

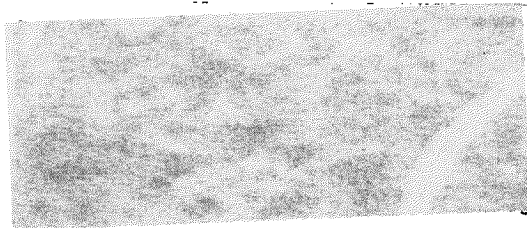


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HISTORY OF GALLATIN COUNTY
KENTUCKY

by
GYPSY M. GRAY
for

KENTUCKY HISTORICAL SOCIETIES



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COVINGTON, KENTUCKY

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by

Gypsy M. Gray

Dedicated
to the memory of
my mother and father
Susan Threlkeld Gray
and
Thos. Edward Gray, M. D.

INTRODUCTION

It is with a feeling of humility that I present this history to the Kentucky Historical Societies, for I realize that I have only touched the surface so far as the complete history of Gallatin County is concerned. There is still a wealth of information to be gleaned from various sources.

As one reads and learns more about the activities and experiences of the early settlers of Kentucky, one is filled with a sense of humbleness, awe, and admiration for the courage, determination, and steadfastness of purpose that imbued the hearts and souls of our ancestors. Our lives are enriched and ennobled by the examples of courageous living that they have handed down to us. Words cannot express, nor can we ever repay the debt of gratitude that we owe them.

I am deeply indebted to a number of people who have so generously given of their time and talent to help me secure and compile the information contained herein.

Dr. Charles G. Talbert of the University of Kentucky directed my research by giving me valuable sources of information and his constructive criticism of the assembling and compiling of historical data is highly appreciated.

Dr. & Mrs. Elmer C. Threlkeld, of Warsaw, Kentucky, have a valuable collection of historical writings which they have accumulated through the years from Northern Kentucky and Gallatin

County newspapers. They have given me free access to all the historical data in their possession, including books and manuscripts.

I have secured books and information from a number of libraries and invariably the librarians and their assistants have been very helpful and kind. Among those that I have visited are: The Archives at the University of Kentucky, the Louisville Public Library, the Filson Club at Louisville, the Courier Journal Library, the Public Library of Covington, and the Public Library of Cincinnati.

There are several named in the footnotes and bibliography who have given me much information about their ancestors and other early settlers. I must not fail to mention Mr. Walter Edmondson, the county clerk at Warsaw, who though often very busy, patiently endured my interruptions and helped me to find deeds and court records.

Without the assistance of the above mentioned persons this history would have been impossible and I am deeply grateful to each and everyone who has been cooperative and helpful.

I hope that this brief history may be an inspiration to some abler historian to take up the quest for further information and write a more complete history of Gallatin County.

(Miss) Gypsy M. Gray

Covington Art Club
Covington, Kentucky

Revised April 1958
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CHAPTER I

FORMATION OF GALLATIN COUNTY

In the year 1772, the state of Virginia formed Fincastle County and the territory now known as Kentucky was a part of Fincastle County until 1776. In December of that year, Fincastle County was divided into three counties, one of which was called Kentucky County.¹ This legislative act entitled Kentucky County to a separate county court, 2 representatives of their own choosing, justices of the peace, a sheriff, a coroner, and militia officers. Thus, for the first time Virginia made an effort to establish law and order in the county.²

On November 1, 1780, Kentucky County was divided into three counties: Jefferson, Lincoln, and Fayette. The territory which is now Gallatin County was a part of Fayette County. The name Kentucky then passed out of existence until 1782, when Virginia created the district of Kentucky which had the same boundaries as the present state. In 1788, Woodford County was formed from Fayette, and in 1792 when Kentucky became a state Gallatin was in Woodford County.

Other subdivisions of the counties were as follows: Shelby was formed in 1792 from Jefferson; Franklin was formed in 1794 from Woodford, Mercer and Shelby; in 1798 Gallatin was formed from parts of Shelby and Franklin.³ Gallatin was the 33rd county to be formed and it was much larger in area then than it is today. The original boundaries of the county are given in Collin's History of Kentucky as follows:

Beginning 6 miles above the mouth of Corn Creek; thence up the Ohio River to the mouth of Big Bone Creek; thence south with the Campbell County line 16 miles; thence to the Kentucky River at Rock Spring, near Clay Lick; thence down the river within 2½ miles of the mouth of Eagle Creek; thence a direct line till it strikes the road from Shelbyville to the mouth of the Kentucky River 2 miles north of Henry⁴ Dougherty's; thence a direct line to the beginning.

In order to make the original boundary of Gallatin County a little clearer to the present day reader, we might explain it as follows: It included all of the present Gallatin County; all of Carroll County; the greater part of Owen County, about as far south as Monterey; the part of Trimble County north of Corn Creek, and a part of Grant County which includes Elliston Station.

Gallatin County was named in honor of Albert Gallatin, who was born in Geneva, Switzerland, on January 29, 1761. He was educated at the University of Geneva and came to America at the age of 19. He purchased land in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, in 1785. At the time Gallatin County was formed, he was wellknown throughout the nation for his outstanding accomplishments.⁵ He was a merchant, farmer, financier, author and diplomat. He served 3 terms in Congress, and was appointed Secretary of the Treasury by Thomas Jefferson in 1801, and served in that capacity for several years. He, together with Henry Clay, John Q. Adams, James Boyard and Jonothan Russell, was sent to England for the purpose of negotiating a commercial treaty during the War of 1812. His nimble wit, humor, insight and patience helped his colleagues to maintain a sense of balance that ennabled them to exercise their abilities effectively. Thus, after a very trying and exasperating period of attempted negotiations, the Treaty of Ghent was signed in 1814.⁶

A portrait of this plump and gifted Swiss gentleman now hangs in the court house at Warsaw, Kentucky. It was presented to the county on August 16, 1950, during the Gallatin County Fair.⁷

Prior to the coming of the white man, the Mound Builders and later the Indians had lived for ages in Gallatin County, as attested by the many burial mounds and Indian villages found there. One of the most important sites, which consists of a cemetery and villages, is located on the Raymond Spencer farm near Glencoe. Others are as follows:

- 3 Mounds near Ten-Mile Church,
- 1 Mound on the former Louise Beall farm east of Warsaw,
- 1 Mound on the Montgomery farm one mile west of Warsaw,
- 1 Stone-grave cemetery on Charles Smith's farm one mile south of Warsaw,
- 1 Village site on Lee Hance's farm 6½ miles east of Warsaw,
- 1 Mound on the Thomas Craig farm 6 miles south of Warsaw
- 1 Mound on the Paul Gray farm, formerly the David Lillard farm.

In addition to the above, even today, farmers find an abundance of Indian artifacts, such as; arrowheads, scraping tools, tomahwaks, and large pieces of flint rock, when plowing their fields. According to legend the northwest part of the county above Napoleon was a rendezvous for the Indians. They made forays across the Ohio River into Gallatin as late as 1800 and after.⁹ When the early settlers heard the hooting of owls they became very cautious of their movements for that was an Indian method of communication.

Many are the Indian legends that are connected with the history of Gallatin County!

GEOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION OF GALLATIN COUNTY

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, he said, "Let the waters under heaven be gathered together unto one place and let the dry land appear."¹⁰ It musy have been at that time, that a great inland sea inundated the central area of the United States from the Gulf of Mexico to the Great Lakes. The land of Kentucky was greatly enriched by millions of years of inundation. The coal deposits in the eastern part of the state were formed. Our valuable limestone rock, and innumerable fossil remains are riches bestowed upon the land by the sea and the animal life therein.

Eventually an upheaval of the land occurred; it arose above sea level; the waters receded and the land was subjected to millions of years of erosion. The cliffs along the banks of the Kentucky River, in places, bear evidence of this prolonged period of erosion. Some of the rarest of fossils are found in these old exposures, and the Kentucky palisades produce many fine specimens of corals.¹¹ Students of geology from colleges throughout the world come to Kentucky to study our rock formation and fossil remains, because of the age of the exposure.

This period of erosion also created our majestic hills and beautiful river valleys, which have made Kentucky famous for its great senic beauty.

A great dome which extends from central Ohio, to Nashville, Tennessee, is known as the Cincinnati arch. Gallatin is located on the northwest flank of this arch. Stratigraphically the hard

rock of Gallatin County consists of Ordovician limestone and shale ranging upward from the Trenton through the Maysville and Richmond formations. Eden shale is exposed on many of the steep slopes.

The principal mineral resources of the county are sands and gravels which have been deposited there by stream action after long periods of glaciation. In some areas of the county there are deposits of a very fine grade of sand. Limestone is another mineral resource which is suitable for rural building construction.

Springs emanating from the middle Ordovician beds produce the wellknown sulphur, saline mineral waters. Many of these springs are found in the county.

A wide flood plain of marked fertility follows the Ohio River and much fertile land is also found on the ridges back of the river. There are 69,670 acres of land in the county and 85% of this land is used for agricultural purposes. Warsaw is situated in a valley 495 feet above sea level.

The county has an abundant supply of water. It is bounded on the northwest by the Ohio River for a distance of 21 miles; on the south by Eagle Creek for a distance of 12 miles, and on the northeast by Big Bone Creek. Sugar Creek crosses the county in a north and south direction and flows into the Ohio River 5 miles above Warsaw. Craig's creek flows into the Ohio River west of Warsaw and it is now an important recreation center, especially for motor boating. There are several others of minor importance: Steele Creek, Lick Creek, Ten-Mile Creek, Vera Cruz Creek, Little Sugar Creek, Dry Creek and Stephen's Branch.

POLITICAL DIVISION OF THE COUNTY

The making of Port William, a town located on the extreme northern boundary of Gallatin, the county seat seems to have been an unwise procedure. Doubtless, however, the state officials had good reasons that justified their action. The distance from the southernmost part of the county to Port William was too great for a citizen to be able to make the round trip in one day. The population of the county had increased to 3,307 by 1810, and had more than doubled that amount by 1819, so the situation could no longer be ignored.¹² Accordingly, in 1819, the state legislature formed a new county from Scott, Franklin, and the southern part of Gallatin, and named it Owen County in honor of Colonel Abraham Owen, distinguished for his service in the U. S. Army and his political record as state senator.¹³

Despite the loss of this section the population of Gallatin County was 7,075 in 1820,¹⁴ the greatest peak that it ever attained.

Gallatin was then a long, narrow strip of territory extending along the Ohio River and the southwestern part was still too far from the county seat, so in 1836, the County of Trimble was formed from Henry, Oldham, and the extreme western end of Gallatin County. Again, in 1838, the long, narrow strip along the river was cut in two and the western half was named Carroll County in honor of Charles Carroll, of Maryland, who was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.¹⁵ The name of Port William was changed to Carrollton and it became the county seat of Carroll County. The eastern half retained the name of Gallatin and Warsaw was designated the county seat.

The last term of the county court in Gallatin was held at Port William on December 11, 1837, and the first county court was held at Warsaw on January 1, 1838. David Gibson was the Presiding Justice and his Associate Justices were Reverend Benjamin Tiller, Robert Sanders, Richard C. Lindsay, and William Scruggs.¹⁶ William Winslow, who had been the County Clerk at Port William for several years, had planned to move to Warsaw to take over his duties there, but he died before he could make the change.¹⁷ Consequently James T. Robinson resigned as Justice of the Peace and was appointed County Clerk.

A brick court house was constructed in a public square in the center of the town in 1838, with the front of the building facing the river. The greater part of the town at that time was built under the hill near the river.

In 1868, an addition was built to the front of the court house. This addition was surmounted by a graceful, dome-topped cupola which contained a sweet-toned bell. When the court house was remodeled in the summer of 1938, the front of the building was transferred to what was formerly the rear and the court house now faces US 42. This necessitated a removal of the bell tower, a change in the stairways, and the erection of 4 white pillars to beautify the new front.¹⁸

Gallatin County at the time of its formation had been one of the largest counties in the state, but after the formation of 3 new counties from part of its territory, it is now the smallest county in the state. According to the Rand-McNally Atlas, Robertson County has 101 square miles and Gallatin County 100 square miles.

This was not to be the last loss of territory for Gallatin County. In 1874, the town of Liberty (now Sanders,) plus a few surrounding acres and more than 150 voters, was legally separated from Gallatin County and awarded to Carroll County. The reason for this action came about through the refusal of the then County Judge, Henry J. Abbott, to have Gallatin County enter into a contract with Carroll County for the building of a bridge across Eagle Creek to Sanders. The outcome of this was that Carroll County agreed to build the bridge without the help of Gallatin County provided that, that part of Gallatin become a part of Carroll County.¹⁹

Even though Gallatin County lost all the territory mentioned above, the population in 1840 was 4,003.²⁰ Since that date the fluctuation in population has been slight. In 1870, the population reached a peak of 5,074, but there has been a gradual decline in population since.

In 1940, the population was 4,437, and in 1950 it was 3,969. Just a little short in 1950 of what it was in 1840. The birth rate is not lessening, but this static population is due to the fact that the boys and girls of the younger generations, upon reaching maturity, seek employment in nearby cities.

EARLY INDUSTRY AND TRADE

The primary occupation of the early settlers was hunting, especially during the winter months. They killed buffalo, deer, wild turkeys and other small game for food. They trapped for minks, raccoons, skunks, weasels, and other animals whose fur was valuable. James B. Ireland, who settled at the head waters of Sugar Creek in 1823, gives an interesting account of how wild turkeys were called. A hollow bone of a turkey wing was blown in such a fashion as to imitate the call of a turkey hen. Other hunters placed a leaf between the palms of their hands and by adroit manipulation and blowing they, too, could imitate the call of a turkey hen. The gobblers that came in answer to the hen's call exposed themselves to the unmerciful, wily hunter.

Sugar Creek was so named because of the many sugar maples that grew along its banks. Thus the making of sugar and molasses became one of the first industries. The clear, cool nights and warm, sunny days of February and March were the best days for collecting and boiling the sap. Forty gallons of sap make only one gallon of sugar.

Logrolling was another occupation that kept the farmers busy in the spring. They took turns helping each other with the cutting of logs for the building of houses and barns.²¹ A log house could be built in two days. The logs were hewn after the cabin was erected.²² One neighbor did not dare refuse to help another, if he did, none would help him when he needed it.

Hoop poles were made from the second growth of hickory trees

and were used by coopers in the making of barrels and hogsheads. Cincinnati and Louisville offered a ready market for them and often on Monday mornings as many as 20 wagons could be seen starting on their journey from various places in Owen and other surrounding counties to the wharf at Warsaw.

The women spun and wove cloth made from hemp and wool. The first loom used in the county was made by Jacob White and was used at the home of William Crisenberry.

Soap was made from lye and the fat of the black bear, also from pork lard.

Gourds were used for the storing of lard, sugar, salt, and soap. The smaller gourds were reserved for use as cups and dippers.

Gallatin was a self-supporting county from the time of its formation and this was due to the fact that they shipped to New Orleans so many farm commodities. In 1804, several settlers secured a number of flatboats, popularly known as Kentucky boats, and proceeded from Gallatin County in a flotilla. The cargo consisted of gensing, yellow-root, snake-root, furs, hides, sugar (maple), salted pork, soft soap, whip-poles, barrels, kegs and hemp. The captain's name was McLean and the destination was New Orleans. The round trip was made in three months.

The earliest shipment of tobacco from the county dates back to 1807. It, too, was shipped by flatboat to New Orleans in hogsheads that weighed 800 pounds each. This shipment was sold to Wilkinson & Company for \$7.00 per 100 pounds.²³

The flatboats were sold in New Orleans and often the money was invested in horses, or in household supplies. The crew would

return via the Natchez trail to Florence, then across the Tennessee River to Nashville and over the L. & N. boat road north to Lexington and home. They dared not travel alone for the land pirates had "fat pickings" by robbing the Kentuckians who were returning from New Orleans. However, the vigorous exercise of plying the oars and the outdoor life made the men hardy, muscular, and strong. They often welcomed a good fight and one of their favorite refrains was

Hail Columbia, Happy Land,

If I ain't ruined, I'll be damned.

Tobacco was for many years one of the main commodities sent to New Orleans, though hemp, pork, lead, corn, and flour also assumed extensive proportions. During the first 6 months of 1802, January to July, 272,222 pounds of ham and bacon, 85,570 pounds of flour, and 503,618 pounds of loose tobacco were shipped to the South by Kentuckians.²⁴ For the years 1801-1802, the foreign exports amounted to \$626,673.²⁵ Francois Michaux states that more than two-thirds of the commerce at New Orleans, at that time, originated in Kentucky.

CHAPTER II

DANIEL BOONE IN GALLATIN COUNTY

In the early 1770's Daniel Boone ranged the woods as far north as the Ohio River and as far west as the Falls of the Ohio (Louisville). He became thoroughly acquainted with the Kentucky and Licking River valleys.¹ It is a tradition that he and some of his companions were wont to gather at "The Point" at the mouth of the Kentucky. This location has always been famous for its gorgeous sunsets.

Even as late as 1926, an old spring was preserved and cherished on the Haines farm near White's Run because Daniel Boone liked the waters of the spring and frequently drank there.²

In June 1774 Governor Dunmore sent surveyors to Kentucky. They landed at the rapids on the Ohio and travelled up the country on both sides of the Kentucky River as high as Elkhorn on the north and as far as Dick's River on the south. In an effort to find the surveyors and warn them of Indian attacks, Governor Dunmore ordered Daniel Boone and Michael Stoner to search for them along the Kentucky and as far south as the Falls of the Ohio.³ One authority states that Daniel Boone was to take the Kentucky and meander to its mouth.⁴ They covered 800 miles in 62 days.⁵

There were open hostilities with the Shawnees and other northward Indians in 1774, and when Daniel Boone returned from the above trip Governor Dunmore placed him in command of three garrisons for the purpose of conducting a campaign against the Indians. After a battle at Point Pleasant, October 10, 1774, under the command of General Andrew Lewis, the campaign of that year terminated in peace and the militia was discharged.⁶

Later, because of these attacks on settlements in Kentucky, Boone was appointed to act as quartermaster and he delivered ammunition to the white settlers along the Ohio as late as March 4, 1792.⁷

In 1780, when Fayette County was formed, John Todd was appointed Colonel of the county militia and Daniel Boone, Lieutenant-Colonel.⁸ Boone also served as sheriff of the county.⁹ The present Gallatin County area was then in Fayette.

On one of his hunting and exploring expeditions he blazed a trail across Gallatin County. This trail entered the county at Myer's Cut where the L. & N. Railroad now enters Gallatin from Boone County. From there he continued the trail to the village now known as Napoleon, whence he followed the ridges to the hill overlooking Eagle Creek in the vicinity of Glencoe. The present Ky 16 follows about the same course. After reaching the hill above Glencoe, he turned northwest about 2 miles to the present location of the Oakland Baptist Church, thence westward about 3 miles and crossed what is known as Lost Branch. (This branch was so-called because a small boy who had been sent to bring in the cows one day, never came home. The supposition was that he was captured by the Indians.) About one-half mile west, Boone crossed the Warsaw-Sparta road, now Ky. 35.

The location of this crossing can be determined today by the fact that a house of Gothic style architecture, built by B. F. Turley, an early settler, is still standing by the roadway. The house formerly belonged to Everett Johnson, but was sold in 1965 to Richard M. Donaldson of Cleveland. (The new highway, interstate 71 will have an interchange close to this location, hence property values are soaring.)

From this site Boone continued westward, descending the Hixon Hill to the headwaters of Lick Creek and crossed Threlkeld Branch. He then followed Lick Creek to the site of the Bramlette Baptist Church where Carson now stands. Thence he continued to Shufly, crossed McCool's Creek, then southwest to White's Run and on towards the present site of Worthville, where there was a ford across the Kentucky River south of the mouth of Eagle Creek. The present Louisville & Nashville Railroad bridge crosses the Kentucky River at this point.

The Indians, in order to direct the members of their tribes to this ford, had placed stones of considerable size from White's Run to the Kentucky River.

This trail continued in the direction of Drennon's Lick and eventually connected with the trail which Boone blazed across Shelby County.¹⁰

Parts of the old Boone Trail, now Ky. 465, are still in existence. Some of it has had very little improvement, but it is used by the people and it still bears the name "Boone Road" in honor of the beloved pioneer.

An old aboriginal buffalo trail crossed the Ohio River near the mouth of Big Bone Creek in the vicinity of Big Bone Springs. At the springs it was wide enough to accomodate two wagons when driven abreast. The Indian name for the path was Alanant-o-Wamowee. It extended across Gallatin County in a southwestwardly direction to the Kentucky River which it crossed just south of Worthville and ended on the western side of the river at Drennon's Lick. It is located on the lower waters of Drennon's Creek, a stream flowing

from the west into the Kentucky River, or Holston's River, as it was then called, just south of Eagle Creek.¹¹

It is the opinion of the writer that Daniel Boone's trail followed, to a great extent, the same course as the old buffalo trail; that he merely improved the condition of the buffalo trail and deviated from the course only when he considered it necessary.

Another fact that may be of interest to the reader is that General George Rogers Clark travelled this route across Gallatin County to Big Bone and thence to the mouth of the Licking River, in 1782, when he was planning an expedition against the Indians in Ohio. He crossed the Ohio and continued up the Little Miami River.¹²

It is also a possibility that Jacob Drennon followed this route when he left the McAfee expedition at the mouth of the Licking and bribed a Delaware Indian to guide him over land to the springs that now carry his name. The McAfee party arrived at Drennon's Lick by river. The waters of the Kentucky were so low that one of the McAfee brothers wrote; "The river here runs between two rock ledges and is only 6 feet wide."¹³ This could have been a tributary.

Other Roads

In 1805, Robert Johnson surveyed a road leading from the Dean Richard's farm on the edge of Warsaw to the present location of the Oakland Baptist Church. This road connected with the Boone trail. It is still in existence and is now called Johnson Road in honor of its surveyor.¹⁴ The road is also known as KY 455.

Because of the fact that Ghent and Warsaw were the leading shipping ports for the territory as far south as Georgetown, the State of Kentucky surveyed and constructed a road from Georgetown

through Sparta to Ghent, and also to Warsaw in 1819.¹⁵ This road became a state road in 1836.¹⁶ That is, the state took over the responsibility for keeping it in repair. The section of road from Sparta to Warsaw was a narrow, crooked road and very hazardous, therefore in 1956 this old road was straightened and reconstructed by the State Highway Department. It is now known as KY 35.

State Highway 16, which arises in Covington, enters the county just south of Verona and continues through Napoleon and Glencoe into Owen County where it connects with US 227.

Another important and well-known road that traverses Gallatin County is US 42. It was completed as far south as Warsaw in 1930 and later to Carrollton and Louisville. It replaced an old road that was known as Carver's Trail. The road had been named in honor of C. B. Carver, of Sparta, who was a popular member of the General Assembly in Kentucky in 1926 and 1928.¹⁷

Interstate Expressway US 71 connects with interstate expressway US 75 near Walton and is almost parallel with highway KY 16 near Napoleon. Construction was started in Gallatin County in the spring of 1966 and it should be completed to Louisville in 1967.

Numerous other short roads, in excellent condition, traverse the county; such as, State Highways 239, 465, 562, and 1130.

TRANSPORTATION

The territory known as Kentucky was practically a howling wilderness when the white men came and travel by land was extremely difficult.

Those who came over the mountains travelled by pack-horse, or pack-train. A van guard of woodsmen armed with rifles led the column, and next in line were the women who rode on pillion saddles, or astride, while the children swung in wicker baskets strapped to the horses' backs. Behind the women and children were the livestock, and then a guard of armed men who brought up the rear. Two-wheeled oxcarts were sometimes used. The wheels were made of solid wood sawed off the end of a great log 4 feet in diameter.

Even after wagons and carriages had been in use for several years, people had to ride horseback over the dirt roads for they became hopeless quagmires during the wet season. Sleds, too, were used by the farmers for many years to haul fodder, grain, and other produce to the barns.¹⁸

In the early days the majority of roads were built by private enterprize and toll was charged for their use. A few old toll houses are still standing near the roadsides today. Maintenance of toll roads was poor and the people complained bitterly about conditions, but the constitution of 1890 had prohibited the state from spending money on the roads, and it was not until 1912 that a state highway commission was created. In 1914, the state legislature authorized a system of roads connecting the county seats.¹⁹

The rivers were the natural avenues of travel when the forests were almost impenetrable. The pageantry of river traffic in all its mutations passed by the homes of the early settlers in Gallatin county: The canoe of the Indians, trappers, and explorers; the flatboat, or Kentucky "Broadhorn," carrier of cargo and settlers down the river for 50 years; the keelboat that could go upstream as well as down; after 1811 the steamboat which became more magnificent with each new decade.

There were floating stores, stocked with groceries, drygoods, and endless bric-a-brac, tying up at the cobblestone levees to be met by a bevy of excited women. By the river bank was a wharfboat which served as a wharf, freight house, exchange, and gathering place for lusty roustabouts. When the showboat came, life along the river reached its height.

Before the railroads took over the commerce of the rivers, the towns of Warsaw, Ghent, and Carrollton each had landing places, warehouses, creaking drays and odorous drinking taverns. All the river towns received their foodstuffs, clothing, furniture, and raw materials from the boats and by them shipped out their farm and garden produce, livestock, lumber, and whatever products they manufactured. They became so identified with the river that they took on some of the color and lightheartedness characteristic of the rough men who manned the boats and roused the freight.²⁰

On November 16, 1793, the first line of Ohio Packet Boats was established at Cincinnati to make monthly trips to Pittsburg and return. These boats were magnified keel boats of 20-30 tons burden. By 1804, these boats were plying in countless numbers between Cincinnati and

New Orleans. Samuel Henderson wrote in 1800, "The quantity of boats laden with various products of the state would be incredible to relate--now they are passing 10-12 every day."

The "New Orleans" was the third steamboat on the continent, but the first to descend the Ohio River from Pittsburg on her way to New Orleans. Captain Nicholas J. Roosevelt, a friend of Robert Fulton, built it at a cost of \$30,000. On its first trip, he, his wife, and children were passengers. In addition, there were a few deck hands and colored servants.²¹ They embarked from Pittsburg on December 4, 1811, and took on freight and passengers on this first trip. It passed by Warsaw on a cold December evening and the Engineer John Baker blew a blast that brought out all the people of the town. Great was their awe and admiration when they saw the fire and smoke pouring out of the smokestack, but they were fearful and superstitious, too. That was the year of the fiery comet and the earthquake in Nelson County which created Reelfoot Lake and some of the people, who saw the flame and smoke of the steamboat, conceived the idea that God was showing his displeasure and taking vengeance upon mankind for usurping His powers, or trespassing upon His laws when they invented the steamboat.²²

An unusual number of strange phenomena did happen in the 1800's. On the 7th day of August, 1869, the steamboats and railroads carried visitors to Warsaw, Falmouth, Lexington, and other favorable points of obscuration to observe the total eclipse of the sun. The eclipse began at 4:25 p.m. and ended at 6:21 p.m. Shortly after 5 p.m. the temperature fell to 72°. The birds went to roost and the domestic fowls to their perches.²³ It was truly an awesome experience.

In 1826, another steamboat, the "Crusader," was built and launched at Fredericksburg for trade on the Ohio. James P. Landram, the father of Col. John J. Landram, of Warsaw, was one of the principal builders of this craft.²⁴ He is the same James P. Landram mentioned in the history of Napoleon.

Today the steamboats and barges still cruise up and down the Ohio, but they ignore, almost entirely, the sleepy little towns along the banks.

The Short Line Railroad

In 1867, the Louisville, Cincinnati, and Lexington Railroad Company started buying land from the settlers for the construction of a railroad through Gallatin County. Many of these old deeds are recorded in the County Clerk's office at Warsaw.²⁵

The L. C. & L. was a consolidation of the Louisville & Frankfort and the Louisville and Lexington Companies.²⁶ One authority states that the L. C. & L. completed a through route from Newport to Lagrange on July 1, 1869, though it is a matter of record that for a short while it used the facilities of the Kentucky Central Railroad in Covington.²⁷ However, because of a desire to enter Cincinnati it laid the tracks from Milldale, (Latonia) to Newport. The railroad was known as the Short Line because it extended only as far as Lagrange. In 1872, the L. & N. built a line from Louisville to connect with the Short Line and named it the Louisville Railway Transfer Company.²⁸

In 1873, the L. C. & L. defaulted and went into the hands of a receiver in 1874. A syndicate of Louisville and Lexington men bought the company in 1877 for \$731,500. This syndicate sold the road to the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company on July 8, 1881.²⁹

That was a happy day for the citizens of Gallatin County for the "Old Timers" report that the service was greatly improved after the L. & N. purchased the road.

Berry Devise was one of the first engineers of the Short Line.³⁰

Though the railroad runs through Glencoe and Sparta in the extreme Southern portion of the county, it had been the purpose of the L. C. & L. to build the road through Warsaw, for they bought land and built a station house in Warsaw. The old brick building still stands on Main Street and is owned by Mrs. Agnes Orr Van Dyke. Failure to obtain the right-of-way caused the company to change its plans. Thus Warsaw lost a wonderful opportunity to remain the leading commercial shipping center of the county.

The Landing Field

In the spring of 1932, the U. S. Department of Commerce under the supervision of Charles N. Wilson, assistant airways engineer, constructed a 100-acre airway landing field one-half mile west of Warsaw. The Southeast Construction Company, owned by Joe Smith, L. D. Richards, and H. G. Beall, was awarded the contract for leveling and putting the field in condition.

Two runways of 3,000 feet each were provided for the planes. Rotating 23-inch beacon lights, of 1,000,000 candle power, were erected on steel towers on a steep hill just south of Warsaw.

The U. S. Government also erected a modern airways weather reporting station with teletype service. Weather conditions were reported every hour on a 24-hour basis.

This was an emergency landing field between Cincinnati and Louisville and was erected at a cost of \$15,000. The field was

abandoned a few years ago, but one beacon light was operated through the year 1956, on the hill south of Warsaw.³¹

The Markland Locks and Dam

Preliminary planning for the building of the Markland Locks and Dam, which have been constructed 3.5 miles below Warsaw, began in April 1949. The age and poor condition of the existing Ohio River Locks and Dams made it necessary to plan for their eventual replacement. Thus it was on March 11, 1953, that the Secretary of the Army approved the replacement plan for the Ohio River Locks and Dams Nos. 35, 36, 37, 38 by the Markland Locks and Dam. The dam is located 531.5 miles below Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and 26.5 miles upstream from Madison, Indiana.³²

Actual construction of the \$71,000,000 project began in April 1956; it was completed and dedicated in 1963. The navigation locks are constructed on the south, or Kentucky, side of the river. The dam is a non-navigable gate crested type of structure. It has twelve Tainter Gates 42 feet high and 100 feet wide, separated by 15-foot wide piers. Tainter gates are named for the man who invented them in the late 1800's, and Markland Dam has the largest Tainter Gates of any navigational dam in the world.³³

The river level has been raised 29 feet above the existing pool at Dam 39, and 13.9 feet at Cincinnati, or at Dam 37. The upper pool maintained above the dam extends upstream for a distance of 95.5 miles, or to the New Richmond Locks and Dam.

The dam piers are designed to accommodate a highway bridge to be built later by the states of Indiana and Kentucky.

CHAPTER III ✓

PORT WILLIAM

There were perhaps several explorers, who when rowing down the Ohio River on rafts, or in canoes, gazed upon, or trod the shores at the confluence of the Ohio and the Kentucky Rivers, but they left no positive record of their visitation. James McBride, who in company with some others in the year 1754, came down the Ohio in canoes, landed at the mouth of the Kentucky River and there marked a tree with his initials and the date, which were still in evidence in 1782-83.¹ In March 1751, Christopher Gist and his company came down as far as the mouth of the Kentucky, and then went up its banks to the head waters.²

General George Rogers Clark, in 1780, marched from Port Nelson (now Louisville) and engaged the Indians in a battle on the Indiana side of the river, opposite the mouth of Locust Creek which is now Carroll County. Nine of his men were killed in this battle, and 34 were wounded.³ He continued up the Ohio River to the mouth of the Kentucky and buried his dead on the site of Port William. He then took his wounded to the mouth of the Licking River and left them in a cabin which he erected on the present site of Cincinnati. Samuel Cox, who later settled in Gallatin County, was one of his men.⁴

So far as we know the first white man to attempt a settlement within the original bounds of Gallatin County, then Fayette County, Virginia, was named Elliott. He built a log house near the mouth of the Kentucky River, on the point where Carrollton is now located. A band of marauding Indians surrounded the house in 1785, and made

a furious assault upon it. The house was burned by the savages and Mr. Elliott was killed, but fortunately the other members of the family escaped.

Two years later, in 1786, or 1787, Captain Ellison built a block house on the point of the merging of the two rivers, but his settlement was unsuccessful. The Indians attacked and drove him and his family away for two successive summers.

It was in 1791, that General Charles Scott of Revolutionary War fame, later the 4th Governor of Kentucky, built a larger block house on the Point. It was in an elevated position and was fortified by a stockade.⁵ This was the first permanent settlement and it was continuously occupied until 1792, when the town of Port William, now Carrollton, was laid out with streets and building lots in accordance with a plat that was made by Benjamin Craig. The town was incorporated by an act of the General Assembly on the 13th day to December 1794, under the name of Port William. Carle Johnson, Thomas Montague, and Jeremiah Craig, Gentlemen, were named as trustees.⁶ Port William was the first settlement on the Ohio established by Kentucky, but Louisville had been established by Virginia in 1780.⁷

Port William, at this time, was a radiating point for all trappers and traders who canvassed the surrounding territory,⁸ It was then in Franklin County.

The success of the settlement of General Scott encouraged other settlers to come to this section. Among them were Percival Butler and William Winslow.

General Percival Butler, son of Thomas Butler, an emigrant from Kilhenny, Ireland, was born in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, on April 4, 1760. At the age of 18, he joined the Revolutionary Army as a lieutenant and was with Washington at Valley Forge. He was in the battle of Monmouth; in the taking of Yorktown, and for a short time he was attached to a light corps under LaFayette, who presented him with a sword. He immigrated to Kentucky in 1784, and married Miss Hopkins, sister-in-law of Col. John Todd. He was made adjutant-general of Kentucky when she became a state. He immigrated from Jessamine County, where he had been a merchant, to Port William in 1796, when the surrounding territory was yet a cane-brake. He was the last of the old stock left, but when the War of 1812 began he did his full part therein. After the War of 1812, he served for many years as Clerk of Gallatin County. He died in 1821 at the age of 61.⁹

William Winslow, another early settler of note, immigrated to Port William from Fredericksburg, Virginia, where he had known George Washington. It was at a reception given in honor of George Washington that Mr. Winslow met the young lady who later became his bride and came to Kentucky with him.¹⁰ He was the great grandfather of the late Judge John J. Howe, who was commonwealth's attorney for the 15th Judicial District for several years, and of Miss Jenn Howe who resided at Carrollton.

Prior to the coming of the two mentioned above, Richard Masterson and his wife Sarah immigrated to the vicinity of Port William from Masterson's Station near Lexington, in 1790. They settled about two miles east of the mouth of the Kentucky River on

what is now US 42. He was the grandfather (5 generations back) of Miss Ruth Adkinson, a teacher in the Carrollton schools.¹¹

Benjamin Craig came to Kentucky with his brother, the Reverend Lewis Craig in 1781.¹² I do not know the exact date of his migration from Gilbert's Creek, where he first settled, but he is listed as a taxpayer in Woodford County, later Gallatin, in 1790.¹³ He is said to have built the first brick house erected in Port William in 1792. The old house stood on the same site as "Rebel Landing" the present home of the Stanley Grobmeyers.¹⁴

Elijah Craig, Jr., was also listed as a taxpayer in Woodford County in 1790.¹⁵ He, I think, was the son of Reverend Elijah Craig of Georgetown, Kentucky. He married Anne McAfee, a descendant of one of the McAfee Brothers, early explorers of Kentucky. He served in the War of 1812 and was killed at the Battle of the Thames in October 1813.¹⁶

Other early settlers of note were: George Lee, William Thomas, John Grimes, Hugh Gatewood, Martin Hawkins, John Fisher, Henry Stafford, Presley Gray, John D. Gray, John Tandy, Robert Sale, William Farley, Richard Whitehead, John Hardin, Victor Buchanan, Simon Adams, Brooks Bennett, John Gaines, John Van Pelt and the Picketts.¹⁷

Boats began to call at Port William as early as 1795. In that year Elijah Craig, Jr., advertised in the Cincinnati Centinel of the Northwest Territory that he would be at the mouth of the Kentucky River on the first of February with a sufficient number of boats to transport all goods, which the people might think proper to entrust to him, up the Kentucky River. Carriage of goods to

Frankfort was 50¢ per 100 pounds; to Dick's River \$1.25 per 100 pounds.¹⁸

The Kentucky River at this time was 160 yards wide at Port William and was navigable for flatboats and small craft for 150 miles. And later, when steamboats were invented, as far as Frankfort if the water stage was high.¹⁹

The following advertisement was inserted in the "Palladium", a newspaper published at Frankfort, Kentucky, in 1798.

The Boating Buinefs

The subforiber having furnifhed himfelf with feveral good BOATS, and engaged a number of experienced HANDS, refpectfully offers his Services to Merchants, Traders, and others, who may have Goods &c to fend to any place on the Western Waters.

Thofe who may think proper to employ him may reft affured that the greateft care will be taken of the Articles confided to him, and the ftricteft punctuality obferved in the delivery.

John S. Travis

Port William (Mouth of the Kentucky)
September 3, 1798

* Warehoufe-Room for depofiting Goods can be had as above.²⁰

The incoming goods and freight was brought down the Ohio River in keel boats from Pittsburgh and was transported up the Kentucky River to central Kentucky by Elijah Craig, or John S. Travis.

The first ferryboat service across the Kentucky River at Preston Station was maintained by the state, under an enactment of the legislature in 1795. The same enactment also provided for a ferry from Preston Station across the Ohio River to Indiana.²¹

According to records in the County Clerk's office at Warsaw, John Smith was operating a ferryboat across the Kentucky River in 1799. Benjamin Craig was operating a ferryboat across the Ohio River in 1799.

Henry Stafford was given permission by the Gallatin County court to establish a ferryboat service across the Kentucky River on Tuesday, April 8, 1800. He was to maintain a sufficient number of hands to accommodate the people and the ferrage was to be X^o.²²

Preston Station was named after Colonel William Preston who owned the land upon which the town was built. Colonel Preston was a surveyor for Fincastle County, Virginia, (now Kentucky). Surveys were made in 1773-1774, but no settlements were negotiated until after Dunmore's War.²³ Business flourished in Preston Station in those early days; the pioneers from central Kentucky came there over a road that was built about 1797 through Henry County near what is now the town of Newcastle. The keelboats from Pittsburg left goods at Elijah Craig's warehouse to be transported up the Kentucky, and Henry Wise owned and operated a store which sold general merchandise. The town was established by the state of Kentucky on December 21, 1795.²⁴ The town had a population of only 100 in 1840. It is now called Prestonville.

Port William was in Franklin County from 1794 until 1798. The population of Franklin County was about 1,300 in 1798²⁵ and this meant an increase in business and commerce, hence the state authorities deemed it wise to form a new county in 1798. That County was Gallatin and it was then that Port William became the county seat of Gallatin. The first county court was held at the home of Richard Masterson in Port William on May 14, 1799. The following received their commissions as magistrates during this first session: Hugh Gatewood, John Grimes, Martin Hawkins, Gersham Lee, William Thomas, and Benjamin Craig. General Percival Butler was elected county

clerk; Bond Van Pelt became the first sheriff and John Grimes was the first County Judge.²⁶ William Winslow succeeded Percival Butler as clerk in 1803, or in 1805, and served until his death in 1838.²⁷

The first court house was erected in 1800. It was constructed of logs and was located on "The Point" on Water Street, near the old block house, and between what is now First & Second Streets. In 1810, a new brick court house was erected on land donated by Benjamin Craig.²⁸ This is the site of the present court house in Carrollton.

The first tavern was built on Water Street in 1805, near the same location that Gen. Charles Scott had chosen for his block-house, and for that reason it was called "The Point House". It is said that General George R. Clark was a frequent visitor at the tavern when traveling from the mouth of the Licking River to Fort Nelson (now Louisville).²⁹

Every town in those days had to have a public well, or cistern, as a source of water supply for the horses and people who came to town on Saturdays and County Court days. In order to fulfil this need, an act of the legislature to sink a well on public grounds in the town of Port William was approved on January 16, 1813. The well was to be built in the public square and a bucket and chain, or pump, was to be affixed to the top of the well, whichever they might think proper. The county was given the privilege to levy a sum not to exceed \$200 for this purpose.³⁰ The remains of the old well which stood behind the tavern were still visible in 1877.

The first marriage of record performed in the county was that of Nicholas Lantz to Mary Pickett on July 18, 1799. Reverend Henry Ogburn officiated.

The first deed recorded in the county was dated March 2, 1798. It was given by Martin Hawkins and wife to John Foster and conveyed Lot #39 in Port William to the grantee. Selling price was \$16.66.³¹

William Samuels was elected as the first representative to the state legislature in 1801.

On January 13, 1813, an act to establish an academy in the County of Gallatin was approved by the legislature. The trustees were Carter Tarent, William Winslow, John Barnes, Garland Bullock, and Robert Plummer. They constituted a body politic and incorporated to be known as "Trustees of Gallatin Academy." They were to meet on the following May 13, for the purpose of selecting a site for the academy and to begin construction of a building. They were given the power to select all books and equipment necessary for the use of the academy.³² They also, received a grant of land from the state for 3,500 acres in Christian County for the support and establishment of the school. This educational institution was erected in Port William in 1814, on land donated by Benjamin Craig.³³ It is now the present site of the Carrollton High School.

Two jails in Port William were operated as private property. One was owned by Elijah Craig and it was located on the site of the residence of William B. Winslow. This jail was set on fire by a negro inmate and burned down. The negro was almost consumed by the flames. The other jail was owned by Martin Hawkins and it was located on the lower bottom fronting the Ohio River, near the tavern and the old court house. Both have long since been washed into the Ohio River.

An old law was in existence at that time whereby a plaintiff could place a debtor in "The Bounds" if he was unable or unwilling to pay a debt. It was a kind of parole of honor and also, an outdoor prison. If the debtor went outside the boundary named in the bond, the bond was adjudged forfeited and the security became liable. It was a frequent occurrence to place men in outdoor prisons and the bond in such cases was rarely ever violated.³⁴ In some places the "bounds" extended to the limits of the town. This law of imprisonment for debt was abolished by the state on December 17, 1821.³⁵

John Melish made the following entry in a diary of his travels through the United States on September 16, 1811:

Stopped at Port William overnight. About 15 families live there. Since the people are subject to fever and ague in the fall, Port William is not likely to increase very fast. We were informed here that some of the country people still retain their vicious propensity for fighting, biting and gouging, and that they had lately introduced stabbing, a practice they had learned at New Orleans. However, we were told that severe laws had been passed and that the officers were enforcing them rigidly.³⁶ Thus, the state of society was improving rather rapidly.

The above quotation confirms the report that I have had that there were feuds between many of the families that lived in and around Port William in those early days. Fights were common in the town and oftentimes people came in from the country for many miles to see these fights.³⁷

Melish makes another statement of interest: "The comet was uncommonly visible." Other natural phenomena of interest that occurred prior to the comet of 1811 might be mentioned here. One was an extraordinary shower of rain of reddish hue, which many believed to be blood. It fell on September 10, 1803. The other, a

total eclipse of the sun on June 16, 1806, when the country was in total darkness for one hour.³⁸

The following excerpt was found in The Western Gazeteer published in 1817:

Port William, the chief town of Gallatin County stands on the right shore of the Kentucky River, just above its embouchure. It contains about 50 houses, many of which are brick. Though it is pleasantly situated and³⁹ is the outlet of a fine country, it has not flourished.

Note that Melish says in 1811, that there were about 15 families in Port William, while the quotation from the Western Gazeteer says that there were about 50 houses in 1817. Actually the population of Port William was 120 in 1810, 323 in 1830 and 600 in 1840.⁴⁰

Mosquitoes were prevalent in the river towns: malarial fever was a common disease which caused many deaths, and people fled to the hills to live in an effort to escape the, then, dread disease.

However, members of the older generation felt that there was another reason, too. It is said that a deadly feud existed between Martin Hawkins and Elijah Craig, two very prominent citizens of the town. They believed that the prosperity of the town was retarded by the interminable law-suits between Craig and Hawkins over the ownership of property in the town. Hundreds became discouraged, or were deterred from settlement in the town. Had this not been true they thought Port William might have been the "Queen City" of the West.

The great religious revival that swept Kentucky from 1800 to 1803, began among the Baptists in a union meeting with the Methodists at Port William in the spring of 1800. The Port William Baptist Church was founded shortly after this meeting.⁴¹ It is now the Ghent Baptist Church and is written-up under the history of Ghent.

The Methodist Church was founded under the auspices, or sponsorship of Richard Masterson and Henry Ogburn. Mr. Masterson had entertained Bishop Asbury, 10 lay preachers, and 6 circuit riders in the first Methodist conference held west of the Alleghanies in 1787, when he lived at Masterson's Station. Rev. Henry Ogburn was the first resident Methodist preacher in Port William and he came to Kentucky from the Virginia conference in 1795. The first Methodist services were held in the home of Mr. Masterson. (The old residence is still standing on US 42.)

The meetings were held, thereafter, at the homes of Reverend Ogburn, or Mr. Masterson until 1810, when a log church was built on a lot belonging to Henry Ogburn. In 1818, the first brick church was built on Sixth Street where the Christian Church now stands. There is a deed in the County Clerk's office dated September 29, 1818, whereby George and Nancy Shields transferred a lot to Garland Bullock, John Goddard, and James McClellan, trustees of the Port William Methodist Church. In 1830, a brick building was erected on the site of the present church which was built in 1870.⁴² William W. Inslow donated the land upon which the church was built and the cemetery lot behind the church. The old cemetery is still in existence, and I am told it is to be preserved.⁴³

The Presbyterian Church was organized on March 15, 1830, a brick building was erected on a lot that was donated by Michael Giltner. The bricks were burned on the lot by slaves and the work on the building was done by the members and their slaves. There was a balcony for the slaves and the negroes were accepted as members. The first elders installed were: Michael Giltner, John Foster and James Blair.

The Presbyterian Church at Port William was organized by the Reverend J. T. Edgar on March 15, 1830. It was then known as the Mt. Hermon Church. On September 29, 1831, it was renamed the Port William Church by the Lexington Presbytery.

The first elders: Michael Giltner, John Foster and James Blair were installed on August 27, 1831. Other early members were: Richard Butler, John Todd, James Robb, Collins, Hall, Hawkins, Crawford, Lathrops, Robbs, Clayton, Craig, Flynts, Scott, Carlisle, Bennett, Powell, Hadyn, Miller, Meiers. Some of these were charter members.

Michael Giltner contributed a lot for a church building and the other members donated the building materials. Slaves burned the brick on the lot and the construction work was done by the members and their slaves. The church bell was hung in the fork of a 40-foot walnut tree which Richard Butler cut for that purpose. There was a balcony for the slaves and the negroes were accepted as members.

Itinerant ministers appointed by the Presbytery supplied the church for a while. The first minister of record was Reverend William B. Rice. He served the church from about 1836 to 1840, when he died and was buried back of the church.

General William O. Butler gave a brick house on the corner of Seventh and Sycamore Streets for a parsonage on August 14, 1850. Later his wife gave the church the organ on which her wedding march was played in Woodford County.⁴⁴ Thus the tuning fork gave way to the organ.

Elijah Anderson is said to have operated the first mechanic shop in the county.⁴⁵ I have been unable to find the exact location of his shop, but it must have been at Port William.

Port William became the county seat of Carroll County when it was formed in 1838 and about that time it had 3 churches, 7 stores, and groceries, 4 taverns, 4 lawyers, 3 doctors, 2 pianoforte manufacturers, 30 mechanic shops, 2 grist mills, a sawmill and a wool-carding factory.⁴⁶

WARSAW

The town of Warsaw is located on the Ohio River, in a beautiful and highly productive valley 4 miles long and 1 mile wide. It is 57 miles southwest of Cincinnati by river; 37 by road and 71 miles east of Louisville.

Warsaw dates its origin to the early spring of 1800, or 1803, (authorities differ as to the date) when 7 crude crafts, or barges floated down stream from Pittsburg. They were met by 4 more floating out of the mouth of the Kanawha. The rafts were lashed together for mutual protection, and conveyed several families from Pennsylvania and Virginia to the settlements along the Ohio. The name of the largest raft was christened "The Pioneer." Each raft was about 30 feet long with a cabin erected on it. On each was a stack of cane which served as feed for horses, oxen, and cows. In addition, there were plows, ox carts, pigs, poultry and children carelessly distributed. Thus, these flatboats were a fairly accurate, though untidy replica of a small farm home.

They floated down the river by day and tied up at the banks at night. When in need of food they depended upon their trusty rifles. On the last night of their travels, they tied up at the banks of the Ohio River 5 miles below Sugar Creek.⁴⁷ When they beheld the beautiful and fertile valley lying before them on the following day, they decided to make this valley their future home.

These early settlers were the "pioneers," but about 4 years later a second class started coming in from the Carolinas and Virginia via Cumberland Gap. They were "emigrants" and they

differed somewhat from the first, in that they built roads, churches, schools, erected hewn log cabins, built mills, and so forth. Among the latter group were Thomas and Robert Guinea, Joseph Gregg, the Craigs, Browns, Campbells, Savages, Jones, and the Gibsons.

The town was built entirely "under the hill" near the river. Not until 1810 was it given much consideration as a small hamlet.⁴⁸ It had no name other than "The Ohio River Landing," and an old pine tree, because of its crooked and peculiar shape, was used by the pilots of the boats as a landmark. The land where this old pine tree stood later became a part of the yard surrounding a house which was built in 1838 by William Scruggs.⁴⁹ The present owner of the Scruggs home is Mrs. Melanie Bledsoe of Warsaw.

Adolphus Frederick, an emigrant from Pennsylvania, settled in Warsaw at an early date and established a dockyard along the brink of the hill, just above the site of the former Gallatin County Bank.⁵⁰ (A building now owned by Jack Smith and known as Smith's Apartments.) He constructed and launched his first boat at this location during the summer of 1809. The boat was named "The Frederick" in honor of its builder. The old posts, which were a part of the construction of the dockyards, stood until 1846, or later.

The citizens of the town, after some discussion, decided it was fitting and proper to name the town Fredericksburg in honor of their most energetic and enterprising townsman, Adolphus Frederick.

However, on December 12, 1831, by legislative enactment the name was changed to Warsaw, due to the fact that there was another and older Frederickstown in Washington County, and this caused frequent miscarriage of the mail. At that time James Blanton, William Chamberlain, William Whiteside, Jefferson Peak, and Willis Peak

were named trustees.⁵¹ Captain John Blair Summons suggested the name "Warsaw", because of his fondness for the book entitled "Thaddeus of Warsaw". He, a retired riverman, and the grandfather of the late Mrs. R. B. Brown, had purchased land 2 miles east of Warsaw in the early 1800's. His son William Blair Summons, married Nannie Beall who was the granddaughter of Archibald Beall. It is interesting to note that Archibald Beall, a native of Ireland who had come to America as a British soldier, deserted the British and joined Washington's Army while it was encamped at Valley Forge. After the war was over, he migrated to Bourbon County, Kentucky, whence his son, Archibald II, came to Warsaw in 1820, or thereabouts.⁵² Mrs. Frank Connelly of Warsaw is a descendant of Nannie Beall and William Blair Summons.

Among the early settlers who migrated to Gallatin County from Scott County were the Payne, Johnson, and Yates families.

Richard Yates, perhaps the most prominent native of Gallatin County, was the son of Henry and Millicent Yates. He was born in Warsaw on January 18, 1815.⁵³ The family lived in the log house that stood on the site of the old Lyric Theatre.⁵⁴ Mrs. Yates, his mother, died in 1830, and is buried a mile south of Warsaw on a plateau overlooking Dry Creek. Father and son moved to Illinois in 1831, where Richard graduated from Illinois College at Jacksonville in 1835. He studied law at Transylvania University and was admitted to the bar in 1837. His permanent home was in Jacksonville, where he first began the practice of law. His adopted state honored him by electing him a member of the state legislature from 1842-1848; 1848-1850. He then represented the state in Congress in

1850, and again in 1852. The highest honor was bestowed upon him when he was elected governor of Illinois; he served from 1861- to 1865. In this capacity he rendered incalculable service to the Union by checking pro-southern sentiment in the state during the Civil War. He served as U.S. Senator from 1865-1871, and played an important part in the beginning of reconstruction after the war. He died suddenly in St. Louis, Missouri, on November 12, 1873. His son Richard Yates, Jr., who was born in 1860, also served as governor of Illinois.⁵⁵

General John J. Payne was born in Scott County in 1795. His maternal grandfather was Robert Johnson, of Great Crossings, who later came to Warsaw. Mr. Payne served in the War of 1812, at the age of 17. After his discharge from the army he received an appointment to West Point, and he rode horseback all the way to Washington, where he was formally presented with the commission. In an accident at West Point he was so badly injured that it was necessary to amputate his right arm, and his eyesight was greatly impaired. He was retired on a pension, one of the first to be granted, in 1813. He returned to Warsaw where he conducted the first lot sale to be held in the town and his descendants, Miss Emma Mountjoy and Mrs. Sallie Brown, say that this sale was for the purpose of settling the estate of Robert Johnson. He died in 1887 and is buried in the Warsaw cemetery.⁵⁶

Colonel Robert Johnson came from Orange County, Virginia, to Kentucky about 1780, or before. He must have been familiar with the territory now known as Gallatin at an early date for he drew a surveyor's sketch map of Kentucky in 1782, which was never

published.⁵⁷ As a reward for his services during the Revolutionary War, he received a number of land grants from the state of Virginia, which were signed by Patrick Henry. The first one was dated September 13, 1799, for 3,400 acres of land in Fayette County; 2,000 acres of which were on Elkhorn Creek.⁵⁸ He built a block house in the winter of 1783-84 on Elkhorn Creek and called it Johnson's Station.⁵⁹ Great Buffalo Crossing became the name of the settlement that grew up around this blockhouse. It is now known as Great Crossings. He received another grant of land, dated March 8, 1784, in Fayette County for 1,200 acres located near the source of Banklick Creek which is now in Kenton County.⁶⁰

He took a very active part in Kentucky politics. He was a member of the House of Burgesses as a representative from Fayette County; a member of the first constitutional convention which met on April 3, 1792; a member of the second constitutional convention that met at Frankfort on August 17, 1799, and in addition, he served as a member of the Kentucky legislature for a number of years.⁶¹

Prior to his settlement at Great Crossings, Robert Johnson and his wife Jemima were living at Bryan's Station when it was besieged by Girty and his band of Indians in 1782. Jemima and her daughter led the column of women who went to the spring for water. He contributed greatly in the defense of the station.

Though he spent the greater part of his life at Great Crossings, he contributed much to the founding and growth of Warsaw and Gallatin County. As stated elsewhere in this paper he surveyed a road in the county in 1805. In 1809, he built the first brick house in the town of Fredericksburg. It was located on the east side of the

town near the river front. However, he continued to live at Great Crossings until after his first wife, Jemima, died. He came to Warsaw to live in the latter part of 1814, or in the early part of 1815.⁶² In the years 1813, 1814, and 1815, he purchased several hundred acres of land in Gallatin County. Much of it was in the vicinity of Warsaw.⁶³ He made a plat for laying out the town of Fredericksburg in streets and building lots, but the work was not completed until after his death, which occurred on October 15, 1815. It is said that Henry Yates also shared in the work of laying out the town in building lots. He probably finished what Col. Johnson had started.

Prior to his death he married Fannie Bledsoe, the daughter of Reverend William Bledsoe who was the first pastor of Ten-Mile Baptist Church. They were married in March 1815.⁶⁴

In addition to his many achievements in military and political life, Robert Johnson was a devoted and consecrated Christian. He was a charter member of the Elkhorn Baptist Church which was founded at Great Crossings in 1785.⁶⁵ He was a tireless and influential worker for many years in the church and association to which he belonged. He was also appointed a trustee of the old Rittenhouse Academy when it was founded at Georgetown in 1798.⁶⁶

Thus, not only Gallatin County, but the state and the church lost the service of a great and loyal citizen when he passed away.

His memory is commemorated by a stone erected by the state in the Harrodsburg State Park. Mrs. R. B. Brown and Mrs. C. M. Gullion were members of the committee who selected him as an outstanding pioneer citizen in Gallatin County. He was buried beside his wife,

Jemima, in a cemetery at Great Crossings.

Some other early settlers of Gallatin County as it is today were as follows: David Owen, Nathaniel Porter, Moses Olds, Cornelius Hughes (1784-1841), Joseph Steele, James Hoggins, Rev. David Lillard (1784-1861), John Peak, Willis Peak (1795-1862), Jacob Swope, James Landram, Joseph Spencer (1790-1869), Claiborne Allen (1794-1872), Belt Brashear (1791-1864), John Montgomery (1791-1872), Thomas Rudd (1788-1834), Caleb Dawley (1788-1835), David Clements (1792-1859), Henry Darger (1782-1860), Matthew Thompson (1793-1835), Samuel Conner (1777-1863), John Burke, James Gridley (1794-1885), Abijah North (1759-1850), Fountain Perry, James Furnish, Charles Goins, Jeremiah Hayden, William Thompson.⁶⁷

There were still a few Revolutionary War veterans living in Gallatin County in 1840. They were: John Birks, James Furnish, Charles Goins, Jeremiah Haydon, Sen., Abijah North, William Thompson, Mary Slaughter.⁶⁸

Collins in his History of Kentucky states that on February 1, 1817, a company was established in Gallatin County for the purpose of building a steamboat and a steam mill. Yet, it was not until 1826, that the steamboat "Crusader" was built and launched at Fredericksburg for trade on the Ohio. James P. Landrum who first settled at Napoleon was one of the chief builders of this craft.⁶⁹

The first ferryboat service across the Ohio River at Warsaw was started by the Wiley family. They had a large flat-top boat which was propelled by means of long oars (sweeps) on the sides. The exact date on which it was purchased is not known, but the ferry service was in operation during the 1840's.⁷⁰

CHAPTER IV

SPARTA

The town of Sparta, which is located 9 miles south of Warsaw on Eagle Creek and Ky. 35, was once called Brock's Station.¹ It had its origin in the spring of 1801, or 1802, when Jacob Carlock came with a party of emigrants from Holsten's Valley in Virginia and settled at the confluence of Two-Mile and Eagle Creek. Carlock and his party had spent the winter at "Burning Springs" in eastern Kentucky near the present town of Prestonburg in Floyd County. Other members of the party were John Carlock, a younger brother, William Swango, Jacob Walters, Sr., and John and David Alcorn.

Jacob Carlock built a house which stood on the site of the residence of Mrs. Nancy Kendall, a short distance from the old water mill. He was the first farmer to grow hemp and cotton in the locality. The hemp thrived, but the cotton was not a successful crop. After 16 years of pioneer life in Sparta, Jacob Carlock lost his claim because of the purchase of large grants of land by syndicates who sold it to other farmers, and he decided to try his fortune in the Northwest.

Some of the syndicates that purchased large tracts of land in Gallatin County were: May Bannister & Company, the Crosley Company, and J. Fellows & Company. These firms bought up land in 25,000 acre plots and sold in sections and quarter sections to farmers, thus dispossessing the early settlers.

In addition to Jacob Carlock, other early settlers who lost their land were: William Snodgrass, George Jackson, William Holbert, William Swango, Sr., and Joel Alcorn. There were many whose names are not mentioned above. Some went to Missouri, others moved to the

Northwest and some stayed and took claims on purchased land. Wide spread discontent and distress was caused by faulty land grants in those early days.²

This early settlement, now called "Old Sparta" is in Owen County. In 1804, it had a grist mill, a tan-yard, distillery, mechanic shop, shoemakers shop and several coopers. A store house was erected in 1806 and was operated by a man named Enoch Winkfield, who afterwards served in the War of 1812, under Captain Presley Gray. A man by the name of Burke kept a tavern in Old Sparta and here farmers, or traders, who were driving cattle, lambs, hogs, or even turkeys to the port at Warsaw stopped for noonday meals or an overnight stay in order to rest their stock. The hospitable home of John A. Hamilton was a pleasant resting place and stop-over for many drivers.

The banks of Eagle Creek were peculiarly suitable for the location of grist mills. It is said that more grist mills were located on Eagle Creek in the vicinity of Sparta than on any other stream its length in Kentucky. Farmers who had had to grind their own hominy or meal by using a hominy mortar or hand mill were delighted with the convenience of water-powered grist mills. The location of many of these old mills can be determined by the piles of stone and brick which still remain along the willow-fringed banks of the creek. One of the oldest, the Ross Mill, was erected at an early date by William Garnett and David Ross. It was operated until 1935, but its massive cogwheels and grinding stones had been replaced by modern machinery, the old water wheel having rotted away entirely. One man, Allen Brock, operated this old mill for 52 years.³ A dwelling house still stands on the lot, but it is now used for club meetings, picnics, and so forth.

I am not familiar with the conditions under which the Webb family gained control of the ferryboat service, but on November 10, 1930, the Webbs purchased a boat which they named the "Everett Lee" at a cost of \$12,000. This boat carried 10 cars and had a cabin for passengers. Jeff Webb was the ferryman. This service was discontinued in 1945.

On July 1, 1947, the ferry service was renewed by James M. Hart and Allan N. Young, natives of Ohio, who purchased a new boat called the "Hazel S". It was a 13 car-capacity boat.⁷¹ However, about 1958, Russel Hall, son of Charles and Jessie Hall, bought the service and is running the ferry at the present time.

Another gentlemen worthy of mention in connection with the history of Warsaw is George Winters. The son of William H. and Elizabeth Winters, he was born in Warsaw on July 17, 1850. He married Miss Judith Long in 1870. At the very early age of 13, he became an apprentice in the field of carpentry, and has left several outstanding examples of his skill. He built the Pryor Perry home and the Mountjoy home on Ky. 35 in the edge of Warsaw. He also built the old Opera House, the Morris Department Store, the old Post Office, and helped construct the Court House. In addition, he was an undertaker for 25 years. He passed away in 1938, at the age of 88.

Sam Furness was the first person buried in the Warsaw cemetery. He was a Union soldier during the Civil War and was killed by the explosion of a powder magazine in the South.⁷²

The Warsaw Christian Church was organized in April 1836, on the fourth Sunday, when a few citizens headed by Twyman Craig

requested the travelling evangelists, John T. Johnson--son of Robert Johnson and brother of Vice-President Richard M. Johnson--and David S. Burnett to come to Warsaw to conduct a revival. The meetings were considered highly successful in that 134 members were enlisted for the new church, among them were Benjamin Tiller and his wife Zerelda. Charter members of the church were: John A. and Sally O. Ritchey, William Winters, Tryman Craig, Mrs. Malvina Marsh, and John and Mary Payne.

On June 23, 1836, Benjamin Tiller and Almarine Stillwell were ordained as elders in the church. For many years Benjamin Tiller served as preacher and guided the destinies of the church. The first church was built in 1836, and was located on the site of the present Methodist Church. Slaves were accepted as members and a special section of the church was reserved for them. During the Civil War the church building was used as headquarters by the Union armed forces.

In September, 1867, the old building was sold to the town of Warsaw to be used for a school. In 1868, the present church was constructed by William Winters, one of its founders, and father of the late George W. Winters of Warsaw.

On July 29, 1843, the Warsaw Baptist Church was constituted of 20 charter members who had assembled at the Court House for that purpose. At this session the following officers were elected: William Gill, Moderator; G. C. Roberts, Clerk; T. C. Gale and William Cull, Deacons. Reverend John Scott was called to preach on the fourth Sunday of each month at a salary of \$144 per year.

In 1846, a brick church was erected on the present lot which was purchased from John L. Robinson for \$100. The church was built by William Cull for \$800. The old building was torn down in 1882 and the present building was erected.

The charter members of the Warsaw Methodist Church which was established in 1844 were: Enoch Kirby and wife, Captain James McDanell and wife, Dr. John T. Robinson and wife, and Dr. Robinson's mother, Mrs. Lydia Craig. The first minister was Larkin F. Price. Meetings were held in the homes of the members until 1857, when they rented the Baptist Church for one Sunday a month. Later they purchased the original building of the Christian Church and worshipped there for many years.

In 1900 Reverend Willard G. Cram came to Warsaw and led the Methodists in an extensive building campaign. The old church was torn down, and the present building was erected and dedicated in 1901.

St. Joseph's Church was founded in 1868 and the building was erected in the same year. The first baptismal record at the church is that of Robert Leod on December 15, 1872, signed by Reverend J. F. Whalen. The resident pastor was Reverend E. T. Donnelly who was assigned there in 1903. He bought the old Vanice home on Sparta Pike, which still serves as the rectory for the pastor.⁷³

The population of Warsaw was 600 in 1840. At that time it had a court house, 2 churches, 7 stores, 5 groceries, 2 taverns, 5 lawyers, 4 doctors, 3 schools, 2 pork houses, a tobacco factory, flour mill, distillery, and 20 mechanic shops.⁷⁴

The old brick building that stood on the southeast corner of

the public square, known as the Gallatin County Academy, was purchased by the county court for \$600 for a clerk's office and was so used for many years. Among the teachers of Gallatin County Academy was one, Ranson Cable, who later moved to Illinois and amassed a considerable fortune. He was the promoter and director of one of the Pacific Railroads.⁷⁵

Between 1860 and 1865, J. Will Ellis established a school in Warsaw. Classes were taught in the Christian Church, tuition was \$3.00 per month. The school was known as the Warsaw Academy. By an act of the General Assembly of Kentucky on May 31, 1865, the Warsaw Academy was incorporated as the Warsaw Male and Female College. The old school building is now a 2-story brick dwelling house located on the edge of Warsaw on KY 35. It is owned by Miss Clara Sisson.

The Ohio Valley Normal College was organized in 1881, and classes were held in a building "under the hill." The faculty was composed of H. Clay Smith, R. B. Brown and Miss Mattie Vanice. This school was in existence for only 8.5 years.

The county established a school in Warsaw in 1888. A 3-story building, erected by G. W. Winters, was constructed at a cost of \$3,700. To aid the county financially, the town of Warsaw sold bonds, the proceeds of which were donated to the building fund. Warsaw was organized as a graded school district in 1904, but the old building was used until 1913, when a new 2-story building was erected on the east side of the town at a cost of \$12,000.

Schools in Gallatin County were consolidated in 1935-36. Warsaw High School became Gallatin County High School and it is now the only high school in the county. A new building was erected in

1937, adjacent to the site of the grade school building that was erected in 1913.⁷⁶

On November 1, 1899, eighteen women and four men met at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin S. Lindsay, Warsaw, Kentucky, to organize a study club the purpose of which was, "To uplift our way of thinking and to help us socially to be kinder and truer to our fellow-men." The name "Classical" was chosen, but changed later to "The Warsaw Woman's Club." At first, the colors were pink and white and the flower was a rose, however these were changed later to blue and gold and to the cornflower.. "Mehr Licht" (More Light) was the motto. Miss Ona Brock, a teacher in the schools of the town, was the first president. She is now Mrs. Robert Greene of Lexington, Kentucky, and is the only living charter member of the club.

The by-laws stated that officers should be elected by secret ballot, without nominations and for one year. The dues were twenty-five cents annually. A fine of twenty-five cents was levied for failure to prepare a paper assigned by the program committee. A fine of five cents was imposed for absence and for failure to respond to the roll call, and one cent for not observing the rules of Parliamentary Law. Men were admitted as honorary members only, and they were exempt from fines and dues, and were not eligible to hold an office. The club was federated in 1900.

During the first few years the Club studied European Countries, a Bay View course, the United States, the Bible, and Shakespeare. Later there were two departments: The Book-Lovers and the Garden Department, but after a while these were merged and the programs included the best of both.

In addition to the above activities the various members wrote a series of papers on the history of Gallatin County, from which the writer has greatly benefitted.

Many changes have come and gone through the years as to the number of members, the amount of dues, the method of electing officers, the interest in and the contributions to health drives and other civic projects. But through it all, with varied and interesting programs, a genuine contribution has been made to the original aim of the Warsaw Woman's Club.⁷⁷

Dr. Lucy Dupuy Montz, the first woman to practice dentistry in the state of Kentucky, according to her descendants, was born and reared in Gallatin. She was the daughter of John T. Dupuy and Henrietta Ross Dupuy. She had two brothers James M. Dupuy and Henry Dupuy. She was born on December 30, 1842, and married Francis P. Montz in 1860. He died within a few years after their marriage; she then educated herself and taught school in Warsaw and Covington.⁷⁸ However, she continued her education by attending the Ohio College of Dental Surgery in Cincinnati, and graduated from that institution in 1889.⁷⁹ Shortly thereafter, she returned to Warsaw, where she practiced dentistry for many years.

The first medical practitioners to settle in Fredericksburg were Drs. Orr, McClure and Chamberlain. According to tradition, Dr. Orr came to Gallatin County about 1828--the others a few years later.

Dr. John T. Robinson, a Warsaw physician, began reading medicine at the age of 19, while he was a pilot on a river boat. He was captain of the "John T. Cline", a boat that plied the waters between

Madison, Indiana and Louisville. He, also, worked on the "Alvin Adams." In 1855 he quit the river and became a merchant in Warsaw for a few years. During all this time he had been reading and studying. He eventually enrolled in the Cleveland Medical College and graduated from that institution in 1861. He began the practice of medicine in Warsaw in the same year. He and his son, Dr. Samuel B. Robinson, were loved and highly respected by the people to whom they devoted many years of unselfish service.⁸⁰

The population of Warsaw in 1870 was only 715, a very slight increase over that of 1840 and it showed little increase in business. In 1870, it had a court house, 4 physicians, 9 lawyers, 1 Male and Female Academy, 1 public school, 4 churches, 14 stores, 10 mechanics, shops, a distillery, grist mill, tobacco warehouse, a newspaper and 2 hotels.⁸¹

After completion of the railroad through Glencoe and Sparta in 1869, Warsaw lost its position of importance as a shipping center for the counties of the surrounding area. Boat traffic lessened and fewer boats stopped at the town. Thus the growth of the town commercially and otherwise became almost static.

In December 1932, Warsaw suffered a very destructive fire. The blaze started in the Masonic Building in the old Arcade block. W. O. McCann's store; part of Hall's store; the A. F. Tandy building; R. E. Brown building; Newton Gibson's and others were among those gutted by the fire. The loss amounted to \$100,000. On Thursday, November 30, 1939, the town suffered another disastrous fire when film in the projection room of the theatre caught fire. The fire started at 10 p.m. and raged until 3 a. m. The loss was

estimated at \$40,000. The following month a building owned by Ferdinand Bosken burned and the estimated loss was \$25,000.⁸²

Despite the above losses the population of the town today is 1,057. The years have brought a change in the form of industry in the town. Today it has a furniture factory which makes custom-built pieces that require highly skilled craftsmanship. Claude A. Bogardus was the president of the company until 1966. It also has 3 nurseries, a lumber supply company, 2 gravel pits and 1 hotel.

Because of the completion of Markland Locks and Dam, and the construction of interstate expressway No. 71, many important changes will be taking place in the town and county in the near future.

WARSAW NEWSPAPERS

The oldest local newspaper known is dated June 10, 1835, and is entitled "The Warsaw Patriot." The name of the publisher is not known, but it was a truly creditable paper. It was published weekly and consisted of 4 pages of general news and advertisements. There was no personal and very little local news, but Washington and New York items figured conspicuously. A Dr. Baxter, father of Dr. Whit Baxter, illustrated some of the political gossip with crude woodcuts which he, himself, fashioned. These cuts depicted the rivalry between the Democrats and the Whigs.

A paper was published later, that was called the "Signs of the Times." Publisher is unknown.

Another paper, "The Warsaw Herald," was published in the 1840's and 1850's. The publisher and editor was R. S. Yerkes. John Field was the proprietor. Dispatches from General Zachary Taylor giving detailed reports of the Battle of Buena Vista in the Mexican War were printed in this old newspaper. Also, an account of a meeting held on May 8, 1847, by the citizens of Gallatin County for the purpose of making preparations for a reception to be given in honor of the volunteers who were returning home after being honorably discharged from the army.

Then came "The Times" published by J. M. Vanice, whose three sons Whitfield, Arthur, and Ethol Vanice were later employed on the "Warsaw Independent."⁸³

Following "The Times" was the "Warsaw Record" which was purchased by Rod Perry and Thomas H. Kirby in 1874. In an issue of the

"Warsaw Record" dated November 12, 1874, (Vol 2. No. 45) Rod Perry and T. H. Kirby announced that they had bought the paper and would continue its publication with certain changes in format, style, and so forth.⁸⁴ I believe that they also changed the name for I found a reference to the "Warsaw News" which was published in 1880-82, editor unknown. (A copy of the "Warsaw Record" is in the files of the Kentucky Historical Society at Frankfort.) This was the last venture before the "Warsaw Independent."

In 1880, at the age of 22, David B. Wallace came floating down the Ohio River in a small house boat. He was in search of health and work. He was a young printers apprentice from Cincinnati and had been advised by a physician that he must live in the open air if he wished to survive the effects of an attack of tuberculosis. He purchased a small hand press and some type and started his journey down the Ohio. He stopped at the towns along the way and solicited small printing jobs from the local merchants and farmers. After a few weeks he arrived in Warsaw, Kentucky. He became acquainted with L. L. Tiller, R. B. Brown, and some other fine young men of the town. Upon their insistence, he purchased an outfit of an old discontinued newspaper plant and began the publication of the "Warsaw Independent." The first issue was given to the public on May, 1880.⁸⁵ It was the first paper to be a financial success and its publication was continued until 1907, when Mr. Wallace, who had accumulated a tidy fortune during these years, sold the newspaper to W. S. Downtain of Fayette, West Virginia. Will Griffin was employed as editor and he officiated in that capacity for a number of years. He eventually purchased the plant from Mr. Downtain. After the death of Mr. Griffin,

the newspaper was purchased and published by Pendery Brothers of Vevay, Indiana. They finally discontinued publication and moved the equipment away.⁸⁶

Shortly after the Pendery Brothers discontinued publication of the newspaper a Mr. Berkshire of Burlington, Kentucky, started the publication of the "Gallatin County News." Ed. Lamkin assembled the news and advertising as editor in 1934, but the paper was printed in Burlington.⁸⁷ Mr. Ed Lamkin published many items of historical interest and was well-liked and highly respected by the readers of the paper.

Mr. & Mrs. Warren P. Boulton purchased the paper from Mr. Berkshire in April 1934. They bought equipment and set up an entirely new printing plant in the old school house which is now the motion picture house. They published the paper until 1937, when Mr. Boulton, who had secured a position with the state, sold it to Mark Meadows.⁸⁸ Mr. Meadows continued the publication of the paper as "The Gallatin County News" until 1941, when Charles P. Adams, the present owner, purchased it.

Mr. Adams, a native of Morehead, Kentucky, came to Warsaw from Shelbyville, Kentucky. He had the distinction of being president of the Kentucky Press Association in 1956. In addition to the "Gallatin County News" he owns the "Pineville Sun," a paper which he publishes at Pineville, Kentucky.⁸⁹

GHENT

This roistering little river town which was dependent upon the Ohio River traffic for its very existence was founded when 13 families from the Rappahannock River Valley near Fredericksburg, Virginia, came and settled in the community around 1800, or shortly thereafter.⁹⁰ Prior to their arrival though, John Sanders, who had migrated from Fayette County, settled in the vicinity of Ghent near McCool's Creek in 1795. It was on a plot of ground which he bequeathed to his son, Samuel that the town of Ghent was laid out in 1809.⁹¹ McCool's Creek was the name of the settlement at that time.

Other early settlers in the vicinity of Ghent were: Joseph, Isaac, and Abraham Bledsoe, Craigs, Ellis, Gatewood, Reeves, Smith, Scott, Lindsay, McCann, Luke Oboussier, grandfather of James, Luke and Atilla Cox.⁹²

The Ghent Baptist Church was the first church to be established in Gallatin County. It had its origin in a union meeting of Methodists and Baptists at Port William during the winter and early spring of 1800. The church was constituted of 10 charter members (two of whom had belonged to the Travelling Church) on April 5, 1800, under the leadership of William Hickman and Joshua L. Morris. It was first known as the Port William Baptist Church and it joined the Elkhorn Association in 1801, with a membership of about 100. It soon acquired the reputation for being a "migrating church" as it changed locations several times. In 1814, a frame building was erected on land donated by Isaac Bledsoe, at a cost of \$173, near McCool's Creek and the name was changed to McCool's Creek Baptist Church. Joshua Morris, who was a Baptist minister from Richmond,

Virginia, became the first pastor of the church. Reverend John Scott succeeded him as pastor in 1803. Reverend Scott served the church throughout his life time without compensation, yet he acquired a considerable estate.⁹³ In 1815, Samuel Sanders gave the church land opposite the Ghent cemetery and a third church was erected at a cost of \$700.00. It was a brick building. The present building, of colonial structure, was started in 1845 and completed the following year at a cost of \$1,250.00. This edifice was erected on the lower end of an orchard which belonged to Reverend John Scott who was a native of Ireland.⁹⁴

The first Christian Church building was erected in 1837 on Lot No. 40 which was donated for that purpose by Samuel Sanders. Their first pastor was Stephen Marshall of Harrison County, Kentucky.

Samuel Sanders and Jonathan Ramey owned a general store in Ghent in the 1820's. Another was operated by a man named Fisher.⁹⁵

The first ferryboat service across the Ohio River at Ghent was operated by a Captain Graham.⁹⁶

Ghent is located on the Ohio River, 45 miles southwest of Cincinnati on US 42 and 8 miles north of Carrollton. It was incorporated under a charter granted by the state in 1835. The name of Ghent was suggested by Henry Clay about 1816, or shortly after his return from Ghent, Belgium, where he and his colleagues had successfully signed the Treaty of Ghent.⁹⁷

A plat of the town of Ghent is shown in the records at the County Clerk's office. It is dated February 24, 1816, and signed by John Scott, S.G.C. It was recorded by Richard P. Butler, County Clerk on January 10, 1824.

Ghent served as a shipping point for New Liberty, Rislerville, Owenton and other towns in the south. It became a part of Carroll County in 1838 and about that time, or in 1840, to be exact, the population was 300. It had 3 churches, 1 tavern 5 stores including groceries, 2 doctors, 1 tobacco factory, and 7 mechanic shops.⁹⁸

Another old grist mill of prominence, was named Sparta, and doubtless the town adopted the name of the mill. The burrs, or grinding stones, for these old mills were made in Germany.⁴

A Scotch minister who came to Kentucky in recent years to preach at a church in the vicinity of Sparta was so enthralled by the beauty of the hills surrounding the town that he exclaimed, "These hills are more beautiful than the famed heather hills of Scotland." That, perhaps, is the reason why the Scotch-Irish were attracted to the area and settled there. These people knew the art of distilling and stills were erected wherever a spring bubbled forth. Sparta soon became famous for its fine beverages which, when combined with herbs, were used as home remedies for illness.⁵

The ford across Eagle Creek at Sparta was called Green's Ford and when the waters were low people could ride or drive across, but when the waters were high they had to have a ferryboat.⁶ Thus the steady increase in traffic created a need for a bridge, and the first one was built in 1851. It was a wooden bridge and fell down in a few years because of faulty construction. A ferry was then used until 1872, or 1873, when a covered bridge was constructed by George A. Wigal who came to Sparta for the purpose.⁷ The old covered bridge, picturesque and romantic, burned in February 1935. It was soon replaced by an open metal and concrete span which rests upon the same pillars as the old covered bridge.

Even though the population of Sparta in 1870 was only 60, it was an energetic and enterprising village. At that time it had 2 taverns, a store, a tobacco warehouse and a machine shop--no churches or schools.

However, in the early 1870's a school district was laid off in Sparta, a part of which was in Gallatin and a part in Owen County.

Mr. & Mrs. A. D. Mason gave a large lot for the building of a school house that was always called the "Old Red School House." It was a real community center. The Masonic Lodge occupied the second floor and the large school room was used for entertainments, for church services, and literary club meetings.

In 1875, Reverend John T. Hawkins, the pastor of the Christian Church in New Liberty came to Sparta, and held a series of meetings in the school house. The result was a number of conversions. He persuaded this group, with others who lived in Sparta and held membership in the New Liberty Church, to form a separate church because of the great need for one in Sparta. They did so, but remained under the "watch-care" of the New Liberty church until such a time as they could become strong enough to stand alone. Meetings were held in the school house until 1890, when the members built a one-room frame church on the Owen County side. Reverend William Tiller was pastor of the flock. Other officers were: J. J. Samuel, Clerk; George A. Wigal, Elder; Solomon Ellis, Morton Rimelin, Granville Brock and D. C. Jameson, Deacons.⁹

Prior to the building of the school and the church, however, news of great import came to the residents of Sparta--the executives of the L. C. & L. Railroad had decided to build the railroad track through Sparta, after failure to obtain the right-of-way through Warsaw. Great was their delight for it meant that Sparta would now become the chief shipping point for the surrounding counties. The railroad station was built on land belonging to the heirs of Robert Bond, and it was the first building erected on the Gallatin County side of Eagle Creek. The Florian & Atilla Cox Company ran the depot, which also housed a

store and post office. A hotel was built by Parnell and Wilhoite near the station to take care of the travelling public. This was followed by the erection of another store, and so Railroad Street came into being.¹⁰

In 1900, the Sparta Deposit Bank opened its doors. It was an institution of great help to the farmers and business houses in the town.

Sparta was incorporated by the state in 1852. It now began to thrive. Stockyards were built, lumber and coal yards were operated. Tobacco was shipped by hogshead and these were hauled to Sparta in huge wagons drawn by teams of 6-8 horses, or mules. Mail and passenger service was maintained by means of carriages with Owenton and Warsaw. Thus Sparta prospered for a number of years.¹¹

Excitement in the town arose to a rather high pitch again in 1931, when some prospectors came to the community for the purpose of boring wells in an effort to locate natural gas. Gas was found, but not in sufficient quantity to pipe it for commercial use.

In 1940, Sparta had 4 general stores, a lumber yard, stockyards, groceries and a hardware store, a restaurant, garage, mechanic shop, 3 churches, schools, and 2 nurseries, the Willadeau and Donaldson. Only one remains today.¹²

The invention of the gasoline motor, and the increase in private ownership of automobiles and trucks have greatly lessened the importance of Sparta as a travel and shipping center for the surrounding territory. The population decreased to 224, in 1950, and future prospects seem poor.

GLENCOE

The town of Glencoe is located 10 miles south of Warsaw on Eagle Creek. The Louisville and Nashville Railroad runs through the town and a bridge that was constructed about 1869 as a connecting link with Grant County.

There was a natural mill race on the banks of Eagle at the site of Glencoe and a grist mill was doubtless the first form of industry. We don't know who first settled in Glencoe, but John Lee owned land in the vicinity as early as 1790. The first house of importance in the village was the "Old Ruddell House." James Ruddell was a blacksmith and mechanic.¹³ The Ruddell hoe was a favorite with farmers far and near. William Moss also had a mechanic shop. William Oder and Louis Sullivan were respective successors to Mr. Moss. Mr. Sullivan was a wood carver and wagon maker.

The town is said to have started some time between 1861 and 1865. Two general stores were operated there at an early date. One was owned by Irene Eggleston and the other by a Mr. Daniels. When the railroad was built the railroad station also housed a general store and post office, both of which were managed by James Denton. R. E. Foster, another leading citizen, operated a drugstore.

Several other settlers who owned land in the vicinity at an early date were: Henry and Jesse Crouch, Samuel Jackson, Samuel and Jesse Connelly, John Brock (1790), Smith Riley, J. W. Dorman, Clay Cassman, Marx Williams and James Lee. Mr. Lee operated a sawmill and he sawed much of the lumber used for railroad ties in the construction of the Short Line.¹⁴

Dr. Orville B. Yager, probably the most outstanding and highly appreciated citizen of his day, came to Glencoe in 1869, after his graduation from the Ohio Medical College in Cincinnati. He had served courageously for 4 years in the Civil War, and was wounded many times as evidenced by the scars which he bore until his death. He was a skilled and learned practitioner of medicine and surgery. He was 28 years old when he came to Glencoe and he served rich and poor conscientiously for close to 60 years, as he was past 90 years of age when he passed away. He told his friends that he had officiated at the birth of the notorious western gangsters, Jesse and Frank James, and it is said that Jesse James came to Glencoe to visit him at one time.

The Glencoe Christian Church was constituted of about 25 charter members in 1867. Reverend Beasley held the first meeting and rendered much needed assistance in helping the church to become established.¹⁵ Dr. Yager donated the land where the church now stands and Ed. Jackson donated the land upon which the parsonage was erected.¹⁶

Reverend Louis H. Salin, a converted Jew, who had come to America from Bavaria and settled in Owen County, held a series of meetings at Glencoe in April 1877.¹⁷ The services were held in a blacksmith shop and resulted in about 20 conversions. The Glencoe Baptist Church was constituted at Ten-Mile Baptist in 1878. Plans were made for building a church in Glencoe and the members of Ten-Mile rendered great assistance, in that they pledged moral and financial support.¹⁸

Glencoe had a population of 125 in 1870, and 181 in 1880.¹⁹

The town was incorporated on February 23, 1876. The Act of Incorporation provided that A. D. Daniel, Thomas Williams, William Parish and R. E. Foster be appointed as trustees and it set up their powers and duties. In addition, provision was made for a police judge, town marshall, clerk and treasurer.²⁰ The town was named Glencoe for Glencoe, Scotland, which was famous in literature for the fact that an entire McDonald clan was brutally and unjustly massacred on February 13, 1692, by Campbell of Glen Lyon and 120 soldiers.²¹

The first school was established in Glencoe about 1871 and classes were conducted in the Christian Church until 1872 when the townspeople and the Masonic Lodge erected a 2-story frame building. The upper rooms were used by the Lodge; the lower by the school. Alvin D. Noel, a lawyer, was the teacher in 1877. The school became a grade school in 1910 and a new building was erected in 1914, at a cost of \$6,000. In 1935-36, schools in Gallatin County were consolidated and the Glencoe school became an elementary school with 4 teachers in 1937.²² The frame building which had been erected in 1914 burned during the school year 1955-56, and was replaced in 1957, when the state erected a beautiful modern brick building at a cost of \$75,000.

The population of Glencoe reached about 500 in 1939-40. At that time it had a hatchery with a capacity of about 9,000 eggs and a canning factory. Glencoe was then enjoying a period of the greatest prosperity that it had ever had, or has had since. However for some reason the hatchery and the canning factory were short-lived. The population has decreased to 375, and many of the townspeople and farmers have secured jobs in Covington and Cincinnati, to which they commute back and forth daily in private cars or by rail.

SANDERS

The town of Sanders which is located about 10 miles southwest of Warsaw was first named Rislerville in honor of William Risler who owned the first store operated there.

Nathaniel Sanders and his wife Sallie Pattie, who had emigrated to the Forks of Elkhorn from Virginia, moved to Gallatin County at a very early date.²³ Mr. Sanders purchased 3,000 acres of land which extended approximately from the present location of Eagle Station to Carson. He and his son, George Washington Sanders, operated a grist mill on Eagle Creek in the vicinity of Rislerville. A few years later they purchased the necessary equipment for grinding wheat and made flour, in addition to meal.²⁴

The name Rislerville was changed to Liberty Station when the railroad was built in 1869, as the town was then to become the chief shipping point for New Liberty.²⁵

In 1874, when Liberty Station was legally severed from Gallatin County and annexed to Carroll County, Larkin Sanders was a state senator and was responsible for the name being changed to Sanders, in honor of George Washington Sanders,²⁶ who, during his life time, had taken an active interest in Kentucky politics and had entertained Charles Marshall, John C. Breckenridge, Humphrey Marshall, and other prominent democrats at barbecues and burgoo parties.

Lewis Sanders of Grass Hills played an important role in the development of livestock in the county. He and Henry Clay were friends and together they imported from England the first pure bred

shorthorn cattle to be brought west of the Alleghanies. The cattle landed at Baltimore, and were pastured in Maryland for several months before they were shipped down the river to Maysville, and driven from there via the Wilderness Road to their destination in Kentucky.²⁷

The Hoggins family, for whom the Hoggins voting precinct is now named, was the first to import to Gallatin County a team of pure bred Percheron horses.²⁸

The population of Sanders was 100 in 1874, and at that time it had 2 stores, a tavern, a mechanic shop, a doctor, and a lawyer.²⁹

WHITE'S RUN

White's Run is the name of a creek that flows into the Kentucky River on the east side. No one as yet has been able to determine the origin of the name, but the Indians were troublesome in this area as late as 1790, though they had left other portions of the state because of the influx of settlers from Virginia. However, in 1791, they were driven across the Ohio River by what was known as Harmer's Campaign.

John Tandy moved here from Lexington, Kentucky, in the 1790's and settled where the upper White's Run Church now stands. He was the first settler, but was soon followed by others from Lexington and Virginia.³⁰ The First Christian Church of White's Run is the oldest of that denomination in the County.

William Whitehead came from Virginia and built the first mill on Lower White's Run. Soon afterward, in 1810, the White's Run Baptist Church was established. They were the so-called "Ironside Baptists." A church was built of logs with 2 galleries. Strife arose because of the teachings of Alexander Campbell and the church was dissolved in 1832.

Hardin Davis was the leader of the movement to establish a Christian Church at Upper White's Run.

As late as 1894, burial grounds were still on the farms because they were owned by the lineal descendants of the original settlers. Fathers, great grandfathers, and great, great, grand fathers were in one burial ground.

HUNTER'S BOTTOM

An area 8 miles in length and 1 mile wide bordered the Ohio River between Locust Creek and Kanip Creek on the west. The land was very rich and must have belonged to Presley Gray in the early 1800's. According to Land Grant records Presley Gray, son of Drakeford, was given a land grant by the State of Kentucky for 2,275 acres of land in the Locust Creek area on October 14, 1797.

Before the white man came the upper portion was used as a burial ground by the aborigines. At a depth of from 4 to 8 feet human and animal bones, cooking utensils, farming implements and instruments of war have been found.³¹

TOWNS LOCATED ON EAGLE CREEK

In addition to Sanders there were 3 other towns located on Eagle Creek. The L. & N. Railroad also passed through each of these towns.

Eagle Station was so named because it was built on the banks of Eagle Creek. An early settler had a mill on the banks of the Creek.

Worthville was known for many years as "Coonskin." When the railroad was built it was named for General Wm. Worth who served with General Taylor in the Mexican War.

English was named in honor of Captain James Whorton English who owned the land whereon the town was built. He served in the War of 1812.³²

CHAPTER V

NEW LIBERTY

Although New Liberty is now in Owen County, it is worthy of mention for it was a thriving settlement in 1800 and at that time it was in Gallatin County.¹ It is located at the Junction of US 227 and KY 36, directly south of Sparta.

We do not know who first settled in the vicinity of New Liberty, but John Gayle bought 2,000 acres of land in the area from a Federal Land Grant at \$1.25 per acre. He came from Virginia and brought with him a large retinue of dogs and slaves. He built a two-story, 10-room log house on this land in 1806, or 1808. A part of this land is still owned by the Gayle descendants and the old log house still stands, even though it has long since been converted into a barn.²

The New Liberty Baptist Church, the second oldest in the county, was organized on the 23rd day of June, 1801. William Hickman held a series of meetings in Gallatin County in 1800. Many persons were converted and baptized during these meetings. Shortly afterwards, the New Liberty Church was organized at the home of Thomas Brown, under the leadership of John Price and John Davis. There were 30 charter members and meetings were held in the homes of the members until 1810. In February of that year, the members erected a large log building which was distinguished for the fact that a gallery was provided for the slaves. The slaves were allowed full membership, but had their own elders and deacons to serve them.

The church was first called the "Baptist Church on the Twins," because of its location between two streams by that name.

However, the location of the church must have been changed and a new church built for on October 11, 1820, Reuben Adams and his wife Polly deeded a plot of land to William Blanton, John Garvey and Thomas Brown, trustees of the New Liberty Baptist Church.³

John Scott became pastor of this church in 1802 and served it for 30 years. It had 38 members in 1802, and 179 in 1833.⁴ Reverend Scott was never compensated for his preaching, yet he acquired a considerable fortune.

New Liberty was a very aristocratic town in the early days. The soil in the surrounding area was very rich, virgin soil and the greater part of the early settlers soon amassed tidy fortunes. They built handsome brick dwellings and had many slaves. Even today, there are more negroes in New Liberty than in any other place in Owen County.

The population of New Liberty was 161 in 1830. It was incorporated on June 24, 1827, and the population increased to 400 by 1840. In the meantime, it had become a part of Owen County which was formed in 1819.⁵

NAPOLEON

In the spring of 1801, twelve families crossed the Big Sandy River near the present site of Louisa, Kentucky, forged their way through the Cumberland Mountains and settled on a ridge near Ten-Mile Creek. In the spring of 1803, another group came down the river in flatboats to the mouth of Sugar Creek. There they drove their flocks from the boats, removed their belongings, and turned the boats loose to float down stream. They, then, wound their way through the cane-brakes to the hills beyond. Among this group were Preston Hampton and James Richardson. The two groups mentioned above formed the nucleus of the village now known as Napoleon.⁶ It is located 7 miles east of Warsaw on Kentucky Highway 16. At this point Gallatin County is only 2 miles wide "as the crow flies."

Col. Joseph D. Spencer, born in Virginia in 1739, married Sarah Moore and they came to Gallatin County about 1801. Col. Spencer had commanded a regiment of colonial troops and also served in the Revolutionary War. His father was an emigrant from England.⁷

Other early settlers were the Connors, Skirvins, Turleys, Spencers, Brashears, McNeelys, Carletons, David Lillard, Thomas Lillard, and William Bledsoe.

The first legislative assembly held in this part of the county met on Napoleon Ridge in the neighborhood of the "Old Pleasant Carleton Farm," in the spring of 1802, under the branches of a mighty oak which could comfortably shelter in its shadow 75 people. They passed a number of laws to the satisfaction of all concerned and adjourned to meet in the fall, but it never again assembled.

The settlers led an independent life, took no part in elections as the only voting precinct was at Port William from 1798-1810, when one was established at the "Old Stone House" built in 1809 by Nathaniel Sanders near Rislerville (now Sanders). Thus, in the following year the people in the upper part of the county sojourned to the "Old Stone House" to cast their votes for Isaac Shelby for his second term as governor. The voters enjoyed a 3-day election period instead of the 1-day period that we now have.⁸

William Bledsoe, one of the early settlers mentioned above, was a Baptist minister and he held meetings in the homes of the residents until 1804, when at the home of Preston Hampton, a Baptist church was constituted of 15 members (13 white and 2 colored). Their names were as follows:

Mr. & Mrs. Joseph D. Spencer	Mr. & Mrs. Edward Spencer
Mr. & Mrs. Barnett Spencer	Mr. & Mrs. Preston Hampton
Mr. & Mrs. William Bledsoe	Mr. & Mrs. James Richardson
John Spencer, and Solomon and wife (colored).	

A long church was erected and named Ten-Mile, because it was on a site near Ten-Mile Creek. Wm. Bledsoe became the first pastor, though he served only one year in that capacity.⁹ He was excluded because of Restoration, or Universalist teaching.

Another early settler, David Lillard who had married Mary Spencer, daughter of Col. Joseph Spencer, on December 10, 1801, came to Gallatin County about 1804, and settled one mile from what was later the village of Napoleon. His father and mother, Captain John and Susanna Lillard, had come to Fort Harrod now Harrodsburg in 1782. David was born enroute, or shortly after they arrived at Fort Harrod, on November 18, 1782. His mother died at his birth or shortly thereafter.¹⁰ He joined Ten-Mile Baptist

Church in 1806. In those early years he was a successful farmer, but he also studied his Bible for in the year 1817 he was ordained to the ministry. He immediately took over the pastorate of Ten-Mile and served the church for 42 years without any compensation. The church had 50 members in 1817, but before he closed his ministry the membership numbered 400. He founded Ten-Mile Association in 1831, and served as moderator for 30 years. He donated land and money to help Ten-Mile erect a new church near the present site during his pastorate.

Mt. Zion Baptist Church, which is now in Grant County, was constituted of 19 members on May 19, 1827. David Lillard became the first pastor and served the church for 29 years. In 1840, he helped to organize the New Bethel Baptist Church at Verona and served as pastor for 20 years.

Though Reverend Lillard received no compensation for his ministerial duties he was prosperous. According to deeds in the County Clerk's office, he started buying land in 1844, and continued to buy at intervals until 1856. By that time he had accumulated about 450 acres of land which evidently adjoined land which he already owned. He owned 30 slaves and success attended him in everything he did. He rode throughout the association preaching everywhere and did a prodigious amount of work, the results of which eternity alone will unfold. It is said that he baptized about 4,000 people.

In 1854, Reverend Lillard resigned from active ministerial work at the age 72. However, he preached when he could until January 30, 1861, when he passed away at the age of 78. During those years he and his faithful wife had reared 8 children.

Other leading citizens who were prominent members of Ten-Mile Baptist Church in the 1840's were: Mr. & Mrs. John Ringo, Mr. & Mrs. Jonas Elliston, Mr. & Mrs. William Clements, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Turley, Mr. & Mrs. Clayton Skirvin, Mr. & Mrs. M. J. Williams, J. D. Elliston, Dr. W. L. Richard, William Green, E. J. Green, Milton Connelly, Thomas Lillard, James P. Landram, Robert Elliston and William Hendrix.¹¹

Ten-Mile Church doubled as a school for a while. The first teacher was a disabled Revolutionary War soldier who was paid with corn, hides, and whiskey.¹²

One source of information says that Joseph Soencer Lillard, son of David Lillard, laid out and named the town of Napoleon.¹³ Another source says that there was some dissension among the citizens of the village when they chose a name for the town. Some liked the name Madisonville, in honor of President Madison, others remembering the help of France during the Revolution, wanted the town to be named Napoleon in honor of France's great hero. There is perhaps another reason why it was named Napoleon. The Lillards are descendants of Jean (John) Lillard, a French Huguenot (Protestant) who migrated to America after the signing of the Treaty of Nantes in France about 1685. The French protestants suffered much religious persecution following the treaty and many thousands fled from France. The Brashears and Alexanders are also of French Huguenot descent, hence the desire for a French name. Napoleon it became in 1821.¹⁴ Joseph Lillard owned a general store of merchandise, business was profitable, and the town flourished for many years. Even though the population was only 60 in 1840, the town was

incorporated in 1841. In 1847, it had a Baptist Church, a tavern, a general store, and two physicians.¹⁵

Dr. John Richards located at Napoleon at an early date and was for many years the only rural doctor for miles around. He was a member of one of the oldest families in the country and was a man of large means. Other doctors who served the community later were: D. B. Allen and W. L. Richards.¹⁶

In addition to the general store which he operated in Napoleon, Joseph Lillard owned and operated a boat, "The Maid of Kentucky," which plied between Yazoo City and New Orleans while being engaged in the cotton trade.

When the Mexican War started in 1846, Joseph Lillard organized and became captain of a troop of cavalry which was called the Gallatin Rangers. They were assigned to the command of Colonel Humphrey Marshall of Kentucky, and they participated in many of the fiercest battles. However, Joseph Lillard caught Mexican fever, from which he never fully recovered. When the war ended the Rangers were welcomed home, and toasted and feasted as real heroes of the war.¹⁷

Napoleon reached the peak of its prosperity and importance as a town during the 1850's and 1860's. At that time it had a wagon shop, post office, an inn, and a general store. However, when the railroad was built through Glencoe in 1869, Glencoe began to thrive at the expense of Napoleon.

Samuel Turley owned a general store there in 1883. He was also postmaster.

Today Napoleon has a tavern, gas station, grocery store, church, and a small machine shop.

In addition to the above, however, the Gallatin County Fish and Game Club located in the vicinity of Napoleon on a 67-acre tract of land that was originally owned by Col. James P. Landram. The club was incorporated in March 1949, with the following officers: R. D. Adams, President; L. H. Anderson, Secretary-Treasurer; LeRoy Rider, O. A. Bogardus, and Charles Alexander, Directors. The club had been active for a number of years prior to that time as a Sportsmen's Organization. The farm was purchased from Lance Noel, who had bought it from Ira and Mayme Beall.

In the summer of 1949, a 10-acre lake was excavated and the buildings were erected. The greater part of the work on the club house and other buildings was donated by the members.¹⁸

The Fish and Game Club sold that property to Union Light, Heat, and Power Company of Covington in 1963 and the Club moved to Craig's Creek just off of Ky., 35.

Union Light, Heat & Power Company purchased about 6,000 acres of land where the counties of Owen, Grant and Gallatin converge for the purpose of storing gas. They are now using the property purchased from the Fish and Game Club for an office and operational facilities.

VERA CRUZ

Many travellers, on their way to and from Warsaw and points as far south as Georgetown, stopped for a noon-day meal, at a small village located 4.5 miles south of Warsaw, on what is now Ky. 35. Here they fed their horses, ate, drank, and were merry with at least one exception. On the day that the battle of Vera Cruz was fought during the Mexican War, March 9, 1847, we are told that the citizens and guests of the inn engaged in, and perhaps enjoyed, a terrific verbal and fistic battle of their own. Since their battle occurred on the same day as that of Vera Cruz, they decided Vera Cruz was a fitting name for the small village. The stream that flows by the roadside was also called Vera Cruz Creek.¹⁹

When the railroad was completed and Sparta became the chief shipping center for the surrounding countryside, the village lost its importance. The old inn is now a peaceful country home, which is owned by a farmer named Ira Beach.

OAKLAND BAPTIST CHURCH

The present Oakland Baptist Church which stands on a beautiful site on Johnson Road near Glencoe was once called "Old Providence Church." Settlers had come to this vicinity in 1800, or 1801.

Old Providence Church was built about 1810 and stood on the site of the present Union School. An old burying ground, where sleeps some of the earliest settlers of the county, is near the school.²⁰ It belonged to the Sulpher Fork Association in 1827, but joined the Ten-Mile Association in 1831. The old church had puncheon floors and seats with windows made of skins. It doubled as a school for several years and the first teacher was a Mr. Sims.²¹

The church was reorganized in 1860, as Oakland Baptist Church and a new building was erected on the site that the church now occupies. Alfred Arrasmith donated a rather large parcel of land; enough for the church building, a cemetery, and a locust grove nearby. Members of the financial committee were Josiah Ellis, Thomas Ellis, Elkaniah Crouch, John Crouch, Ben Duncan, David Lilly, Alfred Arrasmith, Henry Crouch and Alfred Kemper. The building was erected by William Winters with the help of several of the church members. As soon as it was finished a protracted meeting of four-week's duration was conducted with Reverend John A. Lee and Pack Todd as evangelists. Seventy-five new members united with the church during these meetings.²² The present membership is now about 260.

CORN CREEK

Gallatin County was bounded on the southwest by Corn Creek at the time of its formation and there was a small settlement in that locality before 1800. Drakeford Gray was one of those early settlers. He is listed as a taxpayer in 1792.²³ Under the leadership of an old pioneer preacher, John Taylor, the Corn Creek Baptist Church was constituted of 20 charter members in the fall of 1800. It joined the Salem Association in 1801 and the Long Run Association in 1803. It had no regular pastor for 27 years, since John Taylor taught that the church should be administered by the preacher, or preachers, who happened to be members of the church. Thus it did not prosper until 1826. In that year it joined the Sulphur Fork Association. The church is now in Trimble County 8 miles north of Bedford. It had 333 members in 1864, and 129 in 1946.²⁴

Land was sold to the trustees for an academy on a site adjoining the Corn Creek Baptist Church by Drakeford Gray in 1808, and a brick building was erected before 1809. A deed dated June 12, 1809, is recorded in the County Clerk's office at Warsaw, whereby Drakeford Gray's heirs conveyed title to the land for the sum of 5 shillings. Their father had passed away before he gave the deed for the land.

It is said that Presley Gray, a son of Drakeford, was a staunch supporter of the church, as he contributed 25¢ every Sunday to its support. Othe sons were: Jesse of Port William, James R., William, and Conney.

"THE NEWS"

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

Glencoe

JULY 1875

We bid "The Commonwealth" a hearty "Good Morning," wishing it health and long life with no rheumatic pains to mar the pleasure of a life of age; and we promise to call once a week if we have nothing more to say than "It rained last night."

The ladies of Glencoe are making preparations for a series of festivals; the proceeds of which are to be applied to the erection of a Christian Church in this place.

We had a little bit of war last week when Pete Maddox who boards in Owen County, but lives in Glencoe, and Burgess Saddle had an altercation beginning in the stable. Maddox drew his knife and Saddle his hickory sapling. Maddox received a blow over the head, cutting a gash 3 inches long, and was left on the field of battle as dead. For 3 long hours the children were telling with bated breath about "That red-headed dead man over there," but the "Red-headed dead man" has recovered sufficiently to go to his boarding place in Owen.

Leon

Uncle Fountain Perry and P. H. Duncan aspirants for the legislative honors, are earnestly engaged in seeking for volunteers. Who will have the largest company on muster day the wisdom of man saith not.

B. C. Arnold and wife from Crittenden are visiting Mr. Denton.

AUGUST 1875

P. H. Duncan is elected representative by a majority of 12 votes.

D. G. Perry has purchased the Glencoe Hotel from R. E. Foster, price \$400. He will take possession in August.

J. H. Dorman of Owenton, was appointed administrator of the estate of Robert Kemper deceased at the last term of the Grant County Court. Personalty \$11,000; real estate \$15,000. Four of the heirs live in this county.

Schools will begin September 8, under the control of Prof. D. H. Lindsay, assisted by experienced teachers. We have the scholars, and the house, what is to keep us from having a first-class high school.

Nick Lindsay returns to Ann Arbor, Michigan next week to complete his legal education.

52
B. F. Howard & Company have 5 hogsheads of leaf tobacco, the product of "Sweet Owen" which they will exhibit at the Cincinnati Industrial Exposition.

Stock hogs are selling at \$2.00 per hundredweight. They are scarce.

The sale of the personal property of bachelor Bob Kemper took place last Wednesday.

Miss Sallie Hughey of Boone, has been visiting her father H. J. Williams.

SEPTEMBER 1875

Mr. Allen Donaldson and wife and Miss Sue Donaldson of Carrollton are visiting at this place.

Uncle Philip Noel is out again and able to carry his cow. He has been confined to his yard for 2 years. He is 82, and can tell a quaint and curious tale of olden times. He voted for Gabriel Slaughter for Lieut. Governor and for 50 years never missed casting a democratic vote at a regular election.

J. C. Ruddle, master mechanic and the maker of the "Ruddle hoe" has moved to West Virginia.

Dr. Yager and Sam Williams are building a new barn for the accommodation of their stock. Next to kittens, they love horses.

Only 2 applications were before the Board of Examiners on Saturday for certification of qualification to teach in the public schools; Miss Mary Langsdale and William Spencer.

The tramps are tramping; they are never out of sight, begging, begging bread, begging work, sawing wood, and doing endless chores for the crumbs from the table. At every turn the cry is "Bread, Mister can you tell me where I can get a job of work?" There have been more tramps along the railroad the last 2 months than there were altogether in 2 years previous. Nearly all are going South. They board the trains as they leave the station and crowd on the rear steps of the ladies coach, and get a free ride to the next station where the conductor receives his pay in many thanks, and the tramp gets a kick with a No. 10 shoe to remind him of the pains and joys there are in a tramping life.

Benny Lillard of the firm of Colwell & Co., was in town last week. He is a gallant boy and has many friends here.

James Crouch and William Foster left for Cincinnati last Monday to enter Ohio Medical College.

Miss Sally Brett is visiting friends in Warsaw.

Thomas Shelton has been very low with fever, but at present, he is recovering.

There are 2 cases of chills in Mrs. L. Castleman's family. They are shaking around promiscuously.

Died at the residence of her husband, Phillip Noel, September 1, Mrs. Elizabeth Noel, aged 82.

Circuit Court opened Monday with Judge G. C. Drane on the bench. The docket is small. W. L. Richards, vs. L. L. Noel. Judge Masterson of Carroll County, L. F. Sanders and A. P. Groon of Owen, and W. B. and H. M. Winslow are visiting attorneys in town. Judge Abbott has recovered from rheumatism sufficiently to attend his business in court.

James McDaniel has a large storehouse in the course of erection.

Miss Carrie Pryor began teaching at the brick school house last Monday.

Misses Nannie Chambers and Bettie Kirby of Warsaw are visiting the Misses Brett.
Leon

OCTOBER 1875

Dr. J. H. Williams returned to his new home in Edgar, Illinois, Wednesday after visiting with friends here.

Next Thursday, says Mrs. Grundy, Mr. Samuel Turley will be married to Miss Kate Wilson of Lexington.

It is our painful duty to announce the death of Uncle Phillip Noel in his 82 year at his residence.

Mr. Ponder, who was injured by a fall a short time ago, is now recovering and able to resume his work.

Noah Crouch sold a lot of fine beef cattle to James Turley at 4½¢.

E. H. Jones has rented T. M. Ponder's residence and Mrs. Ponder has moved to the country.
Pedro

NOVEMBER 1875

Now we have a bridge across Eagle Creek, and need a new turnpike to intersect with one going to Owenton.

Elder John W. Waldrop is pastor of Oakland Baptist Church.

We have 5 drygoods stores, 2 drugstores, and all are doing a good business.

DECEMBER 1875

Almon D. Noel of Warsaw paid us a visit last week. He is very much pleased with his new home.

Died--at her residence here December 12, Aunt Rhoda Langsdale at a very advanced age. Also, on the 15th Jennie Courtney died of consumption. Age 18.

FEBRUARY 1879

Mr. George Garvey of New Liberty is visiting Uncle Don Perry.

Mr. Gordon and son from South Fork were visiting B. E. Castleman last week.

Hiram Day and wife have returned from Texas to their abode in Kentucky. Both are in ill health.

Friends of Miss Eva Pryor will be pained to hear of her death at Carrollton on the 22nd ultimo, of consumption.

MARCH 1879

Mr. Noel from Walton took possession of the Upper Hotel Saturday. Mr. Spencer will move to the Glencoe Hotel this week.

Mrs. Ella Noel began school at the Seminary this morning.

J. F. Williams, Simp. Reed and Wm. Spencer have returned from attending medical lectures in Louisville.

Last Tuesday Jhonnie Richards of Napoleon and Walter Pulliam of Warsaw started enroute for Colorado. We have learned since then that they have left Colorado for New Mexico.

Mrs. Ann Ruddle has been very ill, but is somewhat better.

James Grubbs has moved back to town and is warmly welcomed.

Uncle Dow Perry's family bade us farewell a few days ago--they are moving to "Sweet Owen."

Thomas Morton is putting up a blacksmith shop.

Scott Noel has formed a partnership with Alfred Kemper and bought half of his stock of goods.

Mr. Alfred Kemper has purchased Mr. Dan Bromley's property and will erect a new cottage.

Mr. Surder, our new shoemaker from Covington is giving fine satisfaction.

Miss Anna Baker has a music class in this place.

Dr. James Crouch leaves tomorrow for Springfield to live.

Charles Mattox has moved to town.

A. D. Noel is clerking for Robert Slaughter at Poplar Grove.

JUNE 1879

At an election held here last Saturday, Dr. Yager, D. B. Jaynes, and N. G. Thomas were elected school trustees.

A route for a pike from here to intersect the Owenton pike has been surveyed and the trustees will let the contract in a few weeks.

JULY 1879

Mr. J. M. Denton, depot agent and merchant, has just returned from a visit to his mother at Marathon, New York.

SEPTEMBER 1879

Mr. Sam Turley school superintendent and surveyor is registered at the Glencoe Hotel.

Miss Emma Lillard of Covington is visiting Miss Sallie Crouch.

Walter Slaughter left here a short time ago to attend college at Eminence, Kentucky.

Jeff Noel will shortly leave for Commercial College in Cincinnati.

We are glad to know that R. F. Slaughter and N. S. Riley, patentees of a new metal roofing are establishing their manufacturing plant in Glencoe.

Misses Jennie Castleman, Bettie Williams and Minnie Denton are attending college at the Red Brick Academy, this county. Miss Carrie Geier of Carrollton is the principal.

NOVEMBER 1879

Mr. Jeppa Noel, a handsome and talented student at the Cincinnati Commercial College has been spending the past week at home.

Married on the 19th, Miss Emma Dudgeon of this place to Mr. Don Crouch of "Sweet Owen."

Mr. Edw. Thomas and bride Miss Ida Harris are visiting Glencoe today.

Mr. John Osborne has moved into the "Little Brown Jug."

M. J. Castleman and Thomas Butler have returned from a visit to G. W. Huey's family.

NAPOLEON

AUGUST 1875

Dr. W. L. Richards, who has been practising his profession for 30 years is doing an extensive business in connection with his partner D. B. Allen, by being called to adjacent neighborhoods. Health in Napoleon is good.

Deputy Spiers, with the assistance of Dr. J. Hooper of Owenton, organized a Good Templar's Lodge here last Friday night. Officers to be installed next Friday are as follows: J. S. Turley, L.D.; W. L. Richards, W.C.T.; J. B. Park, P.W.C.T.; Miss Emma Turley, W.S.; Bennie Brett, W.F.S.; J. W. Steele, W.C.; Lina Connelly, W.T.; G. H. Lillard, W.N.; Miss Lou Hendrix, W.L.G.; John Brett, W.O.G.; Miss Jennie Carson, R.H.S.; Miss Addie Brett, L.H.S.; Miss Mattie Brett, A.S.; Miss Jennie Richards, A.M. The Masonic Fraternity has granted them the use of their hall. E. S. T.

SEPTEMBER 1875

J. S. Turley & Co., and Joseph Lillard, merchants of this place, are closing out their summer stock, and making arrangements to bring on fall and winter goods.

A son of J. M. Vanice died of inhalation of fresh paint last Tuesday. He was one of our most estimable citizens.

OCTOBER 1875

Mrs. Ambrose, wife of Harvey Ambrose who lives near here, is still very ill and not expected to live.

Rev. L. Johnson, assisted by Elder J. S. Bagby of Pendleton County, will hold several meetings at Ten-Mile Baptist Church, commencing next Saturday.

JANUARY 1876

Napoleon Lodge No. 216, A. F. & A. Masons elected the following officers: J. D. Violet, W.M.; J. V. Lindsay, S.W.; George H. McNeely, J.W.; Ezra Black, J.D.; J. R. Lillard, Treas.; E. Hogan, Sec.; J. V. Dean, S.D.; Geo. H. Lillard, W. & T.

Miss Emma Turley is visiting Miss Sallie Ford of Owenton.

Miss Jennie Castleman of Glencoe spent the day with Miss Jennie Richards.

Died--Mrs. Judith Elliston departed this life Dec. 26, with typhoid pneumonia.

Jhonnie Richards came home from Warsaw College to spend the holidays.

Robert Elliston and William Swabacker of Williamstown gave this town a call last week.

William Carlisle and his wife have been the guests of Miss Dinah Connelly for the last few days.

Elder L. Johnson preached Mrs. Bettie Payton's funeral on Sunday at Ten-Mile Baptist Church. She had been a member of the church for 40 years; age 73.

Napoleon R. A. Chapter No. 61 met on the 6th, and there was a large attendance. Among the noted men were M.E., T. M. Lillard, M.E., M. J. Williams, William Norman from Glencoe; J. A. Miller, J. C. Spillman, A.T.; J. Adams from near Verona, and many others. It was a pleasant time.

Rev. J. W. Hawkins of New Liberty has received the pastoral charge of the Christian church at Sugar Creek.

There is talk of running a telegraph line from here to Owenton, which we think will improve the town very much.

MARCH 1879

W. A. Steele is doing a large business in blacksmithing.

S. O. Turley starts for Colorado soon.

W. O. Thomas has moved to the Jerry Lillard place.

JULY 1879

James Park, your former correspondent, has returned from an extensive trip in Pennsylvania.

Will Steele leaves tomorrow for Rising Sun, Indiana, to attend the reunion of scholars and teachers.

Thomas J. Turley has been shipping much stock from Gibson's Landing for several days.

The showman shot in the fracas at Glencoe was painfully, but not seriously hurt. The wound was probed by Dr. J. W. Vilett, but the bullet was not found.

Miss Pauline Schoffer of Patriot, Indiana, and Miss Mollie Egleston of Steele's have been spending several days with Miss Sue Bailey.

OCTOBER 1879

The Ohio River is so low that many are seen coming in on horseback.

Al. Landram has been quite sick, but is now able to be up and about.

Frank Richards will take up his residence in Wyandot, Kansas, shortly.
Died of Typhoid Fever at his residence near Elliston Station,
James Rogers, Sr.

Mrs. Dora Shelton of Kansas City will spend the winter with Miss
Mollie Violet.

DECEMBER 1879

Capt. J. P. Hendrix leaves for the city soon to make preparations
for his coming marriage.

R. H. Elliston, County Clerk of Grant is to be married today to
Miss Clara Willis of Brooksville. Bob is a native of Napoleon.

Judge Bright was in town on Sunday last.

Mrs. Jennie Richards is expected home from Eminence College soon.

Virge Dean has organized a College of Music at this place.

Col. T. F. Craig has the prime tobacco of Napoleon this year.

James Parks thinks of going to Zion Station and erecting a mill.

SCOTTSVILLE

DECEMBER 1875

Scottsville is situated on the waters of Varmint-Run and South
Fork, 2½ miles northeast of Napoleon and one mile from Walnut Lick.

A social hop was given at John Turner's home one night last week
and it went off nicely. Thomas Johnson and Perry Edwards furnished
the music. There was, also, a nice pleasant hop at E. Sturgeon's.

Married on the 16th, Scott Speagle and Miss Maggie Atha by Rev.
A. Tomlins.

Thomas Johnson is the champion rabbit hunter of this place. He
hunted 3 days and killed 2 rabbits.

SOUTH FORK

OCTOBER 1877

A. J. Ross and Will Carney of Steele's Creek are attending school
at Patriot, Indiana.

Francis T. Roberts is paying his addresses to Miss Susie Asbell.

Vincent Ross, J. J. Allphin and Garnett Noel are the champion stock buyers of this neighborhood. After buying all the cattle they could in this vicinity, they made a raid into Indiana and bought 44 head.

John Castleman is conducting the public school at Stone Licks, and Joshua James at Steel's Botton.

SLUSHERVILLE

DECEMBER 1878

James Dudley of Boone County married Mary Smith of Gallatin County.

James Noel married Miss Betty McClure.

Jim West gave the young folks a turkey feast on Christmas Day and Rev. Washington Roberts favored them with some appropriate religious songs.

There was a grand party at J. Hughes Thursday night.

William Miner gave George Allen a Christmas gift, viz., a pair of black eyes.
Old Ned

SPARTA

NOVEMBER 1875

We have 2 hotels which do a good business, judging from the number of travelers to be seen daily.

Our Stock pens show that dealers are by no means idle.

The "Old Mill" has changed hands recently, Messers. Ribelin and Brock have purchased it from Sol Ellis.

We have a new college founded in our midst, Sparta Institute. It is remarkably prosperous for its first year. Has 70 pupils in attendance. Professor H. Clay Smith, A.M. is the principal, assisted by Rev. J. H. Young, A.M. and Miss Frankie Davis.

JUNE 1879

Jim Lally has been nominated as the democratic candidate for the legislature.

Letch Alsop is telegraph operator at Sparta.

Mr. M. Kelley recently purchased a nice horse and buggy. He resides at the Sparta Hotel and there is a greater demand for buggy rides than supply.

WALNUT LICK

AUGUST 1875

Jack Whitson, A. D. Whitson and Robert Delany and their families will start for Kansas the first of next month, where they will make their future home.

The express wagon makes one trip a week to Verona from Walnut Lick with George Dudgeon as driver. George says he will charge only half fare during the exposition. J. Spillman

Mr. Stitson is erecting a new blacksmith shop. I thought our town would take a start after a while.

Henry Miller says he has a horse that he will trade for a set of fiddle-strings.

Mr. Augustine Dulaney has been improving his farm to some extent.

SEPTEMBER 1875

Mr. Z. T. Whitson who intends moving to Kansas is having a sale next Saturday, September 4.

Mr. James O. Spillman had his wheat and rye threshed by Henry Stahl who has the best machine in the country.

Mr. Nat. Patterson from Union is visiting at Walnut Lick and is looking for a location for an ax-handle factory.

Mr. Thomas Cochran of Union is trying to get a school in this community.

Mr. H. J. Cole begins his 5-month school at Concord house the first Monday in September.

There is a considerable illness in this community just now; flux is the prevalent disease.

Messrs. Z. T. Whitson, Bob Adams, and A. D. Whitson, Jr., have emigrated to southern Kansas; also, T. J. Clifford and William Adams have gone to the same section. It is quite desolate since the removal of these influential citizens.

The aged veteran of the gospel Rev. Joseph Ambrose is dangerously ill at his residence near this place.

Mrs. Kate Dudgeon who has been critically ill is convalescing.

Your Beaver Lick correspondent, Aunt Jemima, mistook the location of Prof. D. J. Grigsby's select school. He will teach during the fall and winter at Hogan's school house $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from this place.

OCTOBER 1875

Died--Near this place Mrs. Mary Elizabeth McCandless, wife of Pearson McCandless.

Married--On last Thursday Buck Russ and Mrs. Ellen Dudgeon of this place.

DECEMBER 1875

Thomas Johnson is peddling combs--Arch Whitson is our champion marble player.

Frank Stitson has brought his bride home to Walnut Lick. May joy go with the happy pair.

James Dudgeon has moved to Walnut Lick, which increases our population considerably.

Abe Vawtry got his leg broken the other day.

James Wilberfort and his wife were in town last Sunday.

James Bass has sold his home place; James Willeford is the purchaser, price \$6,000. Mrs. Bass is thinking of purchasing Mrs. Klepper's store. If he does, she will put up a mill in this town.

Thomas Spillman has gone on a visit to Carroll County.

John Spillman

JANUARY 1879

There was a grand hop at Abner Water's last Thursday night; all enjoyed themselves.

There was a sale at Uncle Jesse Bagby's, deceased last Saturday.

FEBRUARY 1879

Rev. Lafe Johnson preached the funeral of Jasper Willeford at Concord church February 2.

Miss Lizzie Roberts school will close at the high school building in a few days.

MARCH 1879

James Bird of Kenton County has had his saw mill in operation for 10 days now.

Wm. Dudgeon has opened a tobacco warehouse at this place.

John Spillman and wife of Whippoorville Valley were visiting at James Dudgeon's last Sunday.

R. L. Robinson, Esq., contemplates moving to Texas soon.

Leon

OCTOBER 1875

The County Court and Court of Claims were in session last Monday, October 18, Judge J. S. Brown presided. Justices Lee, Lillard, and McHatton of the Warsaw district; Frank Turley and William Carpenter of Sparta; T. J. Ritchey and George Reed of Glencoe; Joe Lillard and Ralph Bright of Napoleon constitute the Court of Claims.

Rod Perry, as commissioner, made a report of the settlement with Sheriff R. H. Morrow for 90% of the levy for the present year. Value of property of Gallatin County \$1,877,527; indebtedness of the county \$12,000; credit by balance to the county \$6,378. Average wealth of each voter \$1,887. Taxes as reported for the present year including current levy \$16,027.

There was a "Night-cap Party" at Mr. William Craig's for the benefit of the Christian Church. There were 100 guests and an elegant supper.

Mr. Hobbs, one of our oldest merchants has sold his stock of goods to Mr. Tom Kirby and Jimmie Craig. Mr. Kirby was former editor of the Gallatin News.

Leon

NOVEMBER 1875

Aunt Polly Spencer died at the residence of Mrs. Anna Chambers November 12, 1875, age 92 years. Oldest woman in the county and leaves children of 70 years of age.

R. H. Morrow, Esq., has moved to the residence formerly owned by J. T. Robinson, Sr.

Col. J. J. Landram is in attendance at the Court of Appeals at Frankfort.

Robert Russell has returned and opened his shop in the post office.

DECEMBER 1875

J. D. Pulliam was granted a license to keep a hotel last Monday.

J. H. McDaniel and Son have about completed their new store.

Mr. Benedict from Harrodsburg has opened a butcher shop in the Arcade.

The wife of J. J. Robinson, Sr. is very sick at the home of Mr. True Peak. She is not expected to recover.

E. B. Sisson was the first man to pay his Bounty Fund Tax.

The F. & A. Cox Company scared the natives Monday morning by running out a new bus. It is to be used on the Owenton and Sparta line.

John T. Robinson, Sr., and his daughter have gone to Texas.

Hildebrand & Company of Cincinnati have bought the flour mill of Hobbs & Morrow, at this place; \$2, 500 cash. Mr. Hildebrand has purchased a residence here and plans to import machinery from Germany for the mill.

Thos. Craig is irrepressible, he has arranged to study law for 6 months.

A case of amall pox is reported in the home of Mr. Godman, about 8 miles from town.
Leon

JANUARY 1879

Died at the ripe old age of 85, Mr. Jesse Bagby, on January 7, He was buried in the Concord Cemetery.

Mrs. Kate Dwyre is quite sick and not expected to live.

Died at 7 o'clock on the evening of the 15th, Mrs. Sallie Payne, wife of Robert Payne, Esq.

J. D. Pulliam and G. W. Kirby were each granted a hotel license by the County Judge last Monday.

Cornelius Connor was granted a license to marry Mary Edna Wheeler last Saturday.

FEBRUARY 1879

R. Weldon has advertised all his property for sale on the 22nd of this month.

Services were held at all the churches last Sunday: Rev. Dr. Hall in the Methodist Church; Rev. L. R. Salin at the Baptist; and Father Quinn at the Catholic Church.

Bob McHatton has returned from Kansas.

Misses Belle Summons, Abbie Bond, Bird Pulliam and Mrs. Allie Willis and J. D. Pulliam leave on the "Robert Mitchell" to attend the Mardi Gras festivities in New Orleans next Thursday.

Married--Mr. J. Arrasmith to Miss Bettie Peak.

Will R. Payne contemplates building a residence near his father's this coming spring.

J. H. McDannell & Sons intend to build an additional story to his store room, and a large brick warehouse.

S. P. Griffin & Bro., have rented the storeroom and will bring on a large stock of goods.

JULY 1879

Mr. C. Fleck has returned home from Verona.

John Wall and wife, and Mr. Payne are quite ill with lung disease.

Richard Sleet is thinking of throwing up his profession to go into the millinery business.

AUTHOR'S NOTE:

The above news items were taken from the "Commonwealth," a newspaper published in Covington during the 1870's. Original copies are in the Covington Public Library.

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