and then remarked "that was a damned hot morsel they fed me."

In Breathitt a lighter vein of humor, sometimes with a very picturesque and quaint turn for the rîd que is more widely cultivated today than the hard bitten variety. The young man who grinningly announced, "I'm a honey-bear looking for a bee-gun," expressed in dignified style something that the city blade would more than likely ~~turn out in vulgar style.~~ ^{have phrased as a vulgarian.} Among ~~another~~ ^{was} example of this rather common but colorful idiom ~~such as~~ the remark of the country youth in Jackson on Halloween ⁱⁿ to a passing tender-aged heart beat, "I'd marry ~~you~~ ^{your} old house cat to just be in your family."

(9.) # Frank Murphy, a Breathitt Countian, had two teams of horses and all of them were named Charlie. One day some one asked him why he named all of them Charlie. He replied, "Well, I figured when I yelled out 'Git up Charlie' that all four of them would start pulling at once."

Elements of the simple humor of the frontier are still present in the tales and in the humorous approach of the mountaineers, ~~in many sections of the highlands.~~ An early story tells how in the Battle of New Orleans in 1815, ^b hands of uncouth ^h Kentucky frontiersmen, wearing coon^s skin caps and some even barefooted, passed into General Jackson's ranks, without guns, "Bbys, where are your guns?" Old Hickory asked them. "Got none," they replied. "Then, what are you going to do," he ~~replied.~~ ^{rejoined.} After a pause one of them spoke up: "I'll tell you what we'll do, Gin'ral, we'll foller them there Tennes^s seans into battle, and ever' time one falls we'll jist inherit his gun."

The tall tale, usually based on a kernel of truth, ^{and somewhat restrained,} is also found in the lore of Breathitt County. The story of the famous fight between John Hagins and Ira Baker is undoubtedly accurate until it gets into a numerical detail.

not # Uncle John Hagins of Magoffin County once wagered that he could whip any man in Breathitt County in a fair fist and skull fight. His

COHIST

hand was called by Ira Baker. both were powerful men, possessing great muscular strength, and skill. The day set, ~~was~~ the opening of Circuit court at Jackson, ~~The occasion~~ became widely known and many people a throng came from surrounding countries into town to witness the fight. During the fight it is said they fought over a broad space, knocking each other through ten rail fences. (P.C.)

Judge

An event that occurred in old James Hargis's store illustrates the appreciation of humor that usually characterizes the people of Breathitt.

~~no #~~ The Judge at this time had bought out the interests of his brother

in the wholesaling and retailing firm they had operated together many

years. One day Jack Clements attired in his overalls best came into the

Judge's store and asked for a gray suit. Judge Hargis replied that he

didn't have any gray suits, but that he had a nice fit for him in brown.

Mr. Clements replied that he didn't want brown but that he wanted gray.

The Judge told him to go on and buy the brown if "if you just imagine its

gray, you'll come to really think it gray and you'll never know the

difference." Jack Clements gave in and put on the suit. He said he liked it and would take it. As he was walk-

ing out, Judge Hargis called out after him, "haven't you forgotten some-

thing, Jack?" Mr. Clements turned around and looked a bit puzzled. "No,

I don't think I have," he answered. "How about paying me?" the judge

asked. "Well, I tell you, judge, if you just imagine I've paid you long

enough, you'll come to think I have and you'll never know the difference."

a little taken back a moment, Judge Hargis considered this a fair reply and let Jack Clements have the

suit for nothing.

in Moonshining, always hard work and never the easy money it is sometimes

thought to be, has come in for its share of humorous treatment among the

Southern Appalachians. A large number of mountaineers drink "corn liquor"

and or "red" "legal whiskey" but the majority only "take a dram", now and then.

From adjoining ⁱⁿ Knott County comes ^a typical story of the man who "turned up" a quart jar of moonshine. When he had drained it, he was asked if he wouldn't have more. "Nope", he replied, "it mighten fly to my head."

Numerous stores of the same kind are spun and respun, carried from one district to another until they have ^{become an integral part} ~~been woven into the fabric~~ of mounta in humor.

W.R. Thomas in THE KENTUCKY MOUNTAIN ("Decay of the Feud Spirit) illustrates the fanciful attitude towards moonshine and water by ^{excerpts} from one of Mary ^{Noailles} ~~Murfree's~~ Murfree's ("Charles Eghert Craddock's) stories of East Tennessee. "I remember when I was a gal." says ^{old} Miss Cayce [#] "whis key was ^{store} so cheap that up to the ~~store~~ at the settlement they'd hev a bucket set ^{a round, free for all comers an' another bucket alongside with} full of whiskey and water ter seas on it. And the way that thar water lasted was ^surprising, that it war. Mr. Thomas also tells the incident of one mountaineer who saw another mountaineer going toward a water mill, with a sack of corn on his back and remarked: "Look at that feller going yonder to grind a turn of meal; bet right now he ain't got a pint of liquor in his house."

Insert B

The hard-pressed mountaineer who tries to wrest a living from those almost straight up and down cornfields probably will never weary of telling the "city hick" how he plants corn on them. *It seems impossible to do much more than hang on to them.*

Insert A

Although the mountaineer may not be gay and is seldom, if ever, frivolous, he is often light-hearted. He enjoys a funny story, and is always ready to relay one. The somewhat melancholy mood that seem to dominate so many of them comes from loneliness and the absence of social diversions.

Much of the humor of the mountains is ~~the~~ purely local ~~and~~ personal ~~kind~~.

Odd

~~things that have happened to known individuals~~ ~~or that have happened to them~~ ~~wards-~~ have done ~~are~~ remembered long after ~~the incident~~. Mr. Isom Arrowood, of the ~~same~~ ^{canoe} community on the Middle Fork in this county, often told a ~~same~~ joke on himself in connection with his first deer hunt. The event took place many years ago when ~~an~~ ^{he was a mere lad and} occasional deer still roamed the forested hills and Mr. Arrowood ~~was~~. He and two companions went up a hill until they had reached a point where they knew a deer was close at hand. The two companions, who had killed deer before, left ^{Isom} ~~Isom~~ in a low gap where they knew the deer would pass, if they did not succeed in killing but only frightening one. They gave ^{him} ~~him~~ orders what to do and went on around the hill to try their luck. After they had been gone for some time, ^{Isom} ~~Isom~~ heard a frightening "whippity-huff, whippity-huff, whippity-huff." Then suddenly a fine buck made its appearance over the knob. Mr. Arrowood said he thought it was the devil with a chair on his head. At any rate, not liking the looks of the creature he hid until it passed. Soon afterwards, a small wolf came over the same path and he cracked down and killed it. His companions were pleased to hear the shot, ^{Isom gratified with} ~~and he too was pleased at~~ his luck ~~and went to hunt them~~ ^{slung the} ~~with the~~ wolf across his shoulders. When he located his companions they asked him if he had killed the deer and he earnestly replied, "'Pon my soul I have," and this naturally pleased them. When they inquired where he had left it, he said, "Why here it is," and he threw ~~down~~ ^{down} the wolf on the ground before them. "Why, Isom," one of the companions half angrily replied, "that is nothing but a fleasey wolf. Where is the deer?" And he said, "'Pon my soul, I never seen no other deer, but I did see something which I thought was the devil with a chair on his head, and he scared me so bad I hid until he passed." They assured him that the devil with a chair on his head was the deer he had lost then. They told him to throw down the fleasey wolf, and they all left for home somewhat disgusted.

Humor

"In the mountains, the agile, acorn-fed generations of swine hold an epic rank in prowess and romance unknown to their sty-bred, slothful kindred of the lowlands. Mountain hogs are not merely stuff for the gorge of mammon; they are also such gorgeous stuff as dreams are made on--arrayed, beyond pork flesh, in the glamour of poetry. They are the highland freeholders. Aline on the wild traits in both society and solitude, they are untrammled companions of an untrammled folk, free denizens of a mountain democracy. Even in death they are not Norman pork, but Saxon pig. Especially the sow which, with her litter of shoats, hugs closer to human palings, is an unfailing source of folk lore."

Tall Tales, p. 18

"There, far from the railroads, the roar of strident modernity comes only as a murmured rumor, it at all. For there the creek-beds are a line with an ancient leisure, valuable with antic tongues in the smoky log-cabins, where Aesop and Chaucer and Munchhauser still sit anonymous by the fireside and spin their timeless lore. Wild chronicles, witch legends, 'tall'tales of the great Appalachian timber, mingle there with ancestral memories of dim Irish hills. Scotch heath and English moorlands--folk-memories transformed and fused in the thought and speech of American Mountaineers. pp. 9-10--Tall Tales of the Kentucky Mountains by Percy MacKaye.

"The gracious, ancient charm of log-cabin hospitality."

"The old word mast is still universally used, in the mountains, for the crops of beechnuts, acorns and other nut harvests of deciduous trees."

"Untamed America" by MacKaye (Marion-Percy) ^{vey} Sunday Graphic, January 1924

See Percy MacKaye.

COHIST
Box 1 -
File 17

"Huge Gusto of Solemnity"

Use of whopper?

Chinkapins

Pokes

"went in the next house"--in the next room--out in the kitchen--

Old Southern plantation style

Humor

COHIST

Box 1 file 17

Mr. Isom Arrowood related his first deer hunt to his friends and relatives, which took place many years ago. He and two companions ascended the hill until they came to a point where they knew that deer was close at hand. So the two companions who had killed deer before left Mr. Arrowood in a low gap where they knew the deer would pass, if they only frightened and did not kill it. So they gave him orders what to do and went on around the hill to try their luck. After they had been gone for sometime, Mr. Arrowood heard something coming - "whippity-huff," whippity-huff," whippity-huff", which frightened him so badly he did not know what to do. Then suddenly a fine buck deer made its appearance over the knob and he thought it was the Devil and his big horns was a chair on his head; and not liking his looks he hid until he passed. Very soon, a small wolf came over the same road and Mr. Arrowood cracked down and killed it; so of course his companions were pleased to hear the shot, and he too was pleased at his luck and went to hunt them with the wolf across his shoulders. When they got in sight of each other the companions asked him if he had bagged the deer and he earnestly replied, "'Pon my soul I have," and this pleased them and they came closer and inquired where had left him. He said, "Why here he is," and threw down the wolf on the ground before their eyes. This made them rather disgusted and one of them said, "Why, Isom

COHIST

Box 1. File 17

that is nothing but a fleaeey wolf, where is the deer?" And he said, "'Pon my soul, I never seen no other deer, but I did see something which I thought was the devil with a chair on his head, and he scared me so bad I hid until he passed." They assured him that that was the deer he had lost then and there and told him to throw that flea-ey wolf down, and they all departed for home.

Humor

COHIST
Box 1
file 17

Perhaps the most typical type of humor is the mountaineer's reply to the "furiner's" inevitable question about how they can plant corn on such steep hillsides. "All you got to do, " he's apt to reply, "is load your shotgun with corn, stand on the other side of the hollow and fire away." Somewhat akin to the story of planting corn with a shotgun -----

INDIAN RULE IN WILDERNESS OF KENTUCKY

Apalaches (1)

Box 1 File 10

"When Columbus, the discoverer of America, first reached our native shores, believing he had reached India, called the natives he met here Indians." The North American Indian's original state was similar to a wild animal, for he depended solely on his ability to kill. The wild animals furnished the Indians with their scant clothing; food ^{was} furnished by the animals' ^{flesh;} ~~bodies;~~ tents, their place of nomadic abode made from animal skins; ~~max~~ drinking receptacles were made from animal skins, especially when ^{for} carrying water; moccasins, shirts, dresses for the women (squaws) and rugs for covering were all made from animal skins. Pots and other vessels were made from clays. The streams furnished part of their food through the fish. Their hunting equipment was meagre. They often scooped the fish directly from the streams into their hands. They made arrow points from Flint stone sharpened to a long point and secured to the end of their arrows. These arrows were made from ^{the ash tree and} the Arrowwood, a small ornamental shrub ⁽¹⁾ growing in the mountains of this vicinity "sometimes called The Burning Bush." The wood is resilient, the flower develops a burr similar to a chestnut, only smaller size. The burr ripens late in the Fall, bursts, showing many bright red seeds similar to the East India Pea except they lack the white and black spot on the Pea.

The mountain ash and the mountain hickory furnished wood for the bows ^{from} ~~with~~ which the Indians, fastening each end with a narrow strip of animal skin, aimed their flint-pointed arrows straight for their victims. They carried a tomahawk made from stone sharpened along one edge and a handle slipped into ^{the opposite side.} ~~it.~~ Their knives were made from the native stone and carried a sharp edge.

The Indians, equipped with a quiver made from animal skin, ~~and~~ filled with arrows and slung across his shoulder against his back, his faithful bow,

INDIAN RULE IN WILDERNESS OF KENTUCKY

and his knife and tomohawk slipped inside ~~in~~ a belt ^{worn} around his waist and made from animal skin, a breach clout and moccasins of skin on his feet, set forth prepared to slay any wild animal that crossed his pathway. ~~He~~

He understood the habits of the wild animals, their lairs and when they they were liable to be prowling for their own food. The Indian moved in a stealthy manner, could merge his form among the trees or undergrowth so he was invisible. He slung ~~the~~ animal across his shoulders and started for his wigwam at the close of one or a several days' trip. The meat was prepared by the squaws, who skinned the animals, and was dried in the open. Fish were also dried in the open. Some corn (Indian corn native to North America) was grown in small quantities, for the Indian was not naturally agriculturally inclined.

The women worked the skins of animals into various articles, made the pottery, cared for their papoose and did the little agricultural work.

"The Indians as a race ~~are~~ resemble the Mongolian, but differ sufficiently from it and any other race to be classed separately. He is physically strong, but of weak mentality; however, his cunning, acquired through his life in the forest overcoming the wild animals, has made his equal ^{to} the white man in border warfare. The wigwams in which he dwells usually form a village in some remote section in the forest, but always near a stream or spring of water. He is tall, straight and athletic (the familiar term, 'Straight as an Indian') with dark copper colored skin, high cheek bones, very small dark deepset eyes, straight black hair and a scanty beard." (The high cheek bones, straight black hair and the small dark deepset eyes are still found among many families of Breathitt intermarried over a century ago).

"Among the aboriginal tribes of the United States perhaps none is more enigmatical than the Appalachians. They are mentioned as an important nation by the early French and Spanish traveler and historian. Their name

INDIAN RULE IN WILDERNESS OF KENTUCKY

is being preserved by a bay and river on the shores of Mexico, and by the great eastern range of mountains, and has been applied by ethnologists to a family of conate nations that found their hunting grounds from the Miss. to the Atlantic and from the Ohio to the Florida Keys."

"That

(3)

The ancient Alleghans or Tallegwi were the mound builders of the Ohio valley is being sustained by later investigators and this opinion has been accepted by many of highest authority. The Alleghans, moreover, are being identified with the Cherokees of later times, in whom their race once supposed to be extinct, has apparently survived; while the fact, long suspected, that the Cherokee language is of the Iroquois is being proved by late studies. According to Indian tradition, the Alleghans were driven from their ancient seats, long ago, by a combination against them of the Lenape (Delewares) and the Mengwe (Iroquois). The route of this migration is being traced by the character of the mounds which they built, and of the remains gathered from the mounds." (DeSota is credited with naming the Appalachian mountains after the Appalache Indians)."

Cherokees

(5)

"The Cherokees were a prominent nation," occupying a great portion of Va. W. Va. and using Kentucky for their hunting ground, for in this wilderness much wild animal life, and the wild turkey and pigeon roamed. The Cherokee resented the white man's invasion. "The Powhatton Confederacy consisted of 20,000 acres." In Powhatton's younger days he was a great warrior. Hereditarily he was the chief of eight tribes. The English treated him with the respect due a king of the domain he ruled. The Cherokees lived in ~~villages~~ permanent villages. They cultivated the soil (raising considerable indian corn) and other small vegetables, made pottery, and even wore ~~clothes~~ cloth. The Bush or Corn dance ceremony was highly developed."

INDIAN RULE IN WILDERNESS OF KENTUCKY

Following the white man's invasion the Indians were always keenly seeking revenge. The pioneers leaving Va. and S.C. were often victims of the ~~Indian~~ Indians' revenge. Many families succeeding in entering Kentucky, after building crude homes in the Wilderness were slaughtered by the roaring bands of Indians. Many were killed and their homes fired during the nighttime. Many women and children were waylaid on their way to the streams and springs to obtain water for the household supply.

The Indians are credited with applying the name, "Kaintuck" (meaning "black and bloody ground") to the State of Kentucky. The Indians used a club to strike down their victims, frequently from the rear. This club was shaped like a bottle.

(7)
The Cherokee Indians gradually yielded portions of their Domain ^{and} following this the names were changed. The Cherokee Indians numbered 15,000 in ⁽⁸⁾ 1836 ~~1838~~ according to the War Department. ⁽⁵⁾ "The final removal" of the Cherokee nation, by the U.S. Government, was effected ⁽⁴⁾ "in 1836-1839," to what was known as the Indian Territory West of the Mississippi River. The office of "Indian Affairs" had been created in 1832.

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There are no mounds in the section of the mountains now known as Breathitt Co.

BREATHITT COUNTY

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Coal Corporation, Main St., Hazard, Ky. (this information

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Margaret K. Disnop

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The Indians, equipped with a quiver made from animal skin, and filled

with arrows and slung across his shoulder against his back, his faithful bow, and his knife and tomahawk slipped inside a belt worn around his waist, and made from animal skin, a breach ^{cloth (?)} clout and moccasins of skin on his feet, set forth prepared to slay any wild animal that crossed his pathway. He understood the habits of the wild animals, their lairs and when they were liable to be prowling for their own food. The Indian moved in a stealthy manner, could merge his form among the trees or undergrowth so he was invisible. He slung the animal across his shoulders and started for his wigwam at the close of one or a several days trip. The meat was prepared by the squaws, who skinned the animals, and was dried in the open. Fish were also dried in the open. Some corn (Indian corn native to North America) was grown in small quantities, for the Indian was not naturally agriculturally inclined.

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COHIST
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gathered for the writer's personal files).

INDIANS AND ARCHAEOLOGY

The ruggedness of Breathitt's land and the treachery of its streams discouraged anything more than temporary Indian occupation. In its setting of magnificent forests and innumerable streams, the area of Breathitt formed a natural preserve for all kinds of wild life. The Indians undoubtedly found it a good hunting ground, and most of the evidences of their culture were probably left by parties in search of game.

Flint Mountain (see p. _____) was visited by Indians who found here in profusion flints for arrow heads. Their trails, small paths hardly discernible, lead back into the Quicksand region from this ridge. Typical country tales said to be handed down from Breathitt's early settlers, are now told of Indians on the war path stepping in each others tracks so that pursuers would think only one Indian had passed through. The last Indian encampment in Breathitt, according to Mr. Tom Haddix, Haddix, Breathitt County, who had heard the story from his father, was at the mouth of Quicksand during the early period of settlement.

One of Breathitt's early Indian fighters was hard-hitting Dan Cockrell. The last Indian known to have been killed in the present area of Breathitt was killed by Dan Cockrell. He was once captured by the Indians and held to be burned at the stake the following day. He escaped by some means and is said to have turned his moccasins around so that the heel would be in front and the toe behind. In this way he hoped to set them on a trail in the opposite direction.

Although Breathitt County is not rich in archaeological sites about a dozen have either been noted or excavated along the North Fork and its tributaries by geologists and archaeologists of the University of Kentucky.

More than likely, many other sites, such as rock shelter burials, observation mounds, and buried piles of artifacts have either been obliterated or have not been examined carefully enough to disclose their prehistoric nature.

One of the most interesting village sites in Breathitt and adjoining counties is located three miles up from the mouth of Quicksand Creek along State 30 (R) on the property of Sanford Brown. The old people of former generations have handed down various traditions of this Indian Village. It includes a burial field with many graves. Large numbers of artifacts were still found in recent years on the surface, particularly arrows, scalers, knives and game-stones. On this site there is a peculiar circular depression about a quarter of a mile in circumference and embracing about six acres of bottom land of a soft loamy soil, black in color, upon which no vegetation would grow. When the first settlers walked through it, according to this same pioneer version, they would sink in over their shoe tops, and their shoes would be greasy. The supposition that this ground was a burial ground for the dead and also an ancient "garbage disposal" for bones, hides, fats, and other parts of game cannot be taken seriously. Nevertheless, it would have been practically impossible for the Indians to have carried this loam over the mountains on their backs as conjectured by another writer.

More than likely it was an ordinary "quaking bog," or a small lake, formerly, in which sphagnum moss formerly grew until it slowly filled up the depression, leaving no room for water. The blackness of the soil and its lack of fertility both suggest that the moss changed to peat. This is a frequent occurrence in the states north of Kentucky by rare in Kentucky that I do not know of another record. Sphagnum, however, has been

found in eastern Kentucky, almost to the Tennessee line, although it is a subnormal plant. Its presence here now would be a glacial age "hangover." According to one local tradition, this tract was used as a race course by the Indians at the time of the first settlement of the region. However, land that "quakes" could not have been used for this purpose.

A large burial mound near the village of Quicksand, three miles south of Jackson, on the property of Miles Pack is situated on a high elevation overlooking the river. It has been partly excavated and many bones and scraps of flint are now scattered over the surface. Large numbers of artifacts have been found in the immediate vicinity. The mound, a gently sloping knoll covered with many shade trees, is a picnic spot in the summertime.

An old Indian cemetery on the west bank of the North Fork between Howard's Creek and Big Branch was washed out in the flood of 1927. Just west of this cemetery there is a mound probably in association with it and now partly obliterated. Graves on the west bank of the North Fork at Kragen were also washed out of the bank during the flood of 1927. The river makes a sharp bend at this point and the current is unusually strong during high waters. Zack Campbell, who lived nearby at Haddix, found a burial under the rock shelter on the north bank of Troublesome Creek about a quarter of a mile below the mouth of Lost Creek. A number of graves, apparently in association with a series of rock shelters about two miles northeast of Jackson, contained artifacts as well as skeletons.

A fortification is to be seen about a half mile east of the L & N RR tracks and a mile north of the confluence of Lost and Troublesome creeks. One side of the hill is protected by high cliffs so that the rock barriers are in a strategic position for defense of the elevation. An observation

Box
File A

mound on a cliff above Big Branch of Quicksand Creek about two miles from the mouth of the branch consists entirely of stones, many of them undoubtedly carried for some distance to the top of the ridge. No artifacts were found on or about this enormous stone pile but in the valley below there is indisputable evidence of a village site of considerable proportions. The mound commanded a wide view over the surrounding country.

On some the mountain tops are still found altars built of stones piled on top of one another. They are always built on top of the hill facing the sun and are known as the altars of the Sun Worshippers.

Dr. Wilgus Back, surgeon and formerly owner of the Back Hospital in Jackson, had on display a skeleton, which was said to be that of an old Indian squaw with a hump back. There were various artifacts in her grave -- a pestle, needle made from a deer's horn, jaw bone of a deer, and five joints of an alligator's vertebra. In his collection of Indian relics there are hoes, pipes, arrow heads, ornaments, and many other artifacts. Archaeologists from the University of Kentucky inspected the Indian artifacts collected by T.W. Sewall and were found to be the usual articles found in Indian mounds.

INDIANS AND ARCHAEOLOGY

A large burial mound is located on the property of Mr. Miles Back of Quicksand, Kentucky. "Large Mound", in the village Quicksand, is situated on a high elevation overlooking the river. It has been partly excavated and many artifacts found.

The old people of former generations have handed down the tradition of the Indian Village on the farm of Sanford Brown, about 3 miles from the mouth of Quicksand Creek. There was about six acres of bottom land of a soft loamy soil, black in color, and no vegetation would grow on it, when the natives walked through it they would sink in over their shoe tops, and their shoes would be greasy. The supposition is that this ground was a burial ground for their dead, also, an ancient "garbage disposal" for all the bones, hides, fats, and other parts of game they did not eat. It would seem impossible for the Indians to have carried this loam over the mountains on their backs as is the supposition of one writer.

On the mountain tops are to be found many altars built of stones piled on top of one another. These altars are always built on top of the hill facing the sun and are known as the altars of the Sun Worshipers. One is to be found on the farm of County Judge George Little.

Dr. Wilgus Back, surgeon, and owner of the Back Hospital of Jackson, has on display a skeleton, which he says is of an old Indian squaw. He says that she was hump backed. There were various artifacts in the grave, a pestle, needle made from a deer's horn, jaw bone of a deer, and five joints of an alligator's vertebra. In his collection of Indian relics there are hoes, pipes, arrow heads, ornaments, and many other artifacts. G.W. Sewall has a collection of artifacts

COHIST

Box 1
File 17

that were inspected by geologists from the University of Kentucky and they were found to be the usual articles found in Indian mounds. Few Indians have lived in this county since the Revolutionary War.

Jackson

COHIST

Box 67EM

Acts of the General Assembly of Ky. Regular Session, Frankfort, Dec. 1889.
Supplementary Volume.

Ky. Laws, Statutes, Etc., Oct 1889-90 R.345,12
K 37- Public Library

Page 846 - Chapter 404

An Act to incorporate the town of Jackson. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

(Boundary) That the following boundary of land in Breathitt County, Kentucky situated in the North Fork of the Kentucky River, namely: Beginning at the mouth of the Bridge Branch, above the town of Jackson; thence up said branch with its meanders to a large sycamore tree, and just above a coal chute on said branch; thence a straight line across the hill to the river, at the mouth of a drain just above the old school-house, in which Solomon Back now lives, and including said school-house and grounds belonging to same; thence up the river to a point opposite the upper end of J.S. Hargis field; thence crossing the river a straight line, and crossing Pan Handle Ridge to the river on the other side of same; thence down the river with its meanders to the mouth of the Cut Off Branch; thence up said branch to the top of the gap; thence with the road to a straight line down to and crossing the river; thence up said river to the place of beginning, is hereby incorporated under the name and style of the town of Jackson.

Approved Mar. 25, 1890

- #2 (officers)
- 5 (Board of Trustees)
- 24 (Police Court)
- 38 (Sale of Liquors)

COHIST

Box 1
G 17
17

The Federal Building now located on Broadway is the only Federal building ever In Jackson. This building is built of cream colored brick. Three stories high. Also Basement. On first floor is the post office. On the second floor are offices such as the following: U.S. Recruiting , County health, the main Court room, Other offices on the second and third floors are, Clerk, District Attorney, Pettie Jury room, grand jury room, Judge.'s chamber back of Court room.

The first money appropriated to build this building was one hundred thousand dollars. Later twenty five hundred thousand more was allowed. Moved into this building on June 1, 1916. Began service but was not entirely completed.

J.W. Lanley was responsible for the structure of this building. William G. McAdoo was Secretary of the Treasury. Oscar Wwenderoth, Supervising Architect. The Treasury Department had a man here to see that the building was erected according to blue print.

The structure of the building is cream colored brick. Water table is made of carved stone which was brought from Roun county. Concrete and Slate roof . The sills of all windows are carved stone. The first floor is laid of marble.

(Havent found out who dedicated this building. The fols said "it wasn't dedicated. No one so far has been able to tell me the Architectural style. Could write to Washington and find out.)

The Hustler - Friday, March 16, 1894

Vol 1 File 17

COHIST

The hard times has never seriously affected Jackson, but the recent addition of three mills to our industries has given to our town additional life and increased activity. Every day wagons are loaded at our wholesale stores, while teams from this and the upper counties are at the depot after their cargoes of freight. Wagons hauling lumber to the depot for shipment may be seen daily, while staves and cross ties are being taken from the river and loaded on the cars for shipment. ~~Our population is constantly increasing, every house is full and others are building, our schools are exceedingly prosperous, and altogether our prospects for a continuous steady, healthy growth is good indeed.~~ No better place can be found for the manufacture of articles made from poplar, ash, oak, beech, sugartree, sycamore, hickory or elm timber. We cordially invite capital to come and take advantage of our fine resources.

Box 1
5/18/19

The Men Who Worked the Jackson End of the Big Breathitt
Land Swindle.

Jackson, Ky., Aug. 8 - (Special) -

J.E. Noble and E.L. Spicer, familiarly called here "Big Pistol" and "Little Pistol," because of the size of the revolvers they carried, who are now wanted by Uncle Sam for frauds connected with the United States Land Syndicate, are supposed to be in Honduras. They left Jackson about the time and a little after the murder of J.B. Marcum and just before the special grand jury was convened to investigate the assassinations of Marcum, Jim Cockrill and Dr. Cox. It was then thought they ran away because they had criminal knowledge of the assassination of Marcum by Jett and White. Letters were received from them in New York just as they said they were taking passage on a steamer bound for the South American criminal's rendezvous:

The fraud they were operating was slow in coming out. The facts were well known to Jackson people and to the local correspondents, but the newspaper men sent here to report the developments in the fraud cases were strangers to the situation and this affair was kept a secret from them. Deeply interested in the matter was the County Clerk, S.S. Taulbee, and Sheriff Ed. Callahan, because Noble was chief clerk in the office of the former and Spicer was a deputy in the office of the latter.

"Big Pistol" and "Little Pistol" have long been the "sportiest" young fellows in town. It had often been wondered how it was that they had so much money, but both were considered good at a game of draw, and the report spread that they were big winners.

The business of the County Clerk's office increased rapidly and scores of deeds were filed for record. The fees, of course, went to

County Clerk Taulbee, who also is proprietor of the Arlington Hotel and a thrifty business man, leaving most of the work of his office to his deputy. Spicer and Noble, in their printed matter, gave Taulbee among their other references, including themselves. The abstract said that all titles were vested in the name of the trustee of the syndicate in fee simple and that the land was guaranteed free from tax, liens or judgments. The trustee named was A. Colburn, and the office from which the business was transacted was 167 - 169 Washington Street, Chicago.

G.W. Noble, Jr., the County Surveyor, is still in Jackson. He claims to have had nothing to do with the matter. Sheriff Ed. Callahan refused to discuss the matter. County Judge Hargis is at Cynthiana attending the trials of Jett and White for the assassination of Marcum. The location of the 128,000 acres of land that the United States Land Syndicate proposed selling is, of course, unknown. There are no such lands in the county as described by the circulars, which are drawn regardless of facts, bringing near together features of the State's mineral and oil wealth that are in distant parts of the State.

(1)

"ANOTHER BREATHITT LAND SALE"

"J. Taylor Day has bought the lands of his brother, Wm. Day on Frozen Creek, about 1,000 acres, also all the lands of his brother John --(2) acres, and the interest of his brother Nathan in the home farm of Wm. Day, deceased. This give Mr. Day an immense tract of timberland about the Mouth of Frozen Creek, and he tells is that he proposes to take all the timber off of it at once. This will distribute a large amount of money in that part of the county. He does not propose to open any store at that point, but will patronize the house of his brother N. B. Day. He will discontinue all his stores except Lee City and Torrent."

(1) Newspaper) "Jackson Hustler, John Jay Dickie Proprietor,
Jackson, Kentucky, 1893.

(2) Deed Book, Vol. No. 10, page 192-----

Vault Breathitt Co. Ct. Clk's office, Court House, Jackson, Kentucky.

Here as in the Bluegrass the early settlers were primarily farmers. ^{R. J. C. 112}

Unfortunately for them the steep and narrow watersheds separated by the V-shaped valleys are essentially mineral and timber lands but little adapted to agriculture. That the mountains contained arable tracts, however, was long known to the residents of the lowlands. At an early date settlers from the east doubtless entered the upper valley through Pound Gap and other passes following trails from the Wilderness Road and the highway in the Kanawha gorge.

The advance began during the decade, 1790-1800. Shortly before this, investment in mountain land had become a popular form of speculation.

In 1784 (February 28), an entry was made for $300,306\frac{2}{3}$ acres of land which extended from the mouth of Contrary Creek in Lee County to Frozen Creek in Breathitt County. Twenty-two different plats were surveyed in the

same year within the boundary. Above this, the Reynolds grant of 126,140 acres was entered, based on twenty-three treasury warrants (April 22, 1784), and extending for ten miles up the North Fork. Above this entry was the Pickett and Marshall grant extending nine and a half miles further upstream. (Map showing entries and surveys, compiled from data in the Kentucky Land Office, by W. B. Dixon, Attorney, Louisville.) Data compiled from the surveyor's book of Bourbon County by R. C. Ballard Thruston, show surveys made in 1788 of plats from 75 to 20,000 acres in extent situated above the former surveys along the extreme headwaters of North Fork.

Indian attacks continued for a longer period in the mountains than elsewhere in the State. (Verhoeff, *The Kentucky Mountains*, p. 74, Note B; p. 77, Note. B) The movement into the region was stimulated by the rapid increase in the number of slaves in central Kentucky. This rendered possible the cultivation of large plantations and antagonized the small farmer and white labor. Between 1790 and 1800 the white population of the State increased 200 per cent and the slaves 224 per cent. At the beginning of the Civil War there were slaves in all of the mountain counties, but the number in proportion to the whites was insignificant when compared to the number in central Kentucky. (Ibid. pp. 26-27.)

It is possible that before 1790 there were temporary settlements in the region. A number of surveys made on the North Fork in 1788 (see Note B, p. 130), were based on pre-emption land warrants which meant that before the enactment of the Virginia law (1779), the original claimant had occupied the land or had "built a house or hut or made other improvements thereon." (Hening, Vol. X, pp. 31-50.)

In 1800 there were from two to six inhabitants to the square mile along the main river and for a considerable distance up the Three Forks. Within the next two decades a steady movement towards headwaters took place and in

1820 settlements were scattered throughout the basin. Since that time population has gradually increased until in 1910 the inhabitants numbered 122,529.

The land for the most part was acquired originally either by purchase at a low price or by gift of State or county for public services such as labor on the highways or river, and has been bequeathed by one generation to the next. Many holdings are covered by blanket surveys including vast tracts granted at an early day by Virginia or Kentucky and which are now owned by outsiders. There were but few attempts to make good such claims until railroads entered the region. Since then the development of coal and timber has rendered clear titles necessary and lawsuits among various claimants have been frequent. In some of the upper counties tracts have been acquired by different companies and consolidated into large holdings of 50,000 acres and more in extent. Where the land has been purchased outright it is resold to settlers after the exhaustion of its coal and timber. In most cases, however, the mineral rights, and less frequently, the timber, are sold separate from the land.

The imperfect land system of Virginia was adopted by Kentucky and left a train of insecure titles which have interfered seriously with the development of mountain resources. The State made no preliminary survey of land before it was transferred to settlers. Each possessor of ^aland warrant was allowed to locate the same where he pleased and was required to have his own survey made and to designate the boundaries thereon so accurately that each subsequent locator would make entry elsewhere. The surveyors as a rule were more skilled in woodcraft than in legal requirements. The boundaries, moreover, were usually vague, the location calls consisting of water courses, traces, licks, trees, and other natural objects. There was little or no limitation of size to surveys and they were of all areas and shapes. "The poor man was

content with his patch of one hundred acres; the speculative capitalist of the day would perhaps 'run out' a hundred thousand acres or more. In time half a dozen patents would be laid over the same land. Areas of unpatented land of all shapes and sizes lay between the patents. As land grew dearer the would-be 'blanket' patents were put over extensive districts in the hope of capturing these unappropriated lots. Of all these conflicts the Virginia and following it the Kentucky land office took no note The State only guarantees the entry if the land is unpossessed under previous titles of valid kind. In time a vast amount of litigation and no end of trouble came out of this scheme. At this moment owing to the absence of records there are hundreds of thousands of acres in Kentucky over which no sort of ownership has ever been exercised. No taxes are collected on them. If they have ever been surveyed no one knows under what patent they are claimed." (Shaler, History of Kentucky, pp. 50-51. 1885.)

In the mountains the isolation and sparse population delayed the day of reckoning and many unfortunate and dispossessed claimants from the Bluegrass found refuge here occupying in many cases patented but unoccupied land. The statute of limitations has now remedied many evil results of the system but confirmation of titles by the court is still necessary and often leads to unexpected and expensive litigation.

" Development of the upper Kentucky River seems to have been less rapid or perhaps, owing to its westernly position, development did not start so soon as on the Big Sandy. At any rate, supplies were sometimes brought across the hills to Jackson from the older city of Prestonburg. Walking was the chief mode of transportation for local distances. 'In those days', says _____, 'forty miles was a short day's walk.' Great Uncle John Mann once walked to Prestonburg to sell the pelt of a bear he had slain. Reaching his destination he was set upon by several men, who administered a sound thrashing, took his bear skin, and advised him to adopt a plantigrade and hurried locomotion towards parts adjacent. Returning to Breathitt, John informed his brother Tom of the circumstance, and being dissatisfied with the situation, the two brothers returned to Prestonburg, alone and unarmed, to make adjustments. They were terrible little men when aroused, of slight stature and wiry, with the quickness of cats and the strength to fell an ox in their powerful arms. Whipping several men and regaining the hide, the brothers came back to Jackson. It is characteristic of that day that no permanent ill feeling resulted. Leander Howard, in relating the event, quotes Uncle John as having said, 'I always thought Tom could hit a harder lick than I could, but I was afraid he might give up and I knew I never would.'

Occupations, p.1016.

Refers to walking in transportation

LOGGING

COHIST

Box 1
5/12
17

"Yes, ma'm, I was a logger. We took out mostly poplar logs- four, five, six, feet through: they were big logs! We'd git six or eight oxen to snake them logs outa the places where they fell and roll 'em into a little valey-like, where the spring rains would bring a freshet.

"and we'd make the kinda dam we call a splash-dam. Hit was made of small logs, leaned outward at the edge, with more logs underneath. And when the rains came, they'd collect back of our splash-dam...

"Now we'd built a gate at the rim of the dam, and when all them logs would git to floatin' around, we'd pull out the gate... and the water would come like a cloudburst and the logs come with it...

"Often as not, the logs would seem like they was ahead of the water, but I reckon we weren't a-lookin' straight... If the logs didn't get over to the river, we would have to build another splash-dam and do it all over again...

"Once we got our logs in the river, we headed 'em into the lumber company's boom, and the lumber company would buy 'em. We marked 'em by brandin' 'em on the end, but mean fellers would come along and saw the end off our logs sometimes and put their own brand on instead... This would happen quite a few times to some logs, till they got down to stove-wood size for bein' sawed over and over.

" Sometimes hit was the lumber companies that robbed us. I recollect how my father logged down \$1,000 worth or maybe \$1,2000 worth of walnut logs. They was big ones and beauties, but when the lumber company got done with the old man was none too glad over it- I mean he didn't go out and get eight couples and a fiddler and run a set of steps...

" But a poor man's got a poor way, and a poor way usually don't pay very well... that's why poor folks stay poor, near as I can figure it...

"No, sir, I never did any raftin' of logs. Hit was a dangerous ~~business~~ business: men got all ground up when them ~~logs~~ rafts turned over. And then sometimes the

rafts would sink and the men went down with 'em...

COHIST

Box 1
G1217

"Why, I hear tell that they be some ppplar logs in the Kentucky River yet- to this very day-just a little piece above Clay's Ferry on the Clark County side Some of them logs are six and eight feet through and sound, too.... we know 'cause some of 'em have been hauled up, but there's a plenty still down on thar river-bottom ... The Lost Logs O' the Kentucky, they call 'em..."

("Pine Mountain Yarning Loggers," by Rena Niles. Courier-Journal, Louisville Sunday Magazine Section, Nov 26, 1939)

COHIST

1001
11

Mo Bray Robinson Lumber Co., owners of the Company were. W.B. Buskirk, Sid A. Croft and Samuel Stephens, Had one mill, bought first timber from Kentucky Union Land Commay. Also purchased other tracts of land that had valuable timber. They built a narrow railroad into their timber. After cutting and sawed into log lengths. was loaded on train and hauled to the mouth of the Quicksand. There it was sawed and shipped to different points. When the war came on they exported large amounts of lumber, made millions of dollars. This mill was located at the mouth of the Quicksand, about three hundred yards from the river. Came to Quicksand around 1910, was completed in 1925. Had many men to help carry this work on. Put in water system to supply the homes of the hired help. One man was killed during the period of working up this timber. Green Watkins, was the police, was shot by someone upon Quicksand. Mo Bray Robinson Co., gave a large amount of this land to the University of Ky., for an experement station. Also gave four ten hundred acres at Buckhorn for re-foresting. There has also been a C.C.C. camp there but isn't any more. This land was given to the U O F. for experiment work for the length of forty years, after time expires land is to be given to Robinson Heirs.

COHIST

Box 1
Gilem

The Day Bros. Lumber Co's big mill started Wednesday. Everything seemed "greased for the occasion". The broad smile on the faces of John Day and Mike Courtney disclosed their profound satisfaction with the result. Among the twenty operators were county officers and college professors, all seeking the honor of taking some part in the "opening exercises". We congratulate the proprietors and the town on the establishment of this enterprise which promises so much to Jackson.

It is an old saying, if you want revenge, give your enemy a sawmill.
That proverb passes out of use now.

The sawmill has become a paying institution in this county. Oak abounds, and can now be sold at \$16 per thousands at the railroad stations, quartered oak, \$30. Our oak forests will be worth more than our poplar.

Jackson Hustler
April 3- 18-91

Between two and three million feet of walnut lumber passed down the river on the recent tide, going to Madison, Indiana. It belongs to the Singer Sewing Machine Co., and was cut in Letcher County. Capt. Fry was in command of the fleet.

COHIST

Box 1
File 17

BREATHITT COUNTY

"ATTENTION, LOG THIEVES.

(1) Timber

"We, the undersigned, owners and dealers in Logs, Lumber &c. on the Kentucky River and its tributaries, do hereby notify all persons against taking up, or unlawfully dealing in any of the following brands of logs, between any of our respective logging points, and booms of the Asher Lumber Company, under a penalty set forth in an act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, approved May 15, 1876, and amended by an approved April 26, 1888, and amended by an act approved May 14, 1890. And we further appoint the Asher Lumber Company and their agents, our agents, to take up and deliver into solid booms, all logs bearing the following brands, and also authorize the Asher Lumber Company to prosecute all persons violating said law:

"J.E. & W.P. Jones, Champion booms, J enclosed in a heart.

"B.M.Hughes, Jackson, Kentucky, boxed A.

"A.D.Hagins, Jackson, Kentucky, circle monogram L.H., or D.F.H.

"J.L.Hagins, Jackson, Kentucky, circle Y.

"Combs & Taulbee, Kentucky, C & T., or S.S.T.

"R.H. Brashear, Salt Creek, Kentucky, R. H. B.

"W.J. Whitaker, Mouth of Quicksand, W.J.W.

"Elisha Hensley, Rousseau, Kentucky A.

"Jake & George Marshall, Rousseau, Kentucky, G.M.

"Jackson Lovely, Rousseau, Kentucky, R. I.

"Elihu Reynolds, Grapevine, North Fork and Booneville, Kentucky, E.R.

"Thomas Baker, Booneville, Kentucky, T.E. or T.R.

"D.M.Vaughn, Booneville, Kentucky, D.M.V., or D.C.

Pr. 1
6/17

- "John G. White, Booneville, Kentucky, J.G. W.
"John M. Flannery, Booneville, Kentucky, J.F.
"Wm. M. Beatty, Manchester, Kentucky, E.
"J.B. Davidson, Hector's Creek, J.R.D.
"Justice B. Begley, Corner Shoal, Kentucky, E.B.
"John Griffith, Crockettville, Ky., G.B.R.O.
"Ed. Callahan, Crockettville, E.C.
"James H. Strong, Mouth of Middle Fork, J.E. S.
"C. B. Hieronymus, St. Helens, Ky., boxed H.
G. A. Hieronymus, Beattyville, dithong H.D.
"W.H. Simms, Beattyville, monogram W.H.S.
"Moore & Whipple Lumber Company, three broken circles and circle W.
"K.U. Lumber Company, Beattyville, K.U."

"\$500 REWARD."

"All persons are hereby warned not to catch or interfere with any logs on the Kentucky River or its waters with any of the following brands, viz: a figure 4 in the circle is the brand adopted by the Asher Lumber Company, also 3 broken circles, and also the letter W enclosed in a circle, and cross bars in white paint, being the brands adopted by Moore & Whipple Lumber Co., also the letter T enclosed in a horseshoe and a bolt of white paint around the center being the brands adopted by John Tevis, also logs marked K.U., the brand adopted by the Kentucky Union Lumber Co., and with three white spots on each end. Any person or persons so catching or interfering with any logs so branded, or defacing said brands or any of them, or stealing or secreting any logs branded as above, will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law, and a reward of (\$500)

five hundred dollars is hereby offered for the arrest, conviction and sentence to the State Penitentiary of any person or persons so offending. Said reward will be paid in cash when a court of competent jurisdiction shall have sentenced the person or persons so offending to the State Penitentiary and so be paid to the person only who furnishes the evidence upon which the conviction and sentence is made."

(signed) "Asher Lumber Co., Moore & Whipple Lumber Co.

"John Tevis, Kentucky Union Lumber Co."

Bibliography

(1) "Jackson Hustler, (newspaper)

John Jay Dickie, Proprietor

Jackson, Kentucky, 1891

The operations of the Eastern Kentucky Hardwood Company are the most extensive. The company owns 42,000 acres of land, from which it supplies five mills near the mouth of Quicksand Creek, Breathitt County.

Logging commences after the November harvest and continues until the spring planting in March. As a rule the trees are felled with the ax, but often are "deadened" by girdling, and allowed to stand until they fall of themselves.

The streams from ^{mouth} ~~neck~~ to headwaters are used for floating out the logs during the spring and winter freshets. In small branches which do not afford sufficient depth the water is impounded by high splash-dams built of timber and stones. In the pool thus formed the logs are collected to await the opportune moment when the gate is opened or the key wedge of the dam unfastened and the water allowed to rush forth bearing its freight.

About 1835 the marketing of forest products began to assume a slight importance, but so long as transportation was entirely by river, which was the case until 1890, the industry did not attain large proportions. The operations were conducted entirely by the farmers who lumbered each on his own wood-lot and manufactured by hand or in primitive sawmills small quantities of the timber into semi-finished articles of commerce characteristic of the region to-day.

Since the beginning of railroad transportation, production has increased annually. A large proportion of the product is still shipped by river but the greater part is sent by rail. The control of the industry has been transferred to outside capitalists, although the farmers still possess most of the land in small holdings and are dependent upon their

Box 1
File
17

labor in the woods no less than upon their farms for a living. The "foreigners" by whom the farmers are employed as lumbermen, mill-hands, and tie-makers have established well-equipped lumber camps, logging outfits, and logging railroads, so that a large scale industry is now carried on which was impossible in the past.

COHIST.

Box 1
6/18/17

The logs, arranged so that their length forms the breadth of the raft, are bound together by means of long poles, held by iron "chain-dogs." There are usually two men to a raft provided with long oars. Each man receives two dollars a day clear of expenses. The rafts average four miles an hour and ~~cannot~~^{did} navigate at night. According to a number of veteran raftsmen, seven and a half days were required for the round trip between Peattyville and Frankfort, five days for the "run" to Frankfort (139 miles), and two and a half days for the return. The journey back was usually afoot.

Lumber

Transportation

Box 1
G 13

About 1900 D.Y. Combs and others ran large freight boats. They run as far as Hazard. Hauled everything, barrels of slat, flour, furniture, etc. At one time the river did a great part in transporting merchandise. The boats were eight feet long. Through shoals oxen and teams of mules were stationed along the river to help pull through shoals. Farmers who lived along the river kept oxen and teams for this purpose. This was one way of helping to make a living. Each boat used from twenty four to forty men. Each man carried a pole known as a push pole. One end of the pole was equiped with a block and paded the rest against the shoulder of the pusher. Most of this boat-
ing was done when the river had a low tide. During this period Jackson was noted for lumbering, including weather boarding, etc.,. The Swan Day Lumbering Co., had one of the largest mills in the world located here at Jackson, and Clay City. Ford Lumber Co also had a large manufacture of lumber. These concerns dealt in ties and staves which were brought down the river by tens of thousands when the river was said to be tietde?. This was called tie and stave drives. There were large booms made of logs chained end to end, for miles up the river. At points they were seperated by shares, hundreds of men were employed at these points with spike poles bringing inside of boom that which they wanted that was branded or marked. The others were let float on. They worked day and night. By night they had pine torches and large fires made of oannel coal. This work lasted until the tide left or the end of the drive. Log drivers were similar to stave and tie drives. Higher the river the better owing to the great number of logs owned by many lumbering concerns down the river all the way to Frankfort were in thousands. These logs were brought and rolled into the river at Neon add on down the river. Each owner had his own mark, such as follows: White X. Circle in White, Circle four, VXX., one dot, three dots
Logs were so numerous when the river was high they floated end on end. At different

points there were telephones along the river owned by different concerns, ^{Foot.}
connected with telegraph office along the railroad, where the river was in ^{Site.}
view. Kept each point advised as to the stage of the river and approximately
number of material floating by per minute, Jackson was the principal point
for this figure. Observing from the old bridge a float per minute, which
ran into the thousands. Occasionally some man working on the boom lost his
life. Jackson was equiped with a loading hoist and long docks. Materials
were taken from the river and inspected later loaded in railroad cars. This
industry furnished enough cars for three of four trains daily. When the
roads were fair which were very rough at that; between Jackson and up
river points wagons operated day and night hauling goods and supplying
merchants up the country. Jackson had several wholesale houses. All big
business employing large forces. This pont at Jackson did a great business
with the railroad. As this industry died down the rail road was extended
three miles to quicksand where Mobrly Robinson Lumbering Co., established
large lumber manufacturing, using narrow gage railroad facilities to all
sections up country, one of the largest concerns in the world.

Some Medical Lore

by
Myra Sanders

The bleeding from a wound can be stopped, by applying a cob web.
Clean one if possible.

Snake Bite--In most localities people have their own remedies for snake bite. You have heard that if a person has been bitten by a snake he will recover if he can drink enough whiskey to make him drunk. If the snake is particularly poisonous he is apt to resort to something more strenuous. In some places the injured part was cut out and around with a pocket knife, the blood was sucked out until there was no more, then a chew of tobacco was applied. In other cases the snake was killed, cut into pieces, fangs and all, then rendered in a kettle over a slowfire until the fat exudes from it. After sucking the wound dry, apply the fat. The latter remedy is quite up to date, for the approved remedy for snake bite now is anti-venim, a serum extracted from snakes. There are snake farms in Brazil which provide this serum.

- Mad Dogs--When a child was bitten by a mad dog, or a dog with rabies, he was hurried to a person who owned a mad stone. This stone was applied to the wound and if it stuck, it was supposed to draw out the poison, and the victim would recover, but if the stone dropped off and would not stick, then woe betide the sufferer. They had no way of examining the brain of the dog.

Warts--As you all know, warts, were supposed to be the result of playing with frogs or toads as they are sometimes called. The favorite remedy was to scratch the wart until it bled, rub it with a greasy rag, and bury the rag. When the rag decomposed the wart would disappear. Another remedy frequently used was: Tie a string with as many knots as there are warts then bury it, instead of a greasy dish rag.

Goitre--This misterious disease was charmed away or at least benefitted by the wearing of a string of amber beads around the neck. As the goitre decreased in size beads were removed from the string until the goitre disappeared. A live toad bound on the and left there until it died was another much used remedy.

Fever--One cure, was to avoid night air. Another was to wear a spider enclosed ina nut shell around the neck. This remedy for fever is referred to in Evangeline by Henry W. Longfellow. It was thought that fever and malaria were caused by breathing bad air. They did not know about the moskito's bite being responsible for it. When the windows were closed to far the bad air it also barred the mosquit's entrance, but that wa unknown in early days. Yellow Fever is also caused by the sting of the mosquitoes as we know.

Asthma--As we have stated was sometimes cured by bleeding the patient; another remedy was to immerse the feet in warm water, and apply a bladder filled with warm milk and water to the stomach and chest, and take frequent doses of a solution of asafoetida; another was: Bore a hole in a tree at the exact height of the patient, cut off a lock of the patients hair, place it in the hole then stop up the hole with a wooden peg. When the patient grew taller than the hole the asthma would leave.

The Kentucky Folk Lore and Poetry Magazine

Fall Issue--Oct. 1930-Volume 5-No. 2 pp. 16-17

"MEETING HOUSE" TO CHURCH

Box 1 FILE 17
COHIST

The religious background of the mountain pioneers was sectarian Protestantism -- a highly individualistic religion, democratized and thinned by the continually advancing frontier. The Scotch, Irish and English frontiersmen who swarmed over the New Land were altogether non-conformist. A few of them were Presbyterians, some were Methodists but the larger body were "Hardshell" Baptists. Undoubtedly many of them who trod winding mountain trails and wilderness paths to take up their abode in the Kentucky foothills carried among their scant belongings a Bible. Since there were no churches at first, meetings were held in the homes and when the weather permitted, out in the open. The earliest church was the rude fireplace of the pioneer's cabin; the earliest congregation, his family, the first services, readings from the Bible.

When Breathitt County was formed, the only organized church was that of the "Hardshell" Baptists. Their church building was located on the north side of Quicksand about 600 yards above its mouth, and near the ford. The branch emptying into Quicksand Creek near the church building was appropriately named "Meeting House" Branch.

The Hardshell or Regular Baptists formed the principal denomination in the mountains during the period of early settlements and in some sections even today. Historically the Hardshell Baptist Church was perhaps more adapted to the religious needs of the mountaineer of an earlier day than the more formalized denominations. It originated on the North Carolina frontier shortly after the middle of the eighteenth century. It soon began to organize itself into "associations" in most of the southern states, because of the difficulties of travel in the mountains and the scarcity of church buildings. Theologically it is Calvinistic, practically all believing in predestination and some in infant damnation. The Hard-

shell Baptists do not believe in Sunday schools, missionary movements or salaried ministers. The minister of the Gospel must be "called" and go forth to preach without any preparation whatever. He need not be able to read or write. For these reasons, it is sometimes also known as the Primitive Baptist Church.

The Regular Baptists "meetin's" come once a month usually, and the preaching lasts sometimes as long as two days, Saturday and Sunday. From two to six or eight preachers participate, and the one that preaches the longest and the loudest, and who succeeds in making the most of the "sistren" shout is the "big gun."

The nature of the preaching is mostly hortatory, and intensely dogmatic, the homiletics is bad and the exegesis weak. The Primitive Baptist preacher "strikes an attitude" and assumes some striking positions while preaching. The right hand or the left hand is placed sometimes on either cheek, the back of the head, on the forehead, or the hand sometimes grasps the nose or a finger is thrust into an ear. When the preacher gets warmed up, he raises his voice to a high pitch, and almost sings his words. Then he will drop back to an ordinary tone.

The mountaineer assiduously keeps his religion divorced from his moral principles....—(W.R. Thomas, Life Among the Hills and Mountains of Kentucky, p. 3)

A humorous story often told on himself by Mason Williams, who married into the Breathitt Copes, illustrates the humane attitude which mountain people still take towards denominationalism. Mr. Williams, a native of Morgan County, was a preacher and politician. On one of his campaign trips many years ago in the Big Sandy Valley he was invited to stay over with one of his brethren to preach on Sunday. When he arrived at the

Religion played an important part in the social life of the isolated folk of the Kentucky foothills. J. Green Trimble (Recollections, pp. 3-4) has given a very human account of an early "association" meeting: There was an association held by the (Hardshell Baptist Church at Quicksand) in the fall season of 1857, and the church building being too small to accomodate the large crowds that usually attended such meetings, they were forced to erect a stand in the forest a few hundred yards up the creek. I had a customer and friend named Bill Hays, a fine looking bachelor, of about 40 years, who came to our store on Saturday and said he was anxious to attend the association the next day and wanted the finest suit of clothes I had in the store. I soon fitted him out with a nice suit of broad-cloth including coat, vest, and pants, with a starched shirt and collar, red necktie and a plug silk hat, which were all satisfactory. He then called for a pair of boots but unfortunately he had very large feet, and there was neither a pair of boots nor shoes he could get on his feet, and there was no other store nearer than 30 miles. He left without my paying any further attention to him. The next day I decided to walk up to the association grounds, only a half-mile away, and about eleven o'clock I saw my friend Bill walking up as gay as a peacock by the side of a most lovely young lady, the finest dressed man on the grounds - except that he was barefooted. I asked him why he came in that condition, and he replied that he had nothing to wear on his feet, and that he was determined to see the people and enjoy the association.

There was the largest congregation I ever saw assembled on a similar occasion in the mountains. Many of the people came more than 20 miles, and as there were no roads in the county everybody had to travel on horseback. It was fashionable for the young men to carry their sweethearts from

their homes to church and return them on horseback, and husbands and their wives behind them, with one or two children in front.

In my youthful days I have seen, not only in Perry County but in my native county of Morgan, ladies walk three or four miles to church carrying their shoes and stockings in their hands until they arrived near the church, when they would stop and put them on, and take them off when they started for home.

Mountain folks seldom go half-way in their religious convictions. They are usually ardent believers or somewhat indifferent to formalized religious precepts. Skepticism, especially of religious mumbo-jumbo, is frequently encountered. One of J. Green Trimble's stories (Recollections, pp. 19-20) concerns a character who professed to be endowed with supernatural and divine power:

He was known as Jeremiah, (Lovelace) the Prophet, and I was intimately acquainted with him. He professed that by laying on his hands he could perform miracles - heal the sick, restore the blind to sight, relieve the most excruciating pain, and also walk upon the water. To prove his claims he exhibited his divine power before an audience by treating several patients with great success, as testified by the statements of the several subjects upon whom he operated.

Many of those present at the exhibition believed in his divinity, but there were several "Doubting Thomases" present who were not and could not be convinced of his infallibility until they could see him walk upon the water. So, for that purpose he made an appointment to meet them near his residence below the mouth of Frozen creek, on the Kentucky, on an evening of the following week. In the meantime, he procured three thick planks, ten feet long and about eighteen inches wide. Then he made three trestles

COHIST

and placed them in the river about nine feet apart and about six inches below the surface of the water, and on these trestles he placed three planks, running them straight out into the river and the end of the first plank being near the water edge on the ground and about eight inches below the surface. The boys of the neighborhood suspected the deception he was trying to play on the public and, when they investigated and found the planks, they removed the middle one without the prophet's knowledge. At the time appointed a big crowd assembled to witness the performance. It was about dark, but the moon was shining brightly when the prophet made his appearance, arrayed in a long, white robe, and after offering up a short prayer he gave directions to the audience to sing a familiar hymn when he commenced walking on the water. He then started for the water, and about the time the audience had sung the last line of the first verse he reached the end of the first plank. On his next step he went overboard into the water, where he struggled for some time, his long robe being an obstacle to his swimming. He was about to drown when he called to his audience: "Brethren, save me or I perish." A man in the crowd answered, "Can't give you any assistance - all dam'd fools like you ought to drown." He finally got ashore, but was never known to walk on the water again.

The Christian Church, first introduced into Bourbon County in 1852, and known originally as the Campbellite Church, was the third denomination to make a religious imprint on Breathitt. The first minister of that church to deliver a sermon in Breathitt County was Rev. Joseph Nickell. He was a successful evangelist noted for having baptized more converts and married more couples than any preacher of his age in Kentucky. When Breathitt County was formed the nearest Christian Church was at Hazel Green where one of the most distinguished and earliest ministers of this church,

"Raccoon" John Smith, preached. Among "Raccoon" Smith's hearers at one of his preachings was a young school teacher, Nixon Covey, who came from Montgomery County to Hazel Green in 1850 to teach school. J. Green (Ibid., p. 11) reports that he was considered a wicked and dissipated man. He was converted and joined the church at this meeting, and then he "commenced preaching the next day, and continued to preach until his death....He taught school in Breathitt County until about the beginning of the Civil War."

An early member of the Christian Church in Breathitt was the rather remarkable and very religious "Aunt" Milly Cockrell, widow of John Cockrell, one of the pioneering Cockrell brothers. Aunt Milly attended three or four annual meetings held at Hazel Green, a distance of twenty-one miles from her home, by the Rev. Smith, a great favorite of hers. During the summer months for several years during the 1830's she rode horseback through a sparsely inhabited wilderness to attend church at Hazel Green.

During the War between the States and even in the so-called period of reconstruction that followed, schools, churches and homes were disrupted. Church buildings were relatively scarce, and only a few had been erected in the county by 1860.

Meetings, a term which only applies to religious gatherings in the mountains, were ordinarily conducted in the few school buildings in existence. These were centrally located as a rule.

When John Hunt Morgan passed through Breathitt County on a campaign trip to the Bluegrass on June the sixth and seventh 1864, there was a young soldier in his ranks who stored up disturbing impressions of the Southern Highlands. This man, E.O. Guerrant, later returned as a physician and still later as a minister of the gospel.

and cattle. These were exchanged for things which the people could spare. While here he was always busy with his Sunday-school and social work. Indicative of the zeal of "Uncle" Ben was his remark that he would rather be superintendent of a Sunday-school than President of the United States.

Shortly after Dr. Guerrant began his missionary endeavors in the mountain section of eastern Kentucky one of the most notable men in the history of the county, J.J. Dickey of Flemingsburg, Ky., accidentally located in Jackson (see p.). He was a Methodist circuit rider who shortly after his arrival became a teacher and several years later a journalist. Rev. Dickey founded Lees College (see p.) and for a number of years edited The Jackson Hustler in the most vigorous manner. He was one of the ablest preachers who ever mounted a rostrum in Breathitt County. The variety of his activities, his forceful, outspoken opinions, for which he suffered, made him unsurpassed as a civic leader. He organized Sunday-schools, preached in Jackson and at other points in the county.

After Dr. Guerrant and Rev. Dickey other missionaries selected some spot in the Breathitt hills to carry on their religious work. Soon after the turn of the century Rev. and Mrs. G.E. Drushal, missionaries of the United Brethren in Christ, a Protestant sect founded in the United States in 1800, came to Lost Creek. Here they established Riverside Institute (see p.) and a Brethren Church and Sunday school. Since then, Brethren churches and Sunday schools have been organized at Buckhorn, Fugate's Fork, Big Branch and Haddix in Breathitt County and at Stacy in Perry County. A mission has been established on John Little's Creek in connection with a school with grades from one to ten. Bible departments at this institute and at Riverside maintain accredited relations with the Evangelical Teacher Training Association of America.

Another church school around which missionary activities center is the Oakdale Vocational School (see p.) which originated in the religious work started in 1919 by Miss Elizabeth O'Connor, a missionary of the Free Methodist Church. Since then all the work of this church has been conducted from Oakdale. In addition to the church at this point, there are seven mission centers, five of them with church buildings, and seven Sunday schools conducted by Oakdale. The Free Methodist Church, a fundamentalist sect, was founded at Pekin, N.Y. in 1860, and had its origin in certain differences with the Genesee Conference of the Methodist Church. It claims to have preserved the original doctrines of Methodism undiluted with modern trends.

In the summer of 1924, another outstanding woman missionary, Lela G. McConnell, an ordained elder of the Methodist Church, came to Breathitt County. With two students from Asbury College, Wilmore, Kentucky, she first conducted revival meetings in schoolhouses, carrying with her a folding organ. During the first winter she lived in Jackson and traveled to her appointments in the rural sections on horse- or muleback, and often fording the streams and sometimes swimming the Kentucky River on her horse when the water was twenty feet deep. Mount Carmel School (see p.) was founded at this time.

As the work started by Miss McConnell grew, year by year, a need was felt for organization. In June, 1930, a charter was obtained and the work was organized and incorporated under the name "Kentucky Mountain Holiness Association." Mount Carmel School became the headquarters of this association and Reverend McConnell was elected president. A board of trustees comprising twenty-one men and women was elected to help manage its affairs.

The work of the Kentucky Mountain Holiness Association is inter-denominational, with seventeen different denominations represented in its personnel. Fifty-six of the workers belong to the Methodist Church and the remainder to other denominations. It now has twenty-two preaching points. These pastorates are located in the extreme rural sections of six different counties of the mountains of eastern Kentucky. The association has church buildings and parsonages in twelve of the twenty-two preaching points and has a continuous building program extending the work into many neglected parts of Breathitt and other counties.

The religious pattern of Breathitt today is somewhat different than that of most non-mountainous sections of the country. Outside of Jackson, it is still largely a missionary county. There is a weakness, too, for sectarianism, for sectarianism seems to be congenial with the individualism of the mountaineer. A number of small sects, practically unknown in other sections of the country, play an important part in the religious life of the county. Only two or three nationally known churches, the Presbyterian being the most outstanding, noticeably figure in the religious life of Breathitt. It is interesting that today in the whole of Breathitt County there is not a single Catholic or Jew. The religion of the mountaineer is also inclined to be superstitious and to have a mystical, melancholy strain. In the past it usually had a slight touch of antinomianism, which is still evident today. Sporadic religious emotionalism of the revival type is another characteristic of mountain religion.

In retrospect Breathitt has been handicapped in the development and maintenance of churches in the same way that it was held back in schools during the early days. There is little money to support regular pastors, or for suitable church buildings. The rugged nature of the country limits

COHIST

the size of the congregation and lowers church attendance during a part of the year. The resulting irregularity lessens interest. The organization of the Presbyterian Church, one of the most favorable examples, gives an idea of this situation. There are (1940) six churches and seven mission centers of this denomination in Breathitt with approximately six hundred members. Nevertheless, Sunday schools, churches, and church schools exist today in every section of the county. Morris Fork (see p.) is an outstanding example of church work in one of Breathitt's most isolated communities.

MODERN CONVENIENCES

Electricity has been used since 1902, city water used since 1929 and sewerage since then. The installation of gas was started the latter part of the year 1936. (Several homes throughout the country have used gas, privately owned, for many years). Some of the streets were paved during 1929-30, and more of them are being paved now.

Many families in the city continue to use water from their wells, but the public health department is doing much to close them. Frequent flooding of the North Fork of the Kentucky River, which surrounds about three-fifths of Jackson city, when heavy rains cause much water to pour down the hillsides, overflowing the creek beds, and then the river, contaminates these wells. The city water supply comes from the Kentucky River. It is medicated frequently, particularly when the river is low.

QUESTIONNAIRES ON MODERN CONVENIENCES

1. Describe the installation and first use of electricity (in both Jackson & outside of Jackson in the county). This was a "big moment" and should be written up as a milestone in Breathitt's history. This should be placed under the topic of electricity (q.v.)
2. Tell the story of the introduction of running water and the older (and still prevailing) types of securing water.
3. Give more material on the use of (natural?) gas by private homes throughout the county. How extensive? How used? Etc.
4. Tell the story of the installation and use of gas.

BREATHITT COUNTY

read
COHIST
Box 1 File 17

MOONSHINE

(1) "Why do these Mountaineers make moonshine?" "Well, why did your great grand parents make it: They turned their barley and corn into whiskey, their fruit into brandy, and their blackberries into cordial. That was as regular a part of a thrifty housewife's program as the canning of fruit and vegetables is today. Somewhere along the line between these highly respected ancestors and yourself the practice of making New England rum or Virginia brandy was discontinued as not quite suitable for a deacon or vestryman. Gradually these other products fell into disfavor also, until within a generation or so even the old cider barrel had given place to oanned cider. Perhaps you remember that dear old Grandmother insisted as long as she lived that home-made blackberry cordial never did a mite of harm to anybody. (Chapter 6, page 127).

"In the Mountains the morality of any course of action is still jedged individuallistically. Such considerations do not include its general influence upon the community, while disapproving the moonshiner's action, look upon it merely as a matter of personal conduct--- like dancing or playing the fiddle. Such things are not (page 128) seemly in church members, but they are none of our business. There is, of course, in many instances considerable fear of angering these bold men who defy the law. But back of this fear is the common feeling that it is not our business; and a man that interferes in another man's business deserves what he gets. Minding one's own business is a fundamental virtue of the Mountain People. (Breathitt Countians are no exception in this line. M.F.B.)

Let us ask a disapproving citizen how many moonshine stills there are in his community. 'Oh, there ain't scarcely none in this deestric' 'Of course,

Breathitt County

but how many are there between so and so Creek and ^d such and such a Mountain?

"He begins to count. 'Well, there's one, two, three, four, --- about seventeen, I reckon. Of course, I don't know pint blank ary one; but I reckon, without an accident a body could find'em. "If you are not a revenue officer nor 'one of them fellers that jest pourely lies about us folks for money,' it is not improbable you may get a moonshiner to express his opinion. Mr. Horace Kephart, having established his honesty in both these particulars, gives us a fair specimen:

(2)

"'You think the Government tax whiskey is an imposition
Hit is Revenue cost a dollar and ten cents on twenty cents worth of liquor; and that's robbing the people with a gun to their faces. . . . Whiskey means more to us (page 129) mountain folks than it does to folks in town, whar there's drugstores and doctors. Let ary thing go wrong in the family---fever, or snake-bite, or somethin'--- and we can't get a doctor up hyar less'n three days; (early days, but this is the case today, too frequently, M.F.B.) and it costs scand'lous. The only medicine we-uns has is yerbs, which customarily ain't no good 'thout a leetle grain o' whiskey
Now yan's ^m _^ field o'corn. I gather the corn and shuck hit and grind hit my own self, and the woman she bakes us a pone o'bread to eat---and I don't pay no tax, do I? Then why can't I make some o' my corn into pure whixkey to drink, without payin' tax? I tell you, tain't fair, this way the Government does. But when all's said and done, the main reason for "this moonshinin'" as you-uns calls it, is bad roads.'

"'Bad roads! I exclaimed. 'What the ---'

"Jest thissway! From hyar to the railroad is seventeen miles, with two mountains to cross, and you've seed that road. Seven hundred pounds is all

Breathitt County

Box 1 File 17
COHIST

the load a good team can haul over that road when the weather's good!

. . . . Hit takes three days to make the round trip, less'n you break an axle and then hit takes four The only farm products we-uns can sell is corn. You see for yourself that corn can't be shipped outen hyer Corn juice is about all we can tote around over the country and get cash money for. Why, man, that's the only way some folks has o' payin' their taxes!'

"'But aside from the work and worry', I remarked, 'There is the danger of being shot in this business!'

"'Oh, we-uns don't lay that up agin the Government. Hit's as fair for one as 'tis for the t'other. When a revenuer comes sneakin' around, why, what he gits, or what we-uns gits, that's a "fortune of war", as the old sayin' is.'" (page 130)

"The operation of distilling whiskey has in recent years become as well known in the most favored districts as in the mountains. The process, in the Mountains, if not simpler, is at least managed with simpler and cruder apparatus. A re-tort is often made from a large iron kettle, used outdoors on wash days and in soap-making and hog-scalding seasons. A small inverted barrel is fitted snugly into this kettle. A pipe is inserted into an augur hole in the bottom (now the top) of the still, and this pipe is bent into a spiral to convey the vapors through a barrel of cold running water.

"Corn is moistened and kept warm till it sprouts. It is then dried and carried, usually by night, to a little tub mill to be ground secretly, for grinding such corn is a federal offense. From this 'sweet meal' a mash is made with hot water. To this some yeasty material is added and fermentation begins. For

Breathitt County

Box 1 File 17
COHIST
- 4 -

more than a week it must be kept just warm enough to ferment. (In the poor shelters many a batch 'chills down' and is lost.) After it ferments, this 'beer' is poured into the still, the fire is lighted, and the vapors start through the copper spiral pipe. Cooled by the running water surrounding the 'worm;' the vapors condense into a liquid called 'singlings' which drips or runs into a receptacle. After the 'run' is finished, the still is emptied and the 'singlings' poured in it to be distilled a second time into 'doublings', which are thus freed from the rank (page 131) oils and other impurities. While still warm, the whiskey is put into jugs and carried away for immediate sale. "The making of moonshine is sleepless, nerve-racking work, and produces comparatively little return for the long days and nights of strain. It is a last resource to get money in order to pay taxes, or a persistent doctor, or a yet more importunate lawyer. 'Hit's a might oneasy way for a man to yearn him some cash money, but looks like we hain't much choioe up in this rough country.'

This last adjective is applied to the geography and not to the people. (I was told by a lawyer, who said he was representing a moonshiner in Court a few years ago on three charges of illicit whiskey making, "I told the fellow to bring me in a quart of his moonshine and I'd represent him in all three cases. He makes good moonshine; I've drank it before this." This lawyer is not here now, but he was not the only Mountain man who preferred 'good moonshine' to bonded liquor, claiming it as better. M.F.B.)

"The liquor is sometimes offered for sale in the vicinity, but in many cases it is carried over the mountain at night on paths too steep for most of us in daylight. Occassionally the thirsty neighbors are invited to buy. The method of advertising is probably not included among the activities of the most

Breathitt County

approved publicity agencies. If you happened to be wandering on the mountain-side where it was 'rough,' you might---or you might not---notice a twig or bush that had apparantly been thoughtlessly cut out by somebody trying the edge of his knife, and then thrown down in the path. But the enlightened one would follow the direction of its stem, and in due time find a succession of bushes, each pointing the thirsty traveller onwards to the desired haven. This reminds us of the saying current in Shakespeare's day: 'Good wine needs no bush.' But the bush that advertised the wine was not used in the same fashion.

"Not only is it important the still be hidden, it must also be located near a good spring, which can furnish cold water to cool the copper worm. This necessity for cold water rules out many places that would be entirely safe from observation or access. The smoke, the smell, and even the taste of the water in the brook, would publish undesirable facts, so the still must be located as far from habitation and travel as possible. Away up under a clift a spring must be selected that flows under an impenetrable thicket of laurel (rhododendren), or among locust and blackberry briers, in a spot where no wood cutters will be going about, nor any man looking for his stray hogs." (page 133).

The Federal District Court convenes in Jackson, Breathitt County, March and September of each year. During the years of prohibition numerous cases of illicit distilling, sale, and possession, were prosecuted in this Court. Many of these cases were from Breathitt County, besides numbers from other Mountain counties in Eastern Kentucky.

At that time the streets of Jackson would be thronged, strangers had difficulty in obtaining sleeping-rooms during sessions of Court as all rooms

would be held for Federal Court attendants and the friends of the offenders to be tried. The jail would not be able to accomodate the Federal prisoners, so many were brought from other mountain counties, so the basement of the Court House would be used as a temporary jail. The late Judge Cochran always was considerate of a youthful offender, especially a first offense. However, the shrewdness of the Mountain People became conspicuous when this leniency on the part of the Federal Judge was observed. During the few latter Courts held previous to the repeal of the Prohibition Law, the youthful offenders were much more numerous than in early years. They would plead guilty much of the time, if a first offense they were probably probated. But when they appeared a second time before the Court he gave the usual sentence to them. The Courts now do not have the large number of cases as then, but many still engage in illicit distilling and are ferretted out by the Federal and local officers.

The United States Commissioner, S. J. Cockrell, has served since April, 1936. He is the great grandson of Simon Cockrell who contributed the site, on which the city of Jackson now stands, for the county seat of Breathitt County. J. I. Hall, a resident of Breathitt County, was United States Commissioner for some twenty years previous, May, 1915-1936.

Bibliography

- (1) The Land of The Saddle-Bags, Author James Watts Raine, Berea Coll. 1924.
- (2) This is a quotation in this same Vol., from Horace Kephart Author of Our Southern Highlanders, page 121, Outing Pub. Co., 1913.
- (3) Reporting for Lexington Herald by M. F. Bishop, Private Files.

Newspaper

Box 1 File 17

COHIST

The Jackson Hustler was established December 28, 1888 by John Goff Jr., of Indian Fields, Clark County Kentucky.

The office consisted of a seven Column Army press and typed enough to set up two sides of the paper. It was a small beginning.

The press was put up in a room in the court house, now the circuit court clerk's office and Mr. Rowland a youth of 17 of Richmond set up the first issue.

The inside of the paper was ready print. The advertisements were few and were printed on both pages. Three hundred copies were issued and scattered abroad to let the world know that Breathitt had entered the ranks of progressive counties and proposed to keep step with the advancing columns.

Mr. Goff had already some experience as a journalist and the paper soon revealed the fact that he was abreast of the age and able to fill the position that he had assumed. He began to advertise the wonderful resources of what he christened the Promised Land and right well did he present the facts.

July 3, 1890 we took charge of the paper and since then have been laboring to get it nearer our ideal in typrographical execution and general make up.

To do this we found a new press and more type were necessary. A five column Washington press and a full supply of type together with a Liberty Jobber and job outfit have been purchased. The office now is first class of its kind and the work its presses compare favorably with the best county newspapers offices in state to-day.

Today we present the Hustler in its new dress with the hope that its form and comliness will be attractive that our friends will be pleased and a large increase of circulation may be the result.

We issue 1,000 copies of the Hustler this week.

The Jackson Hustler

March 6, 1891

Box 1 File 17
COHIST

AN ODD CASE

A case without parallel in the Breathitt Circuit Court, was heard this week when John Riley, charged with killing Henry Turner, was tried. The first twelve men called for jury service in the case were accepted by both sides. No evidence was introduced by the defendant who was represented by A.H. Patton of the local bar.

The jury returned a verdict of "not guilty" after a short deliberation.

The Jackson Times, July 23, 1936, p. 4

On the Saturday before a Monday Christmas, 1939, it is said that a peddler who regularly comes into Jackson with his farm products sold over 100 gallons of moonshine. It was put up in bottles and jars covered with pieces of grass sack.

Several days after Christmas (Dec. 27), when Christmas celebrating had not died out by any means, a Mr. Whitaker of Jackson was driving along the highway near Wilhurst, some little distance from Jackson, when two of a group of five young men opened fire on his sedan just after it had passed them. There was no apparent motive for this except the rather desire to do some shooting. Three bullets hit the car, one of them penetrating the

Box 1 file 17
COHIST
- 2 -

the rear of the car and passing out through the middle of the windshield and just missing Mr. Whitaker's head by two or three inches. Mr. Whitaker came into town, got the sheriff and they went out and brought the "bad men" back into town. None of them offered any resistance, they weren't handcuffed and any one of them could have gotten away if they wished. They had nothing to say and if they were drinking they were far from drunk. The sheriff, his prisoners, Mr. Whitaker and a small group stood in front of the courthouse for about ten minutes. The sheriff unloaded a mean looking - 44 - one of the two pistols used. No one expressed any resentment, moral indignation or anything of the sort. The only interest apparently was in the bullet holes. Even Mr. Whitaker seemed to take the attitude that his car was just the accidental victim of a serious prank.

COHIST Box 1
File 17

Research Medical and P. H.

Old Remedies

Ref. Cotterill's History of Pioneer Ky., page 247

Cancer cured - (not in above book)

Taken from Bourbon County News by the Gazette of Mt. Sterling, Ky., dated March 16, 1892. Mrs John Mansfield of Cane Ridge, had a cancer taken from her cheek which had been coming for thirty years. Mr. Bob Anderson of Winchester, an old gentleman who has no diploma, and procured the recipe from an Indian with whom he lived several years, took it out by local application of an herb medicine. The cancer was as large as a partridge egg and left a hole in the cheek down to the bone. Mr. Anderson says he has cured 330 cases and lost but three. When they penetrate to the bone he does not undertake to cure them. He has never advertised nor attempted to push his practice. He refused \$3000.00 for half interest in the recipe from a Mt Sterling physician a short time ago.

COPIST 100

"Pioneer Doctor Stuffed Dog with Fishing Worms
for Weak Nerves"

(Doctor Richard Carter)

Richard Carter was born on the south branch of the Potomac in Virginia, July 1786, the son of a half-Indian woman and an Englishman, who had been regularly bred to the practice of physics in London. Richard Carter attended the public school of the time. During adolescence he was giving to imbibing too large amounts in liquor. He entered school again, but left to visit an uncle in Marietta Ohio. There he studied botany and "herbology" under an Indian woman doctor "reputed uncommonly skillful." Next he studied under an Indian man, an authority on pulsation, the healing of wounds, and the cure of "Cromick Complaints!" Lastly he read his fathers medical books, until he almost lost his eyesight. He later practiced medicine in Garrard County, Kentucky. In 1825 there was published in Versailles, Kentucky an amazing medical book--a heterogemous conglomeration of scientific terms, personal philosophy and recipes for herb medicines. "The author, a self-educated, physician, was Richard Carter; and the printer was John H. Wilkins of the commonwealth office. The title of the book, far to long to be quoted completely, reads in part: A valuable, medical prescription, with a table of detergent and comborant medicines to suit the treatment of the different certificates"--these certificates being affidavits in favor of Dr. Carter's remarkable and versatile healing." A copy of the old book is owned by Mrs. Roy Smiley of Washington, Ind. This book was known as Dr. Carter's "Yarb book." In one of the testimonials the patient states that in 1810 she had the dropsy. Dr. Carter treated her, after another physician had attempted to cure her. She mended for a while after a time she grew worse and again applied to Dr. Carter for treatment, she states: Even my eyes were swelled like bladders of water, and my feet and legs swelled to that degree that they burst and ran a great deal. Then Carter began to administer

201
7

medicine to me again. . . . and he continued to give me medicine until I became sound and well" etc. The article is signed Sarah Lasure. "Fixing T. B. and Cancer" is the heading of one of his cures--others are: "For Gout, Rheumatism, Cramps, and Weak Nerves": "Kill the fattest young dog" etc. Good Clean Cow Dung "For Old Running Sore Legs": Another is "for billious, nervous and putrid fevers and the pleurisy". Dr. Carter discusses treatment for hysteris and mental abnormalities at some length. He offers treatments for many other maladies in his 498 page book, also has a series of essays on "God", "Man" and "The Devil."

The first doctor who won national fame as a Kentuckian was born elsewhere, this is Dr. Thomas Walker, who in 1745 crossed Cumberland Gap to negotiate with the Indians for the establishment of a colongy on the Cumberland River.

Clippings Kentucky Pioneers in Medicine and Surgery
Courier Journal January 10, 1937

POST OFFICES IN BREATHITT COUNTY.

Altro	Little	Wilhurst
Barwick	Lost Creek	Wolf Coal
Bays	Lunah	Wolverine
Beech	Moct	
Canoe	Ned	
Clayhole	Noble	
Copebranch	Noctor	
Crockettsville	Oakdale	
Curt	Paxton	
Dalesburg	Portsmouth	
Elkatowa	Press	
Frozen Creek	Quicksand	
Guage	Rock Lick	
Guerrant	Rousseau	
Haddix	Saldie	
Hardshell	Sewell	
Huston	Simpson	
Hurst	Sky	
Jackson	Stevenson	
Jetts Creek	Talbert	
Juan	Taublie	
Keck	Turkey	
Key	Vancleve	
Lauson	Wark Creek	
Lambric	Whick	
Leatherwood		

F. E. C. 1900

COHIST
QUESTIONNAIRE

Josephine Sewell
Box 1 File 14

BREATHITT COUNTY

- 1-5 Breathitt County is not famous for producing a particular breed or strain of domestic animal nor any outstanding individual domestic animal. It is not outstanding for producing a particular strain of domestic plant nor for quantity production of any kind of plants nor live stock.
6. In the fall of the year, just after the Fall Festival, at Quicksand Kentucky, the schools of the town of Jackson and the county schools have a school fair. This fair is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club. Oral and written contests are held also the students enjoy athletic contests too. The prizes are small, not more than \$1.00 or equivalent amount in some article of merchandise.
7. Small quantities of domestic meats are cured for export to surrounding counties.
8. Split baskets, ladder back chairs, furniture, willow lawn sets, children's furniture. Most of the furniture is made at Highland College, under the direction of the "Fireside Industries". Jack Arrowweed, of Jackson, makes a nice folding ironing board, and cabinets.
9. Orders are taken for furniture to be exported - made by Highland College. Excellent workmanship.
10. Breathitt County has not produced any literary work, invention, novelty, design, etc., that has found acceptance in the outside world.
11. Coal, oil, and gas. These products have been covered in the paper on "Natural Resources."
12. The first court house in Breathitt County, burned in the year 1873, the one that was built to house the records that were brought in to be re-written, was built of wood and is the same one mentioned by Rev. J. J. Dickey in his book. Thoughts in Rhyme, "A one room dilapidated courthouse. The

present court house is built of brick, has a large clock that tells the people the time to come to court and is quite an addition to the town.

J. Wise Hagins had the clock installed when he was county judge. The records of the court house are all in good conditions, no mutilations nor broken bindings in books except the old index records of the County Clerk's office. A project was under the K.E.R.A. in 1934-1935 to make new index books, this work was not finished, as the project was discontinued when the W.P.A. was started and the work was about half finished.

13. Green Trimbill wrote a booklet intitlled "My Recollections of Breathitt County", and had it published, copies can be obtained at the Jackson Times office for 25¢ a copy. Elisha Noble, Athol, Kentucky, J. J. Dickey, Flemingsburg, Kentucky (Dec.) Dr. Wilgus Back, Jackson, Kentucky each have written a history of Breathitt County, that has never been published.

14. Articles of local history have been published by Mrs. M. H. Holliday, Editor, Jackson Times.

15. At present there are no monuments nor markers in the county to commemorate any people, sites, events, etc, but the D.A.R. had planned to place a bronze monument in the court house yard, in memory of the World War Veterans, but the chapter is not active at present and the memorial has been postponed indefinitely.

16. Indian mounds at Quicksand and on Quicksand Creek. Described in a previous manuscript.

17. No poems nor books of fiction have ever been written and published that any one knows of. Uncle Jack Creech, of Jackson, Kentucky is the local poet, and very good. His rhymes and jingles are the entertainment of many a gathering. He is 80 years old. John Fox, Jr. speaks of Jackson in one of his novels. He tells of going down the river, on a raft and spending the night at Jackson.

18. Breathitt County had more than its quota volunteer for services in the World War. Being the only county in the United States without a drafted man.

19. Hargis-Callahan feed.

Copying from the Lexington Herald February 7, 1908, but correcting some of the names and dates.

Jackson, Ky., February 6.-People of Breathitt hardly remember when the feeds, which have made the county notorious, started. In 1887 Jerry Cardwell shot and killed John Hargis then on February 18, 1902 (corrected date) Tom Cockrill then Town Marshall of Jackson, and Ben Hargis, younger brother of James Hargis and Alex Hargis, exchanged shots and Cockrill was wounded and Ben Hargis killed. On the night of April 19, 1901 just as church was over Dr. B. D. Cox, uncle and guardian of the Cockrills, was shot down near his home, on Court Street. The evening congregation was leaving the house of worship when shots were heard and investigation showed Dr. Cox lying on the ground with three charges of buckshot in his body. He soon expired. Next killed was James Cockrill, in 1904, the brother of Tom Cockrill, was shot down in the business center of Jackson at 1:45 o'clock in the afternoon. The bullets came from the second story window of the Court House of Breathitt County. This shootings like those preceding it, was shrouded in mystery. James Cockrill, was standing in front of the store of his uncle. T. P. Cardwell, at the corner of Main and Court Streets, 100 feet from the Court House. He was taken to Lexington, Kentucky on a train that left Jackson in forty minutes, and he died in the Good Samaritan Hospital. The murders did not stop there. Had they done so, possibly some of the most noted trials in the annals of the State would never have been held, for apparently no close investigation of these murders was made up to that time. When the tragedies already enacted were followed by a public declaration by James B. Marcum, attorney for the Cockrill boys, that he was himself a marked man, the public generally began to be aroused.

Marcum, in support of his statement, produced an affidavit of Mose Feltner, Feltner swore that James Hargis and others had sought to hire him to lay in wait for Marcum armed and ready to kill Marcum. Matters continued in

the same unsettled condition until May 4, 1903 when the world was startled on the morning after with the announcement that James Marcum had been assassinated at the court house door in Jackson. Marcum was talking to Belvin Ewing when the first shot took effect in his back. On the 6th of May 1903 Tom Cockrill who had been acquitted for the murder of Ben Hargis, swore out a warrant charging Curt Jett, a nephew of James Hargis, with the murder of James B. Marcum. He was arrested two days later and Tom White was arrested soon after. A little later James Hargis, Alex Hargis, Elvert Hargis, Ed Callahan and others were indicted for complicity in the murder. With the murder of James Hargis by his son Beech on February 6, 1908 the bloody tragedies which had made Jackson notorious, came to an end: The principle cause of this feud was, the desire of political supremacy between the Republicans and the Democrats. Judge James Hargis was the County Judge at that time.

20. Miss Helen Dingman of Berea College and editor of Mountain Life and Work, had made a study of folklore etc. of the mountain people. There are many dialects in this county, each community has its peculiar method of expression. One especially that seems to be common among all. "Come and go over with me". No matter what time of day or night they take their leave or what has been the reason of their being at your home or if they pass you on the road and pass the time of day, as they leave, they always say "Come and go over with me". Boys and girls marry very young, some times neither will be over 15 years old and they bravely start out to keep house and raise a family, with nothing "to go upon" only love. Some customs that are peculiar to this county are the Memorial meetings, held every Sunday during the late summer and early fall. When preachers were few and traveling was hard and dangerous, the people of the hilly counties had to bury their dead without holding a funeral service. So when a preacher did come into that community they held a service for all the ones that had died in his absence. This custom is still observed, although there are two undertakers in this city. Workings and quiltings are two old customs, that are still observed. Square dances are popular with both sexes.

and old. The fiddle and guitar being the only instruments used and the music is "Mountain Music". Woven coverlets, and patchwork quilts are made. Lye ashes and shelled corn are boiled in an iron pot and home made hominy is the result. Shucked beans is another industry, green beans are broken into small pieces strung on a string and hung up to dry. Pumpkin and apples are treated in the same manner, most of the fruits and vegetables are either dried or pickled, as fruit jars were scarce in the beginning of the settlement of the county and it is a custom that has been handed down from one generation to another.

I have visited the homes of natives and have seen the food and have eaten it that is preserved in this manner. Mr. H. B. Cravens.

21. Roads are almost impassable at the present time, the summer is the best time for tourist to visit the mountains, trees are in full leaf, and wild flowers are in bloom, the cool refreshing odor of the pine trees and the ferns from the shady ravines is invigorating. The Natural Bridge in Powell County, Pine Ridge, are both places that would interest tourists, the natural bridge is worth the climb up the mountain to see. There is a hotel on the park grounds also tents for camping, this park is owned by the government and is a National Park. Pine Ridge is not very far from Natural Bridge. There is a C.C.C. Camp located on top of the ridge, also the Allen Drew Mission School In this county we have some views that are worth seeing, they have been described in another paper.

22. "Pastime" Movie Theatre on Broadway, admission 10¢ and 25¢. Matinee on Saturday and Sunday.

23. None. Only coal mines described in "Industries".

24. Lees College, located in Jackson, Kentucky is a large red brick building, with auditorium and class and a laboratory in the basement. The Dormitory is built of brick with the library and dining room in the basement, gym and office on the second floor and the third and fourth floors house the students. The Jackson Grade and High Schools are built of brick, and have been

described in another paper on Education. Highland College, Oakdale Academy, Riverside, Mt. Carmel High School, Morris Fork Institute, all are mission schools, the buildings are made of wood, and they have large sleeping rooms for the students. At Highland College, they have a fireside Industry, and make beautiful furniture, having more orders than they can fill.

25. Public Library, Lee's College, High School, and in the Mission Schools in the county have small collections of books, about 4,000 copies in all.

26. There are no famous paintings in the county.

27. There are no museums nor private collections of note. Collection of relics by Wilgus Back given in previous manuscript.

28. The Robinson Forest under supervision of the Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Sub-station, Quicksand, Kentucky has an ^{area} ~~average~~ of fourteen thousand acres ~~slying~~ in Breathitt, Knott and Perry Counties. In as much as this is all cut over forest the principal experiment at hand is to show that another timber crop can be produced. In addition to this work forest management and the utilization of forest products are being given consideration.

In this vast forest is the Buckhorn C.C.C. Camp, and besides the barracks and officer quarters, there is an iron observation tower, also scattered all over the park are ovens built of stone, with chimneys and iron tops for cooking purposes. Tourists can cook and camp in this park and are invited to do so. This park is about 4 miles off U. S. 15 with a good road for autos up to the tower. There are narrow trails or paths in all directions over the park and rustic bridges (built by CCC boys) and seats in many places.

29. No game preserves, fish hatcheries, large stock farms. Shipping point is Jackson, over the L. & N. Railroad to all points E. & W.

The Robinson Agricultural Experiment Substation is located at Quicksand Kentucky, and is a branch of the Kentucky Agricultural Experimental Station, Lexington, Kentucky. The Robinson Agricultural Experimental Station was established by act of the Kentucky Legislature of 1934 and an appropriation of \$25,000.00 was made annually for its operation. The property on which the

Sub-station is located was donated to the University of Kentucky by the late Mr. E. O. Robinson and the late Mr. F. W. Mowbray. Mr. Robinson's home was in Fort Thomas, Kentucky, while Mr. Mowbray's home was in Cincinnati, Ohio. This donation was to afford the University an opportunity to better studying the possibilities of agriculture in Eastern Kentucky and of developing practical methods of forestry and forest management. The Sub-station has been in process of operation for 12 years. It is conducting investigations and experiments in various phases of horticulture, agronomy, animal husbandry and in such other lines of work as bear directly upon the interests of Eastern Kentucky. 4-H Club's camp is held at the sub-station on August 1st week of each year. Home Makers Camp 20 districts hold their annual meeting there third week in July with 100 attendance. Leaders Agents Conference meeting July 1 with attendance of 100. Church Conference, Kentucky Mountain Workers Conference Sponcered by Berea College, and U. of K. October with 70 attendance.

30. Jackson, Population 2,109, altitude 796 feet, General Merchandise, Transportation, Greyhound Bus, J. C. Wells Bus, L. & N. Railroad, small row boats, no air plane service, there is an air port landing field one mile above Jackson, High School and Graded School, school for colored children, one year of high school taught.

Some of the noted people produced are: Sam E. Hagar missionary to Kôbe Japan, A. J. Russell Legal University, Louisville, Kentucky. Alfred Combs, Jackson was named for the 7th president of the United States, Andrew Jackson, Breathitt County was formed in the year 1839, so the county seat was named for Andrew Jackson, as he was president at that time..

QUESTIONNAIRE
BREATHITT COUNTY

COHIST Josephine Sewell

Box 1 File 14

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- 9 H. B. Cravens, County Agricultural Agent, Jackson, Ky.
- 10 Mrs. Cora Noble, Clerk
- 11-12 Mrs. Cora Noble, C. Clerk
- 13 The Jackson Times
- 14 Mrs. M. H. Holliday, editor, Jackson Times, Jackson, Ky.
15. Mrs. Kash Williams, D.A.R. member, Jackson, Kentucky
- 16-18 Personal
- 19 T.P. Cardwell, brother-in-law of Dr. B. D. Cox
- 20 H. B. Cravens, County Agricultural Agent, Jackson, Ky.
- 21 Personal observation
- 22 Personal observation
- 23 Personal observation
- 24-25 Public Librarian
- 26 Personal
- 27 Personal
- 28 Personal
- 29 J. W. Jones and H. B. Cravens, Jackson, Kentucky
- 30 Henry Spencer, Attorney.

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BREATHITT COUNTY

"HOW TO INCREASE OUR WEALTH"

("1893")

(1) Railroads

"While the people of Menefee, Morgan, Wolfe, Montgomery and Rowan are agitating aid to railroads, we can congratulate ourselves on the possession of one of those modern necessities. We have a good one and as far as county aid is concerned it has not cost us a cent. We are ready now to develop our county. Our greatest need is bridges and roads. We have five streams that need bridging and at least five main roads crossing the county that should be made so that wagons and buggys can pass over them with safety. A team of mules came very near being drowned in the quicksands of Troublesome, at the Mouth of Lost Creek a few days ago. (Lost Creek's confluence with Troublesome is at Lost Creek, on the cement paved stretch of Ky. & Va. Highway No. 15, about 10 miles south of Jackson. M.F.B.) "Travel and business are hindered all the year round and especially during the Winter, for lack of bridges. (The bridge at Lost Creek and the one at Haddix, a few miles this side, were destroyed during the flood of February, 1939. M.F.B.) "If ever a people needed bridges we are that people. Our development as a county would be hastened a hundred fold by these improvements suggested. Our assessor's book would soon show the value of our taxable property doubled. In this way these improvements pay for themselves. Taxes will not be increased. These improvements would be attended with such an influx of capital and increase in business that it would only be the means of making us rich. We are for the common good of the people of this county without reference to the locality. We want to see Breathitt County take her place in the rank in which her natural resources entitle her."

(1)

Bibliography (newspaper) Editorial by John Jay Dickie, Proprietor of Jackson Hustler, Jackson, Ky. 1893.

Hist. of Breathitt County
Federal Writers' Project

1

Bishop, Margaret F.
Jackson, Breathitt Co., Ky.
5/5/1939

BREATHITT COUNTY

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The Louisville and Atlantic which reached the Kentucky at [unclear] County, in 1891, was continued upstream to Miller's Creek in 1901, and the entire line from Versailles to Beattyville was completed in 1903. Since then the Louisville and Atlantic has been owned by the Louisville and Nashville. Originally it was a branch of a trunk line which was chartered in 1868 to extend [unclear] the coal field by way of the Three Forks to seaboard connections in the [unclear]. The original goal will have been attained as soon as the proposed extension to the headwaters of North Fork are finished. Another outlet to the seaboard will be secured through Cumberland Gap, since right of way has been granted for an extension from Beattyville by way of South Fork and its tributaries to connect with the Louisville and Nashville system in the Cumberland Valley.

The gradual absorption by railroads of the mountain traffic routes [unclear] the slack-water system of little value. As matters stand at present the [unclear] represents a waste of money, labor, and engineering skill. (pp. 118-119-120).

Ten miles were completed in 1884. In September, 1885, the road and [unclear] with 600,000 acres of timber and mineral land, were sold to a syndicate for \$800,000, which assumed the debt (\$400,000) of the old company. In November, 1886, the road was again sold to a company which also went into liquidation. The road was completed to Jackson under a receiver appointed February 1, 1891. October 13, 1891, the Lexington and Eastern R.R. Co. was organized to succeed the Kentucky Union. The lands owned by the latter company were placed in the hands of a subsidiary company, "The Kentucky Union Land Co.," which guaranteed the [unclear] and interest of the R.R. Company, the bonds of which were secured by [unclear] upon the entire property. (For: 1890, p. 456; 1892, p. 315; 1894, pp. 200-201). (pp. 118-119).

Rivers

Box 1
File 13

Of the three tributaries North Fork is most important is most important. One hundred and fifty-five miles in length, it heads in Pine Mountain at Payne Gap, near Pound Gap, against Elkhorn Creek of the Big Sandy. (p. 2)

Middle Fork rises in Pine Mountain, interlocks its numerous branches with those of the Cumberland, and enters North Fork about four miles above Beattyville. (pp. 2 and 3).

The Kentucky is the modern representative of an ancient stream that was greater in width and volume and probably in length. Geologically it is older than the Ohio. (p. 3).

The North Fork of the Kentucky is in all probability the beheaded section of a stream which temporarily held its course through Pound Gap. (p. 4).

Box 1 -
File 13

The great depth of the river valley, together with the sinuosity of the channel, results in a very gradual fall from headwaters to the Ohio. In fact, the main stream and the Three Forks have practically come to grade, a condition favorable to navigation.

To the first settlers, nevertheless, the river and its tributaries presented serious obstacles. The channels, from mouth to headwaters, were blocked with islands and shoals of rocky reefs, with overhanging trees and snags, with bars of

(p. 12-13).

North Fork is 225 feet at mouth, 125 feet at Hazard, eight feet at Whitesburg, and but eight feet near Payne's Gap. South Fork decreases from 200 feet at mouth to 150 feet at Goose Creek, and the latter stream from 100 feet at mouth to 85 feet at Collin's Fork. Middle Fork is 110 feet at mouth, but the average width for 68 miles is 130 feet. (Annual report Chief of Engineers, U.S.A., 1879, pp. 1412-1416).

"Within the mountains the meanders are usually short, but here, as in the lowlands, there are sometimes broad curves. The North Fork, in the vicinity of Jackson, Breathitt County, makes a detour of over 5 miles and returns to within 60 feet of the point of departure. A tunnel through the rock partition has furnished water-power, there being a difference in elevation of eight or nine feet in the stream bed. (Report Chief of Engineers, U.S.A., 1879, p. 1414). (p. 8).

Bot
File 13

gravel and drifting sand. To these were soon added artificial obstructions - timber booms, mill and fish dams. Moreover, fluctuation in stream volume rendered navigation impossible during several months of every year, the depth of water varying with seasonal changes from a few feet to a flood level of from 23 to more than 40 feet. (p. 12-13).

The most serious obstacles in mountain streams occur in rocky gorges, known as roughs and narrows, which are especially numerous in the lower counties. (Verhoeff, The Kentucky Mountains, pp. 11-12). Here the bends are short and frequent, and easily eroded shale between more resistant formations is worn away leaving high reefs in the channels. On North Fork "narrows" begin at Beattyville and extend to the mouth of Holly Creek, a distance of about 25 miles. (Kentucky House Journal, 1838-1839, Appendix, pp. 118-119). On South Fork a gorge begins about 38 miles above the mouth and extends $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles with a grade of 12 1/2 feet. (Kentucky House Journal, 1837-1838, Appendix, p. 140).

When settlement began in Kentucky fish abounded in the streams. Filson, in 1784, notes: "Trout have been taken in Kentucky weighing 30 weight. The mullet, rock perch, garfish and eel are here in plenty; suckers and sun-fish and other hook fish are abundant," etc. (Filson's Discovery, Settlement and Present State of Kentucky, Inlay's Topographical Description, etc., pp. 296-297). (pp. 12-13).

Expenditures by the Board for open channel work are summarized as follows in the State Report: (Legislative Documents, 1847-1848, p. 723).

North Fork	1837-1841	\$3,497.00
South Fork	1839-1845	3,022.75
Main River	1837-1841	1,238.40

(pp. 25-26)

Box 1
File 13

An act of November 7, 1821, had declared navigable North Fork to the mouth of Line Fork, which enters the stream just above the salt wells at the mouth of Leatherwood; also Middle Fork from the mouth to a point 10 miles above Garrard's salt-works, probably near Cutshin Creek, Leslie County. The act did not prohibit fish dams, fish-traps, or mill-dams, and such obstructions were numerous. (Acts). In the bends of North Fork there were masses of detached rock, 100 to 315 cubic yards above low water, which during a boating stage caused swift currents. The lightest canoe could not navigate sections of the stream. (Kentucky House Journal, 1835-1836, Appendix, p. 37).

The work was accomplished under commissioners. Those appointed for North Fork were directed to report to the Breathitt County court, and those for Sturgeon Creek to Owsley County. (Acts). (p. 25 and 26).

The State undertook no further work upon the river except within the coal field. February 26, 1869, an appropriation of \$2,000 was made to Middle Fork for improvements between the mouth and Cushin Creek. An act of March 1, 1869, authorized the expenditure of \$5,000 on North Fork between its mouth and Brashear's Salt-works at the mouth of Leatherwood Creek. (p. 26).

The reports stated that North Fork could be rendered navigable for steamboats of 80 tons burden as far as Troublesome Creek, 55 miles, at a cost of \$9,140 per mile, or a total of \$502,700.

Middle Fork was considered too narrow and crooked for steamboats, nevertheless slack-water was advised for 68 miles to benefit "such boats as would be used for the conveyance of coal upon the Kentucky River," at a cost of \$4,000 per lift, or a total of \$750,000. (p. 28.).

Box 1
File 13

All schemes proposed to the legislature were opposed by the representatives of the mountain district unless provision was made for the extension of the system up the forks to the coal mines. (p. 33).

The point at which the Warrior's Path crossed the river, probably the mouth of Station Camp Creek, Estill County, 218 miles upstream, appears to have been considered the head of navigation by the earliest explorers. (Verhoeff, *The Kentucky Mountains*, pp. 61,65). This point was noted by Dr. Thomas Walker, May 23, 1750, as the mouth of Hunting Creek. (Johnston's *First Explorations of Kentucky*, p. 63). Lewis Evans, in 1755, mentions the possibility of canoe navigation that far upstream. (Verhoeff, *The Kentucky Mountains*, pp. 64-65). Captain Thomas Hutchins, in 1766, describes the Kentucky: "Kentucky is a larger stream than the last (Licking River). It is surrounded with high clay banks, fertile lands, and salt springs. Its navigation is interrupted with shoals, but possible with small boats to the rap where the warpath goes through the Cusioto Mountains." (*Topographical Description of Virginia, etc.*, London, 1778, quoted in Johnston, *First Explorations*, p. 62, note).

It is possible that long before permanent settlements were established in the State, merchandise was shipped down the Ohio and up the Kentucky, and that peltries were sent down the river in canoes. (See p. 1, Note A.).

There have been recorded a number of instances of navigation about the time that the first settlements were founded. The McAfee brothers of Virginia, in the spring of 1773, descending the Kanawha and Ohio Rivers in canoes continued up the Kentucky, and in July reached Drennon's Creek, 21 miles above the mouth. Here, the river, "shut up by a stone bar," was abandoned for an Indian trail which was followed to Frankfort and across the stream to Salt River. (McAfee Journals, see Wood-McAfee Memorial, p. 433, also Collins, Vol. II, pp. 604-607). The return to Virginia was overland by the Kentucky River trail to Pound Gap. (Verhoeff, The Kentucky Mountains, p. 71). (pp. 42-43).

At first commerce in the river basin was purely local except for merchandise sent settlers from the east and occasional outbound shipments consisting chiefly of salt manufactured at the various "licks," and of furs which were often taken in exchange for that condiment in neighboring regions. The more valuable fur-bearing animals had probably been exterminated in central Kentucky before settlements were established after years of exploitation by Indians and by hunters from the eastern colonies and the French posts in the west. Within a decade after the founding (pp. 46-47).

Box 1
File 13

of Boonesborough merchants in the Bluegrass were buying furs at a distance. These for the most part were shipped over the transmontane routes to the Atlantic ports and thence to Europe. (pp. 46-47).

During high water, small steamboats ascended as far as Beattyville and push-boats proceeded farther, but the keel-boats used on the main river could not navigate mountain streams even after they had been improved. (p. 111).

In 1873, Collins (Vol. II, p. 462) notes: "Steamboats reach Beattyville, which is the head of navigation, with some regularity during several months of the year."

The Chief of Engineers, U.S.A., refers to Beattyville in his annual report (1879, Vol. II, p. 1414): "Here is the Gibraltar of the Kentucky Valley; all outward-bound freight must needs pass this point, and every expenditure for observation or research finds this the natural starting point. Command is had here of all products of the upper Kentucky Valley." (p. 111).

Although coal mining in the valley of the Kentucky has expanded, the increase has been due not to the slack-water but to railroad extensions. Since 1894 the entire commercial product has been transported by rail. Slack-water when it shall have been completed can divert but a small quantity, for the deposits which will be easily accessible to it are thin and soon exhausted. As yet they have not afforded the railroads a capacity traffic. The most valuable and extensive seams are at the heads of the Three Forks. Some of these could be reached by the continuation of the system above Beattyville, but the greater number are beyond the point to (pp. 117-18-19-20).

which it is advisable to extend canalization. Besides, railroads are rapidly being built to the more valuable deposits and there is no reason to believe that the output will be beyond their ability to handle.

Railroads did not penetrate the coal field until 10 years after the slack-water project had been adopted. Since then there has been a gradual but steady advance, until the main river and North Fork are now paralleled by a line with numerous branches which follow the creeks to coal mines and timber tracts. The railroads are still chiefly of local importance, but in the near future they will become trunk lines and open up markets in all directions to the mountain products.

The Kentucky Union, the first line to reach the upper Kentucky valley, was chartered in 1854 to extend from Lexington to the Virginia border by way of the Kentucky River and Pound Gap. It was not built for 40 years. In 1872, a new company under the same name was organized, and between 1884 and 1886, Clay City in the Red River valley of Powell County, was connected with the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad and thus with Lexington, by a line 14 miles long. An extension of this road up the valley of Red River, between 1888 and 1890, crossed the North Fork at the mouth of Middle Fork, and continued to Elatawa, which is a few miles from Jackson in Breathitt Co. July 15, 1891, Jackson, 47 miles up the North Fork, became the terminus of this road, which since October 13, 1894, has been known as the Lexington and Eastern. In 1912 it was extended by the Louisville and Nashville up North Fork to McRoberts in Letcher Co. As soon as practicable, connection will be made with lines leading through Pine Mountain by way of Pound Gap and the Breaks of the Big Sandy and thence to the eastern seaboard. Connection with the Big Sandy system will give an outlet to the Great Lakes.

With this road, July 1, 1892, Beattyville and the coal mines in its vicinity were connected by a line of seven miles from Beattyville Junction, at the mouth of Middle Fork, down the North Fork Valley. (p. 117-118-119).

Page 4 The Jackson Hustler
 March 13 - 18-91

It is some time we were giving this matter some attention. A beginning should be made and the work prosecuted till the large streams of our county are all bridged.

Page 5 - The Jackson Hustler
 May 22 - 18-91

Who is to Blame

As an individual we have no interest in that matter, but as a citizen we appeal to the people along this road and especially to the overseers, to work out these bad places and make the road passable.

The Winchester Sun has the following:

To the first settlers, nevertheless, the river and its tributaries pre-

sented serious obstacles. The channels, from mouth to headwaters, were blocked with islands and shoals of rocky reefs, with overhanging trees and snags, with bars of gravel and drifting sand. To these were soon added artificial obstructions -- timber booms, mill and fish dams. Moreover, fluctuation in stream volume rendered navigation impossible during several months of every year, the depth of water varying with seasonal changes from a few feet to a flood level of from twenty-three to more than forty feet.

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Box 1
File 13

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The work was accomplished under commissioners. Those appointed for North Fork were directed to report to the Breathitt County court, and those for Sturgeon Creek to Owsley County. (Acts.)

The reports stated that North Fork could be rendered navigable for steamboats of eighty tons burden as far as Troublesome Creek, fifty-five miles, at a cost of \$9,140 per mile, or a total of \$502,700.

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Box 1
6/18/13

Page 5 The Jackson Hustler
 April 3 - 18-91

During the great freshet February 1890, a great deal of walnut lodged along the river from a lumber raft that got loose on the upper Kentucky. Last Thursday a boat passed down picking it up. On the boat were four ladies enroute from Whitesburg to Louisville, Viz:

Miss Isobel Carnett, of Hazard, two Misses Robinson, of Louisville, and Mrs. Beatty. W. O. Davis was pilot, Dick Taulbee first mate and Capt. Beatty commanding.

Page 5 - The Jackson Hustler
 April 10 - 18-91

Several of the young of the Academy went down on rafts during the recent tide. The change from rhetoric to river life is extreme, but somehow, they like it.

During high water, small steamboats ascended as far as Beattyville and

push-boats proceeded farther, but the keel-boats used on the main river could not navigate mountain streams even after they had been improved.

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Box 1
file B

According to Lather, there was a shipment of 200,000 bushels (8,000 tons) in 1838. (House Journal, 1838-1839, Appendix, p. 243.) The Census of 1840 notes a total production in the Kentucky basin of 208,492 bushels (8,340 tons); Breathitt, 21,017 bushels; Clay, 88,950 bushels; and Estill, including Lee, 98,525 bushels. The Census of 1860 mentions only Breathitt County, where there were six establishments and a product valued at \$7,550. In 1868, according to Collins (Vol. I, p. 189) eighty boat loads were sent down the river in January, and thirty in February, which meant a total of some 550,000 bushels (22,000 tons), and further shipments were expected on the April rise. The Census of 1870 does not mention mining. In 1880 the product was 500 tons from a mine on Spicers Branch of North Fork, Breathitt County, and 26,973 tons from nine mines in Lee County in the vicinity of Beattyville. (Tenth Census, Vol. XV, Appendix, pp. 893-894.) In 1880-1881 shipments from the vicinity of Beattyville aggregated 24,000 tons (600,000 bushels), and for 1882-1883, 650,000 bushels (26,000 tons), valued at \$81,250. (Report Chief of Engineers, U.S.A., 1881, Vol. III, p. 1976; 1883, p. 1564.) After 1883 the decrease was marked and in 1888-1889 there were but 42,000 bushels (1,680 tons) shipped, valued at \$5,888. (Ibid, 1889, Vol. III, p. 1975.)

There was a shipment of 5,000 bushels down the Middle Fork during 1837-1838. (Kentucky Senate Journal, 1838-1839, Appendix, p. 121.) The principal mines at that time were on Rush Creek, about a half mile upstream, where a vein three feet ten inches thick was worked. (Kentucky Geological Survey, Bulletin No. 11, pp. 13, 181.)

Other supplies, among them much seed corn, were brought into the county in canoes and push boats, by way of Beattyville in Lee County.

Box 1 file 14

COHIST

On John Jilson's map of Kentucky, published in 1784, the three forks of the Kentucky then set down as the North, Middle and South Forks, came together at one point. The map, however, does not show the more eastern section of Kentucky and the courses of the North and Middle Forks are shown only for part of their distance. No mountains (or hills) are shown in the Kentucky river basin beyond the confluence of the three forks, although east of this point they are shown.

The South Fork and its tributary Goose Creek because it lead to productive saltworks received more attention, especially in the early period, than the other two forks.

Going down the Kentucky on a boat or raft when the river permitted was also an accepted mode of passenger travel. During the early days it was the chief mode of travel into the Bluegrass and ^{to} the Ohio River towns. Even as late as the 1890's and 1900's every tide carried visitors out of the mountains.

^{no. 4} The Jackson Hustler of April 3, 1891, reported that four ladies en route from Whitesburg to Louisville were passengers on a boat going down the river picking up lumber. A week later the paper carried an item that several young men of the Jackson Academy "went down on rafts during the recent tide." A fascinating account of a trip from Jackson down the Kentucky River on a raft is included in John Fox, Jr.'s Bluegrass and Rhodendron.

12/1/1891

SALT WATER

Rich veins of salt water in Breathitt county.

In 1837-38, W. M. Haddix and son-in-law Colonel L. C. Bohonan, sunk a well at the mouth of Troublesome Creek, 400 feet deep. They were in search of salt water. They found the object of their search and proceeded to the manufacture of salt. The water was so strongly impregnated with salt that the investment was quit profitable. They continued business several years.

They supplied the people of the surrounding county at one dollar per bushel and shipped the surplus down the Kentucky River in large canoes, as far as Irvine, selling it along the route. One hundred bushels per day was the product, with their small facilities for business.

Until the coming of the railroad salt has been selling at one dollar per bushel through all these intervening years capital would have found a profitable investment here during this time, if directed by sound judgement and business energy.

At the mouth of Lost Creek two miles distant another well was sunk about the same time and successfull operated for many years in Perry county. The Brashear's Wells produced a vast amount of salt in earlier days. This industry, no doubt, will be revived when these points are reached by a railroad and capitalist find out the opporunity offered. The Kentucky River Valley may yet become a great field for salt as well as for timber and coal.

Our resources are all known. A learned professor from Columbia University, New York City was sent here a few years ago to examine our resources and he said you have everything here.

The Jackson Hustler

March 20, 1891

Hotel facilities in Jackson are up to the standard, they are built of brick, are steam heated, hot and cold running water. The managers are men of prominence, always courteous to their guests and anxious to please. The bus passes in front of both the Jefferson and Stacy Hotels. There are also many restaurants, boarding houses and sandwich stands, where one can get good home cooked food at reasonable prices. A barber shop is in the basement of the Jefferson Hotel and a beauty shoppe just across the street. Four garages to service your car and filling stations on every corner, so to speak.

Roads

III The roads into Breathitt County are dry weather roads with the exception of Kentucky #15 which has limestone, gravel and tar topping. There is a good road up Quicksand that will connect with Salyersville in the near future, the last few miles of this road is under construction, part of the road has creek gravel top. A road from Jackson to Booneville up Old Buck Creek, also under construction, part of it has been covered with creek gravel and the concrete for the bridge that spans the Middle Fork of the Kentucky River has been poured, the culberts and drains have been completed. One and one half miles up Middle Fork has been let for construction. Kentucky 52 is in the primary road system. They are the only roads in Breathitt County with the exception of county roads and paths. A road with gravel top leaves Kentucky 15 at Buckhorn Creek and leads to the CCC Camp or the Forest lands of the Substation of the Dept. of Agriculture of the University of Kentucky. Various gravel road paths lead through the park. Since the severe winter weather has damaged the roads the only transportation at present is by rail. There are two passenger trains going both east and southeast and west and northwest daily, from Lexington, Kentucky to McRoberts, Kentucky. One train each way carries a sleeper, but no diner. Trains stop at Hazard, and Ravenna for lunch. All of these trains are accommodation trains. The L. & N. R.R. from Lexington to McRoberts passes

passes through the scenic mountains, the high Crags in Powell and Lee to the dark Pine Mountain in Leslie and on into the deep dark Cumberland Range. This is a very interesting tour.

Buses. This means of transportation is stopped at present until the roads are repaired in Powell County. The Kentucky 15 from Winchester, Kentucky to Whitesburg, Kentucky passes through Clark, Powel, Wolf, Breathitt, Perry and Leslie Counties. At the foot of Pine Ridge or at Slade, is a Veterans Camp, and Kentucky 11 joins Kentucky 15 at Slade. This is a creek graveled road and leads to Beattyville, through Natural Bridge Park and Torrent. This little side trip is well worth ones time, it is only three miles off Kentucky 15 and the Natural Bridge is a wonderful piece of Natures work. There is a hotel and lunch counter on the park ground and pure drinking water. On the top of Pine Ridge is another camp. This camp has been abandoned, there is an observation tower on this peak. The Allen Drew Mission School in Wolf County, is on the top of this ridge. After passing through Campton the County Seat of Wolf you soon climb another mountain and on top is a gap cut through the rock, this gate-way separates Wolf, and Breathitt Counties. The road curves on down the mountain and on through the valleys to the Frozen Creek Hill and around the W. curve. The road winds up and around the mountain and at the top of this mountain is "Dead Man's Curve" then on down the mountain side curving around and around you come to the North Fork of the Kentucky River then into the town of Jackson. There is only one more mountain to cross before you reach Hazard, and then on to Whitesburg, Kentucky the mountains become higher.

Banks. The first National Bank, located opposite the Jefferson Hotel on Main Street in Jackson, Kentucky is the only bank in Breathitt County and is open from 8:00 Am M. until 4:00 P.M. except on Saturday when it closes at

SERVICE
BREATHITT COUNTY

Box 1
File 12

12:00 o'clock noon. There is no night bank. Jackson has the following business concerns:

- 1 Hardware store
- 3-10 General Merchandise stores
- 2 Drug Stores
- 1 A. & P.
- 1 I.G.A.
- 2 Dress shops
- 2 Men's Wear shops
- 2 5 & 10¢ stores
- 4-5 Independent Groceries
- 2 Second Hand stores
- 2 Beauty Parlors
- 1 Jewlrey Store
- 1 Dry Cleaners
- 4 Barber Shops
- 3 Dentist Offices
- 1 Hospital
- 7-8 Doctors
- 15 Lawyers
- 10 Dressmakers
- 1 Public Library
- 1 College
- 5 Churches
- 1 Grade and High School (white)
- 1 Grade and High School (colored)

220

Box 1 File 14

682. Amateur sports events. Base ball, independent basket ball and diamond ball, are played in season. Diamond ball teams are directed by the members of the Kiwanis Club. Four young members are chosen as captains of the teams and the players are the young boys about town, and some of the smaller boys. The college campus is used as the park. Fishing and hunting facilities are of little interest to sportsmen as the streams have very few fish and the wild game and birds have been hunted until they are very scarce.

686. Carnivals and Festivals. Only traveling carnivals come to the city and the Fall Festival at Quicksand (described in "History") is the only attraction of that kind.

692. Vantage points for scenic observation. Peaks. High Knob about 2 miles west of Jackson, on the Cane Creek road is the highest peak in the county, Picnic Hill, on U. S. 15 E. of Jackson is another pretty point and as its name implies is used for that purpose. Frozen Hill on U. S. 15 4 miles north west of Jackson is another scenic point; the highway curves round and round and makes the letter "W" and at the top of the peak is "Dead Man's Curve". At Marcum Heights, when the sun is setting in the west the view through the break in the "Panhandle" is awe inspiring. Riverview is another scenic point and the only Tourist Camp is located at this point.

Personal Knowledge.

COHIST ^{BOL}
4124

The Swift Silver Mine again

The legend of the Swift Silver Mine has been the fruitful cause of much speculation and many efforts have been made to locate this mythical source of wealth. While at Hindman recently we met with Dr. Jasper Stewart of Knott county, who gave us what he knew about Swift and his operations in Kentucky. He is the father of ex-Senator A. H. Stewart formerly of the Sandy Valley, now of Richmond.

He was raised in Knott county. He says that his grandfather, Alexander Stewart, settled at the mouth of Stinking Creek on Cumberland River, four miles above Barbourville, about 1780. From his father W. M. Stewart and his uncle, Isaac Stewart, Dr. Stewart learned that Swift, who lived in Pennsylvania, used to stop at Alexander Stewarts going to and returning from Powell's Valley, Virginia. On his return he always brought a vast amount of silver money in saddle pockets. Several horses would be loaded down with it. He frequently staid several days at Mr. Stewarts.

In Powell's Valley was a soft red iron ore, and the counterfeiters who had a sort of mine that region collected in it considerable quantities and pretended that it was silver ore. They claimed that they had a process for reducing the ore which they kept secret by placing a dead line around their works, and excluding all but the trusted workers. Winthin this dead line counterfeit money was made.

Swift passed through the mountains of Kentucky and pretended that he had a secret mine where he obtained the precious metal. Richard Smith who lived for many years at the moth of Balls Fork of Troublesome Creek and died there in 1837 was associated with Swift in this work. Richard Smith's son William, who was borned 1798 and who was old enough to remember all about these things told Dr. Stewart this story often.

Dr. Stewart had an uncle Isaac who was borned in 1780 whom he had heard talk all of these things over. Silver money was very scarce in those days. What little there was came from Mexico. It was common for people to take these coins to Richard Smith, in what is now Knott county and have them made into counterfiet money. He would make three dollars out of one, keep one of these dollars for his labor and the owner of the coin got the other two.

The deception was perfect, so that Mr. Smith who in other respects stood well in the community held that it was no harm and his neighbors adopted his theory of the matter. Dr. Stewart is a practicing physician and has a large practice. He has a wonderfully retentive memory and his reputation for truth veracity is as good as any man in the county. He is a man of strong intellect, is fond of books and is well informed. He has not the shadow of a doubt that this is the true theory of the Swift Silver Mine. Swift became blind from the effects of the metals and chemicals used in his work. He had himself brought back from Pennsylvania to search for the silver mine from which he had gotten his wealth, but he never found it. Thus he concealed his crime to the last.

In his travels he camped on the creeks near Campton which bears his name. Both on this creek and at Indian Fields in Clark county silver has been sought. It seems that in those early times ther was a great deal of counterfieting done in many parts of the Kentucky Mountains.

The deep ravines and large sketches of uninhabited country furnishes security to all the workers. On the head of Frozen creek in this county and in Magoffin county, we are told that the old excavations can still be seen where the baser metals become precious by placing on it the stamp of the goverment.

Workin at Nailors rocks

Box 1 File
17

Counterfitting in Eastern Kentucky

Swift Mine etc.

COHIST

by T. W. Parsons

Editor Hustler:

On reading your article on Swift's Mine, which was copied into Courier-Journal, I have come to the conclusion to contribute to your paper, and through it to the public what I have heard and learned of the operations of these counterfieters, having been a citizen of the Mountains of Kentucky from 1834 to 1848, and other parts of the state from the latter date to the present excepting five years spent in Indiana.

I was brought from Powells Valley to Harlan county by my parents in 1834 and remained there till 1941. About this time one Sol. Mullins, who died a way back in the mountains, I think about the head of Sandy river, was the much talked of man as a counterfieter and he was said to be an adept in business.

His mode of operation was to take pure silver or genuine coin and put it in alloy so as at least to make three dollars out of one, but if his coustmers desired he would make him more, but it was said that the three to one alloy could scarcely be detected, but men who were more greedy and took him the silver would have four or five to one of the alloy but in which was detected. It was said that he had his shop a long way from his house in the brushy recesses of the mountains and none but the initiated were allowed to visit it, and he defied ditiction. When he died as how I do not remember that I ever heard, but he had many understrickers all through the mountains of Kentucky and Virginia and much of his money was put afloat.

In Harlan county there were imitators of Mullins in a small way, and considerable of every base coin was put out, but was too bad to pass many hands without detection so was not profitable to the manufacturer.

Some twelve miles below the county seat lived one W. C. who was engaged in this business but he issued such base articles that it scarcely ever passed, and he once got himself in the clutches of the law and came near going over the road but somehow got off and then hired one of his boys to my father for two years to raise sixty dollars to pay expenses. He was a poor man and a very inexpert counterfieter, and his shops were a curiosity. Strangers dropped in on him and proffessed to be hunting for Swift's Mine which was the sene-qua-non of all the counterfeiters, about 1836, one Bartholomew came in there and staid with Mr. C. for some time, they were always in secret conclave. Bartholomew first gave out that he was Silas Haadly the Connecticut clock maker and that he had bought a large apple orchard at Mulberry Gap, Tennessee and had the trees all sawed up and the lumber in seasoning and was going to open a branch clock factory there. He celebrated his departure from there by sprinkling spirits of nitre over the bed of Mrs. W. M. Benjuy and ruining a nice double-woven coverlet, all because she gave him a very decided dissent from the way he and C. her brother-in-law, were doing. Mrs. B. had Irish blood in her veins and when she discovered the damage she was not sparing in her denunciation of the cowardly and malicious deed. Many strangers found C's house and remained for a day or two and left without the neighbors knowing who they were or where from. All these men pretended to be hunting Swift's Mine but there was no digging or prospecting done by any of them. Mr. C. at one time borrowed my father's book on chemistry and kept it about six months, and when he returned ~~it~~ my father said: I will see what Mr. C. has been studing most, and on turing through the book he found the chapter on the treatment of zinc, thumbed almost back.

In the spring of 1841, our family moved to Breathitt county, and settled on the farm opposite the mouth of Quicksand where we lived seven years. In 1841 or 1842, quit an excitement sprung up through the country over the supposed discovery of Swift's Mine on Swift's Camp, now Campton, and people who were believers in Swift's Mine were on tiptoe of excitement, but when the find was tested it turned out to be a mixture of sulphur and copperas found in kidneys in the coal and slate all through eastern Kentucky.

Thus Swift's Mine came to frief again, but bogus silver was in circulation when the shapers could work it off. In 1841 a young man was prosecuted in Jackson for showing a bogus ten cent on Mr. Thomas Sewell in part payment for his supper.

The Jackson Hustler

August 24, 1894

Timber in Breathitt County

For several miles beyond Beattyville, toward Jackson, no great changes in the forests occur, and the timbers are such as are usually met with on the lowlands. We follow the Kentucky river tolerably closely for a considerable distance. About three and one half miles from Beattyville, along the river bank, grow perfect thickets of pawpaws, which often reach a height of fifty feet! With them, and along the foothills, grow red and white elm, sycamore, black and blue ash, linden, big buckeye, water and common beech, liriodendron, hemlock, swamp alder, pitch elder, red oak, ironwood, amelanchier, sweet gum, golden alexander, red and black haw, and hawthorn. On the higher hills are post oak, black oak, red oak, scarlet oak, mountain oak, black locust, and the usual hill timbers. About five miles from Beattyville the forests of white oak are as fine, along the rich hill-sides, as I ever saw. Hickories are splendid also, and walnut, liriodendron, chestnut (on sandstone formations), and linden are unsurpassed along all the ravines whose waters head in the rich woods below the brows of the high hills. The tops of the hills are crowned with black oak, scarlet oak, mountain chestnut oak, rock maple, scrub hickories, and pines.

The splendid timbers given above continue, with only local breaks, all along Lower and Upper Twin Creeks, and the hills through which they flow. The latter stream empties into middle Fork of Kentucky river, within about twelve or thirteen (p. 204) miles of Jackson, Breathitt County: And at its mouth the road leaves the river and turns up it follows it to its head, crosses the divide at its head waters, and descends onto West Fork of Cane Creek, down which it follows toward North Fork of Kentucky river. The timbers all through these high, abrupt, and inaccessible hills, and deep, rich, ravine-like hollows, are scarcely surpassed in the State.

A considerable amount of fine old forest walnut, black birch, and cherry still stands in these fastnesses, and gigantic liriodendrons, white oaks, ashes, lindens, locusts, chestnuts, elms, buckeyes, magnolias, and maples have, so far, bid defiance to the axes that have laid these timbers waste in other parts of the State. Civilization has not yet penetrated into these forest wilds, and the grandeur of the trees and the silence of the woods make a striking impression upon one.

The tall, dark, rich-green oak spoken of heretofore, and which I have called rich red oak, flourishes all through these woods. It is probably the macrocarpa of the botanics. A few blackberries, considerable bray birch, some whit pine and etc., are met with.

High up on Upper Twin Creek, about seven miles from Jackson, on a hill-side facing north and east, at a barometric height of thirty-five feet above the small stream below, a rich belt of black walnut trees encircles the hill. There are not a great many trees in the belt, but some of them are exceedingly fine. Beds of coal are found along Upper Twin Creek, and the formation is coal-measure sandstone. All through the woods there is found, in great abundance, a hickory which I have called microcarpa, because it is evidently a variety of the "white hickory" of former reports in Kentucky timbers. It is a tall, clean-trunked, five bodied tree, branching high; bark comparatively thin, nearly smooth right at base, where the shallow interspaces of the bark are nearly straight, or only slightly chipped, but considerably more chipped higher up the trunk; leaves linear, acute at base, lance-tipped, serrate and smooth, except slightly downy at base of veins.

From Jackson to the mouth of Troublesome Creek, seven miles out toward Hazard, we pass right along North Fork of Kentucky river, with the usual lowland timbers along the river, and no changes of moment on the hills.

Our route now lay up Troublesome Creek to Lost Creek; up Lost Creek to its head waters, across the divide onto Lot's Creek, and thence to Hazard. The hill timbers along this course are very similar to those already given on Twin Creek, and the forests are everywhere of the finest. The question of distribution, as affected by height above drainage, which is the most important one that presents itself in this part of the State, will be, as I have previously said, illustrated and discussed separately.

A list of the timbers noted in the Troublesome Creek region, includes white, black, and pig hickory, white oak, holly, black and blue ash, white ash, black walnut, liriodendron, chestnut, black gum, black and gray birch, winged elm, white, rick black and mountain maple, redbud, mulberry, red oak, black oak, mountain chestnut oak, scarlet oak, beeches, black cherry, hawthorn, red haw, big buckeye, black locust, linden, water beech, silver poplar, cucumber and umbrella trees, swamp chestnut oak, sycamore, bartram oak, scrub red oak, magnolia (Frazeri), pines, cedar, hemlock, elm (racemosa), American laurels (rhododendron and kalmia), spicewood, papaw, pith elder, willows, persimmon, dogwood (green and low cornel), black sumach, and swamp alder. The scrub red oak is probably the ilicifolia of the botanics. The great variety, and the richness in valuable timbers, of these forests, I think, can scarcely be surpassed. The formation is coal-measure sandstone.

The Hustler

COHIST

Box 1
Apr 19

Friday, April 27, 1894.

The poplar and walnut are the only timber that has been touched in this section of Kentucky. Such a forest of hard wood timber as extends from the mouth of the Big Sandy to Cumberland Gap and from Pound Gap to the blue grass is not to be found in America, so near to distributing centers. It is near on the the salt water ~~and the~~ east and the great cities of the Mississippi Valley on the west. Located as it is this timber of necessity will increase in value. It would be well if manufacturers from the north, where the timber supply is becoming exhausted could be shown these facts. They would be glad to remove their plants to our Blue Grass towns, where they could be so very convenient to this vast forest. The population of these cities would be vastly increased,

a home market would be made for vegetables, fruits, poultry, etc. If wealth is what the world wants it can be gotten in Kentucky. Capital and brain will bring the labor and the combination will produce wealth. Let the world hear it, be convinced and act, and the result is certain.

Box 1 File 12

24112

CLASS IV
TRANSPORTATION
BREATHITT COUNTY

By Josephine Sewell

Four passenger and two local freight trains arrive and leave the town of Jackson, Kentucky over the Louisville & Nashville Railroad regularly each day. Coal drags carry the coal from the Hazard coal fields to the Great Lakes, and the number depends upon the season of the year, as the coal must reach the lakes before they freeze over and from April until September is the time for these shipments.

III ✓
Two bus lines pass through Jackson. They are the Greyhound Line and the J. C. Wells Line. The Greyhound Bus Line runs six buses each day through the town over (U. S.) ^{State} 15. This is a mountainous and winding highway over which these busses travel. The highway follows the river for a while then crosses over the mountain. On the top of the mountain is the "Dead Man's Curve". At this point you can see the highway in three different places at the same time. The J. C. Wells Bus Line travels over the same route as the Greyhound, (U. S.) ^{State} 15 to Still Water, then turns onto a country road that leads to West Liberty.

IV
The North Fork of the Kentucky River ^{half} encircles the town and at the outskirts curves around a large bottom. It then flows back on the other side of the hill, as if reluctant to leave and forms what is known as the "Panhandle" and "Panbowl". When on top of the ^{Panhandle, about 40 ft. high} (hill) you can see the river on both sides, the distance from the water edge of both rivers or from one to the other being 70 feet. ^{The distance around the Panbowl, which is mountainous, is about 7 miles.} A tunnel has been cut through the rock base of the hill ^{Formerly used to gain greater water power for the great mill that once stood} and (used by the earlier settlers to bring small boats through with their corn to the water mill to grind into corn meal.) Rafts and small boats are seen on the river, but it is not deep enough for steamboats. ^{Sometimes at flood stage}

not a tunnel under the Panhandle but a road over the top of the hill.

A two way landing field is 1 mile east of Jackson, on U. S. 15. Planes land and take off safely from this air port. There is no air service at present, but many pilots bring their own planes and hold air circuses by doing stunt flying. They take passengers up over the city and surrounding country for a fee of \$2.00 for a five minute ride.

TRANSPORTATION
BREATHITT COUNTY

L. & N. Railway. Agent - William Bailey

Bus Station - Alex Snowden

Boats and planes - personal observation

Personal observation

War Declared Against the Windowless Cabin

The log cabin has a history in Kentucky inwrought with much that we held almost sacred. It was the fortress of Western Civilization, In it the families of the pioneers found alike safety and comfort. Neither the bows nor the bullets of the savage could harm the daring adventurer entrenched within the battlements of his cabin home. Within its solid walls the wife and children were protected from cold and tempest, from the wild beast and the savage foe. Here the mother nursed her helpless babe and the father listened to the merry prattle of his innocent offspring.

Around these cabin fires the hunters delighted to gather and repeat the stories of their hair breadth escapes from the tomahawk of the Indian and the ferocity and the wild beasts and thus lived over and over again the thrilling adventures of their pioneer lives. Here around blazing heartstone the brave youth wooed and won the girl he loved, and within these windowless walls the simple rites of matrimony were solemnized that made them forever one. From these cabin homes have come some of our greatest statesmen and bravest warriors. Beside the fires that burned beyond the midnight hour, have been trained some of our brightest scholars and most eloquent divines. All praise to the bark and the pine knot.

But as the Indian disappeared the cabin ceased to be kept for a fort and it was remodeled and fitted up for a place of habitation. Windows were placed in the walls more pains were taken in its construction, several apartments were provided, carpets were laid upon the floors, and where lime could be obtained its walls were made white within and without. As sawmills were introduced it was weather boarded and painted, its interior either sealed or plastered and the furniture made to correspond to these improvements.

COHIST

Box 1-
6/12/17

In the mountains of Kentucky a majority of the log houses are built now just as they were in the days of Daniel Boone. There are no windows, no carpets, no whitewashing often but one room, and many of them are not even hewn.

We are not keeping pace with civilization. Our advantages have been poor we have not had sawmills, no lime. The obstacles are now removed and these primitive dwellings should be changed. Let them be painted with lime, whitewashed within and without, windows put in, carpets put down and the whole building made to speak of comfort and cheer. It can be done.

Let the matter be canvassed, agitated and acted upon and in a short time the face of society will be changed.

WATER GAPS

"An Act to allow water gaps on Quicksand, in Breathitt County. "Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky.: Sec. 1. That all persons living or owning land on the River Quicksand, in the County of Breathitt, be, and they are hereby, authorized to establish and keep for ten months, from and after the passage of this act, water gaps sufficient to secure a crop.

Sec. 2. "This Act to take effect from and after its passage."

"Approved, May 7, 1886."

(Chapt. 1005, p.509)

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(1) Acts of the Kentucky Legislature, 1885-1886.

WILD FLOWERS

The Buttercup, a yellow flower, small plant growing mostly along fences.

The wild pansy, light and dark blue petals, rather flat, has texture that looks like velvet. A small plant, growing mostly in woods on top of cliffs and big rocks. - No leaves and only flowers.

Lepatikus (check name and spelling), light and dark blue cup-shaped petals, has no leaves. Is the earliest blooming flower.

"Percoon," (check name and spelling), a bulbous root, long slender green leaves, flower has long white petals and yellow center. Used for medicinal purposes - group and to feed horses in the spring of the year as a tonic.

Shoestring flower, grows about the height of a pencil, has many small fine leaves and the stalk is covered with small white bell-shaped flowers.

Farewell-to-summer flower, grayish rather thick rough textured leaves, the flower is a star-shaped cluster of dark blue flowers.

Birth Root flowers, a round flat leaf about the size of a human hand with a large stem, in the top of each plant there is a star shaped flower, colors: red, pink, white, dark wine, white & pink spotted ones.

Forget-me-nots, small flowers growing in clusters, delicate, grow about 3 inches high, small light-blue star-shaped flowers, grown mostly in mossy

leaves (?)

Mountain tea - small plant with three or four green and red berries
that ripen about Xmas time.

Wild rose - light pink - yellow center - delicate

Breathitt County

"He had a basket of eggs on his arm as he went into the building looking for the man that writ out weddin' licenses'".

"I'm from Stony Pint, and I want a weddin' license,' he said to the clerk at the desk. 'Is this the place?'

"The clerk said it was.

"'Might a knowed it,' he continued; 'fer the fellow at the door told me it was. But I've got doubts about what you city fellers tells a stranger when he a'int got no proofs.'

"'Do you want a license?' asked the clerk.

"'You bet I do, and I want it for myself, too. I ain't bashful, I ain't. A feller ain't got no right to be that has been courtin' a gal fer two years like i've been doin'. How much are they?.

"'One dollar.'

"'Goranity gosh: They ain't that much are they? They was that much last year, and I've been readin' as how the McKinley bill had brought down prices on all the necessities of life. Ain't that so?'

"' It hasn't got around here yet', explained the clerk.

"'Well, I got to have her, dollar or no dollar, but, young fellow, I've got seven dozen eggs worth 15¢ a dozen. Right fresh out of the hens, too. Can't you take it out in trade and let me have the five cents over in cash to buy some red streaked and striped candy for the gal? 'Taint't much, young feller, and if you ever come up on stony, durn my cats if I don't board you a week for nuthin'. Is she a swap with a nickel to boot for the weddin present?'

"Ten minutes later he went out chuckling, with the license in the basket where the eggs had been."

----- Breathitt Co. Library Bldg.

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(1) Jackson, Kentucky, June 19, 1891.(Scrap book, Packhorse Library.)

MEMORIAL MEETINGS

A custom peculiar to this county, or to this region, is that of the memorial meetings, or services, held every Sunday during the late summer and early fall. When preachers were few and traveling hard and dangerous, people of the hill country had to bury their dead without holding funeral services. Then when a preacher came into that community, they would hold services for all those who had die^d in his, or his predecessor's absence. That custom is still observed, notwithstanding the fact that there are two undertaking establishments at Jackson and the funeral is held a day or two after death. A year from the day of the burial they have the memorial service, or "funeral" as it is called. It is not uncommon for a widower to hold a memorial service for his late wife and for his bride to prepare the feast. Friends of the deceased come to the church. Four or five preachers are invited to preach an hour or two each. The family prepares a feast of various meats and all seasonable vegetables, enough to feed one or two hundred persons, and serves it in the churchyard. The service lasts all day. Many people of the mountains of Kentucky and West Virginia speak of the church as the "church house" and of the yard as the "church house yard."

Story in The Land of Saddle-backs.

Page 5 The Jackson Hustler
 June 12 - 18-91

Thomas Strong found three bee trees in the last ten days, got the honey and saved the bees. They were very rich.

Page 5 The Jackson Hustler
 May 22 - 18-91

The dwellers in the Red river cliffs say that bear is plenty in that region yet. Calves, turkeys, chickens, are carried away by them. One man says they destroyed a corn patch for him last year. These cliff dwellers are hard to capture. They elude the grasp of the most artful hunters, and enjoy the liberty of a savage in a territory of civilization.

WORKINGS

This is another old custom still observed in the mountains, When traveling was hard and families lived miles apart, there was not much opportunity for social intercourse, so they had "workings," so called. Several farmers would come with their families and work a day for one of their neighbors and a big dinner would be prepared by their wives. They would help each other in this manner and spend a social hour or two at the same time. The young folks took advantage of "workings" called in a fiddler or two and had a dance in the evening.

Breathitt County

WPA Construction Work compiled to date in Breathitt County.

WPA Rural Highways connecting Breathitt County Schools.

WPA Rural School building on WPA Rural Highways.

(1) & (2) All rural highways in this list are gravelled.

Five miles long, the Lost Creek road in the southern part of the county, passes the following schools: Lost Creek, Leatherwood, and (when completed) the Cockrell's Fork new room stone building.

Four miles long, the Highland-Athol road, in the North-western part of the county, passes the following schools: Highland (grade), Lick Branch, Jetts Creek and Athol. A steel bridge, WPA construction, thirty feet long crosses the Puncheon Camp Creek connecting the Highland Institute at Guerrant.

Four miles in length, the Hunting Creek road in the eastern part of the county passes the Fletcher's Fork school.

The Mount Carmel road in the northern part of the county has located on it the White Oak school.

The Caney-Spring Fork road, five miles long, in the south eastern part of the county passes Howard and Winnie Branch schools.

The Panbowl-Frozen road, five miles long is located in the north western part of the county.

The Cane Creek-Elkatawa road, one and one half miles long, near the central part of the county, has located on it the Elkatawa school. The Wolfcoal-Turners Creek road, five miles long, is located in the south western part of the county and along its course are the Wolfcoal and Raleigh schools.

The four miles of the Juan-Highland road begins at the State Highway

Jackson-Bonesville, near Shoulderblade, the Shoulderblade school is situated on the corner of these two highways, the rural highway runs along for four miles.

Old Buck-Canoe road in the north western part of the county, six miles in length has the following schools along its route: Beach Grove, Cance, and Macedonia.

The Clements Fork road, one and one half miles long, lies in the eastern part of the county with the Lewis Fork school situated on it.

The South Fork road, five miles in length, and in the Central eastern part of the county, has three schools along its route. Two of these are stone buildings: Smith's Branch a two room stone; Big Orchard a one room frame and an older building; Press Howard Fork a one room new stone.

The Blanton Bridge road, five and one half miles long, lies in the north eastern part of the county. Along its route are situated the following schools: Morgue; Davis a one room new stone building; and Negro Branch School.

The Stray Branch road in the central southern part of the country is one mile long. A new ^{one} room stone building, Stray Branch school has been erected here.

The Haddix-Wolfcoal road, two miles long, is in the central southern part of the county.

The new Wilhurst road, two miles in length has a WPA constructed steel bridge along its course some 30 feet long, and is located in the northeastern part of the County. The Hampton school is situated on this road.

The Altro road, consisting of two miles, in the southern part of county, has along its route the new room stone Altro school and Bush's Branch school. This road runs in the southern part of the county.

The Mount Carmel-Lee County Road, one mile long, connects with Lee County in the north western part of the county.

All of the schools not of stone are frame buildings constructed some time ago.

Following is a list of the New school buildings erected throughout Breathitt County; giving location in county and direction as to Jackson lying in the north western central part of county:

Size of school;	Material	Name	Part of County;	Direction from Jackson:
1 room	; stone	; Altro	; S.	; S.
1 "	; stone	; Lower Lick; N. W. W. Rock		; N. W.
1 "	; stone	; Curt	; W.	; S. W.
1 "	; stone	; Filmore	; S. W.	; S. W.
1 "	; stone	; Houston	; S. W.	; S. W.
1 "	; stone	; Press Howard	; C.E.	; C. E.
1 "	; stone	; Davis Fork; of Frozen Crk;N		; N.
1 "	; stone	; Stone Fork; N of Frozen Crk.		; N.
1 "	; stone	; Stray Branch;	G. S.	; S.
1 "	; stone	; Wolverine	; N. W.	; N. W. W.
1 "	; stone	; Athol	; N. W.	; N. W.
2 "	; stone	; Smiths Branch;	E, C,	; S.E.
2 "	; stone	; Ned. or Cockrell Fork	; S.	; S.S.E.
3 "	; stone	; Big Rock	; S.W.	; S.S.W.
3 "	; stone	; Vancleve	; N.W.	; N. W.
3 "	; stone	; Rousseau (2/3 complete)	; S. E.	; S. E.
4 "	; frame & stone basement	; Morris Fork	; S. W.	; S. W.

PROJECTS UNDER COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION

A two room stone building is under course of construction at River Caney (name of school), It is S. of county and S. of Jackson.

City Projects Under Course of Construction -----

County Jail, 2 stories, stone, approximately half completed.

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- (1) Data of all WPA Construction work graciously prepared at the office of Area Engineer, W. A. Toney, Jackson, Breathitt County, Kentucky.
- (2) Mrs. Marie R. Turner graciously contributed information on schools (County School Superintendent) located along the new Rural Highways.

WPA Projects completed within the City of Jackson

- (1) Municipal Building, 2 stories, stone with brick front, 3 cell and Court yard.
 Jackson High School Playground, 50 x 150 feet, retaining wall 150 feet long and 32 feet long and 22 feet high, cost \$10,000.00.
 City Play-ground at Lees College, 300 x 180 feet, concrete stadium seating capacity, 2,500.
 Play-ground Breathitt County High School, grading 5 acre athletic field and school yard, retaining wall 500 feet long, 4 feet high, and 2 feet thick, built of stone.
 Streets in the City of Jackson, 1 3/4 miles averaging 20 feet wide, and 500 feet of sidewalks 5 feet wide.

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Newspaper

Box 1 File 17

COHIST

BREATHITT COUNTY

MATERIAL RETURNED FOR CHECKING -----

From J. J. Dickie's Journal

The material returned for checking was copied from Rev. J. J. Dickie's Journal, preacher, founder of Lee's Collegiate Institute and editor of the Jackson Hustler, newspaper.

These journals of his were handwritten. Possibly during the early 1890's where the comparison is made with the "Hard Year" of 1876.

Mr. Dickoe had the persons interviewed to take oath to their narratives. I realize they are very disconnected. However, I sent in these questions hoping you might glean some of value from them.

Some of the families, whose early history I write, are the ones mentioned in Mr. Dickie's writings; of these I have endeavored to obtain information from records and from members of relatives.

I have written on margins and between lines, in pencil, in the Combs record. I got in touch with Mr. Edward Combs, from whom I obtained information on Combs' family already sent in, and from whom I received the address of his niece at Richmond (the one who sent material direct to you, upon your request).

Chm Early 13

One of the most outlandish warrants issued ^{during} the early history of the state ^{the first} is one purportedly issued in Breathitt County. Dated and otherwise lacking in documentary background

it is a priceless ~~and~~ curiosity even though it is dated * 9 + reads:

"I, Jackson Terry, Hi Official Magistrate, Squire and Justice of the Peace, do hereby issue the following rit against Henderson Harris, charging him assault and battery and the breach of the peace on his brother^v ~~law~~[#], Tom Fox by name: This warrant cuses him of kickin, bitin and scratchin and thron rocks and doin everything that was mean and contrary to the Law in the state of Jetts Creek and aforesed,

"This warnt otherwise the Hi Constable, Miles Terry, by name to go forthwith and forthcomin and rest the said Henderson Harris and bring him to be~~h~~ with accordin to the law of Jetts Creek and aforesed. This warn^t otherwise the Hi constable to take him where he finds him on the hillside as well as in the level, to take him where he aint as well as where he is and bring him to be delt with accordin to the laws of Jetts Creek and aforesed,

(Signed)
Jackson Terry,

"Hi Constable, Magistrit and Squire and Justis of the Peace of the State of Jetts Creek aforesed".

COHIST

Box 1
L1141

Courthouse

COHIST

B671
6/17

E. B. Noble

Justice of The Peace, Jackson Kentucky

Notice

On and after the first of January 1940 I will issue warrants for all
leud women lo^gffing in the court house and if you do not have business please
do not lo^gff in the hall way of the court house.

E. B. Noble

Justice of Peace

Ordered that Grandvill^e Polly, a pauper of this County be let out at
public out cry at the court house door in the town of Jackson on the third
Monday in November 1879--To the loudest bidder and that the sheriff will act
as comr. in said cause and county judge make allowance for same.

Filler Copy
For use at any time

There was further bloodshed during the celebrated feud trials growing out of Breathitt County's famous Marcum case in 1903, data gathered by research workers of the Federal Writers' Project for Kentucky, a branch of W. P. A., reveals.

Fearing reprisal and open breaks between rival factions when the trial was called in the county seat at Jackson, the State militia was ordered out and made its encampment near the courthouse with a patrol over the immediate area. All spectators and witnesses were searched for arms before being allowed to enter the courtroom. In fact, every precaution was taken to keep down bloodshed.

The research recently completed in that county brings to light how that blood was spilled. An alert sentry on duty around one side of the courthouse heard what he took to be footfalls approaching his post and shouted the customary "Halt." When his challenge was unanswered, he fired point blank at the spot where he thought a troublemaker was advancing. Next day it was found his fire had reached its mark and with deadly effect in the head of a roving cow.