

The Famous Moore & Beckley Patent of 170,038 Acres

A few pertinent records, together with the superimposed red outline on the opposite page, should clarify somewhat, the exact geographic location of this immense grant in relation to the several southern and eastern adjacent counties; and, lend a fairly clear idea as to the partitioning of the all-important lands, and much of its basic disposition.

Except for the granting of this particular patent, it isn't even feasible to suppose that there ever could have been a town established here by the name of "Beckley", a county called "Raleigh", or—that such stalwart pioneers as General Alfred Beckley; Clarkson, William and Edwin Prince, might even have dreamed of coming to the "wildwoods" of south-western Virginia, in the first place! But, such was the government's reason for making land grants: to induce the coming of settlers to the vast, rich, rugged, undeveloped hinterlands. And, in this particular case, their choice of patentees was excellent. Already, the families of Beckley and Prince had been joined together by the marriage of John James Beckley to Mary (Maria) Prince, in Philadelphia, Pa., on October 16, 1790.

The patent was issued June 20, 1795. And, whereas many thousands of acres have been sold, leased and even given away, there is still considerable acreage remaining, in the hands of Moore & Beckley (and Stuart) heirs. Mrs. Betty Beckley Campbell, the great-granddaughter of the patentee, still resides on a small segment of what once embraced all of Beckley and the eastern half of the county.

Three salient documents follow herewith:

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
TO:
ANDREW MOORE & JOHN BECKLEY

Instrument: Patent
Dated: 6-20-1795
Conveys: 170,038 acres in fee
Acknowledgement dated: 6-20-1795
Recorded: 12-20-1890
Deed Book: "L" pages 443-446

The Moore and Beckley patent or grant is dated the 20th day of June, 1795, which covered in various tracts 170,038 acres by survey dated 1794, and in the tracts described it included all the land where Beckley is situated.

A copy of the Moore and Beckley grant was filed in the Auditor's office of the State of West Virginia, by virtue of the Acts of the Legislature passed February 24, 1893.

On the 12th day of July, 1795, there was a chancery suit styled Charles A. Stewart, et al, vs. Samuel McD. Moore, et al, in the Superior Court in Chancery held at Staunton, Virginia, and the decree recited that Christian Snidow, of the County of Giles, Virginia, a Commis-

sioner, should divide the land into twelve lots or parcels and among other things goes on to show that lot No. 2 was drawn by Alfred Beckley, (son of John Beckley, one of the original grantees) and that lot No. 2 contained 18,865 acres, (this being the only tract in which we are concerned). On June 23, 1835, there was another decree reciting the fact that Mary Beckley, (wife of John Beckley, deceased) had died, leaving only Alfred Beckley, the son of John Beckley and Mary Beckley, and that said Alfred Beckley was the sole heir, and it was ordered that Samuel Clarke, a Commissioner of the Court, made a deed to Alfred Beckley, to the lots drawn and among them was No. 2.

SAMUEL CLARK, COMMISSIONER
BY VIRTUE OF CHANCERY DECREE
CHAS. A. STUART, ET AL, VS.
SAMUEL McD. MOORE, ET AL.
(PARTITION SUIT)
TO:
ALFRED BECKLEY

Instrument: Deed
Dated: January 13, 1836
Consideration: Partition Deed
Premises
Conveys: Lot No. 2
Location: Little White Stick
Piney, Big and Little Beaver
Vendor's Liens: None
Warranty: Special
Execution: Regular
Acknowledgement: Regular
Ackl. Dated: Jan. 29, 1836
Date of Record: February term
of court 1836
Deed Book: "B" Pages 131 to 134

This deed conveys several tracts of the Moore and Beckley grant, among them is Lot No. 2 in which we are interested and described as follows:

"Lot No. 2, containing 18,865 acres and joins Lot No. 1 on the South side and lies on the Waters of Piney, Little White Stick and Big and Little Beaver, Huggs Creek and south branch of Piney and some of the head waters of Marsh Fork of Coal River and is bounded as follows:

Beginning at two pines on a ridge in thick brush and near the head of a small hollow, corner of said survey and also a corner to Lot No. 1, leaving lines of said survey and running through the same lot with No. 1, from A. S. 68° E 1580 poles crossing the main road at 276 poles and Little White Stick at 666 poles and Piney River at 1240 poles to C. a large white oak, marked I. S. and two maples one of them marked C. T. and a large white pine on a flat near a drain or run of Fat Creek and leaving Lot No. 1 S 12° W 1434 poles, crossing little

Beaver at 544 poles and the main road at 604 poles and a short bend in Big Beaver at 980 poles and recrossing the same at 1016 and recrossing the same at 1320 poles to E. four white oaks on the side of a small hollow and near the head of the hollow, one of them marked I. S. and another marked C. S. and from E. N. 69° W 1767 poles crossing Big Beaver at 237 poles and a right hand branch of same near where it forks at 435 poles and Piney River at 1401 poles and Cuff's Creek the right hand branch of Piney on a large glade at 1735 poles to three white oaks on the point of a flat ridge near said glade, one of them marked A. B. and another I. S. and the other C. S. on the patent line of said survey and from D. with line of said survey N. 10° E 72 to two white oaks on said ridge near a large glade, one of them marked R. I. and several other blazed trees standing on a flat ridge on the head waters of Marsh Fork of Coal River and N 10° E 480 poles crossing several small branches and ridges to a black oak and chestnut oak marked R. I. and M. standing on the side of a ridge on the head waters of Paint Creek and N. 32° E 560 poles to two white oaks and chestnut and N. 80° E 470 poles to the beginning."

Note: This deed is recorded in Fayette County, West Virginia, from which a part of Raleigh County was formed.

ABSTRACT OF TITLE, BEAVER COAL CO., TRACT 100, FOR THE YEARS 1836 TO 1927, INCLUSIVE.

FOREWORD

Tract 100 of the Beaver Coal Company is composed of three separate parcels, which are all parts of the Moore & Beckley 170,038 Acre Patent Tract, granted by the Commonwealth of Virginia to Andrew Moore and John Beckley, by Letters Patent dated June 20, 1795, and are as follows:

- (1) A tract supposed to contain 781 acres, being the greater part of a tract conveyed by Sarah Stuart, by James Scott, her attorney in fact, to Henry L. Gillaspie, by deed dated July 27, 1852, which is item V of this abstract. That tract is a part of Lot No. 1 of the Partition of the Moore & Beckley Patent Tract, referred to in Item I of this abstract.
- (2) A tract of 415 acres, conveyed by Alfred Beckley and wife to Henry L. Gillaspie, as containing 389 acres, by deed dated February 17, 1851, which is item VI of this abstract. That tract is a part of Lot No. 2 of the Partition of the Moore & Beckley Patent Tract, referred to in Item I of this abstract.
- (3) A tract of 300 acres, conveyed by John Beckley, Trustee, to Stuart H. Beckley, by deed dated September 5, 1873, which is item XI of this abstract. That tract is also a part of Lot No. 2 of the Partition of the Moore & Beckley Patent Tract.

(Continued on next page)



Photo Courtesy John Beckley Campbell II

Mrs. Betty Beckley Campbell

(September 5, 1868—)

XIV

BECKLEY U S A VOL. II

Centennial Edition

by
HARLOW WARREN

*"Lest we forget,
Lest we forget."*

—Rudyard Kipling.

Published and Copyrighted 1963

by

HARLOW WARREN

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Lithographed in the United States

XV

IN GRATEFUL APPRECIATION . . .

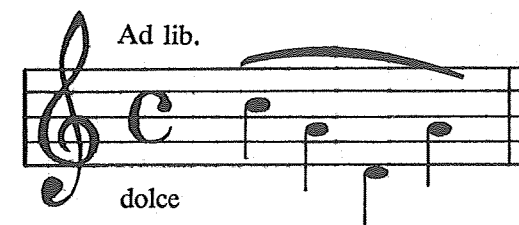
WITHOUT THE ALMOST TOTAL HELP OF PRACTICALLY EVERYONE IN THE BECKLEY/RALEIGH COMMUNITY, THIS BOOK COULD NOT HAVE EVEN APPROXIMATED THE COVERAGE MADE POSSIBLE BY THE FABULOUS ARRAY OF PRICELESS PICTURES, PHOTOGRAPHS, ADVERTISING AND OTHER DATA CONTRIBUTED SO GENEROUSLY. A LIST OF THE ACTUAL NAMES (IN ADDITION TO THOSE SHOWN ON PAGE VI) OF EACH OF THOSE OFFERING AID AND HELPFUL ADVICE WOULD REQUIRE A TABULATION OF MANY PAGES, PROBABLY EQUALING THE SPACE TO BE DEVOTED FOR THE FORTHCOMING INDEX WHICH, IN ITSELF, BECAME SO LENGTHY THAT A SEPARATE PUBLICATION WAS FOUND TO BE IMPERATIVE. ACTUALLY, BOTH INDEX AND EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION COULD BE ONE AND THE SAME.

This is the first edition of Volume II.

This Book is

No. 984

DEDICATED
TO



Second Earliest Known Photograph of Beckley's Business District

1881

Three
Treasured
Landmarks:

The famous
"Raleigh
House"
Tavern

The John S.
Hull
General
Country
Store

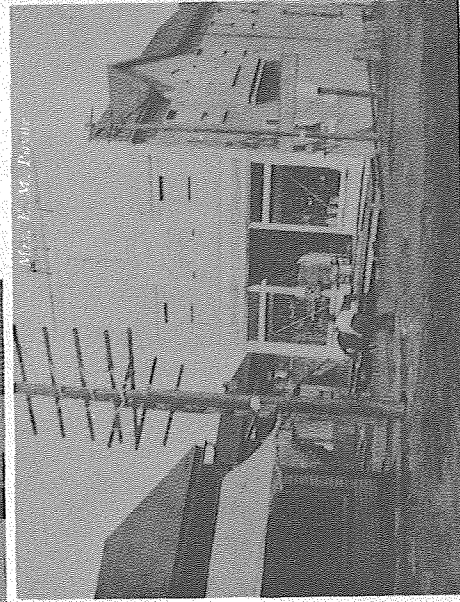
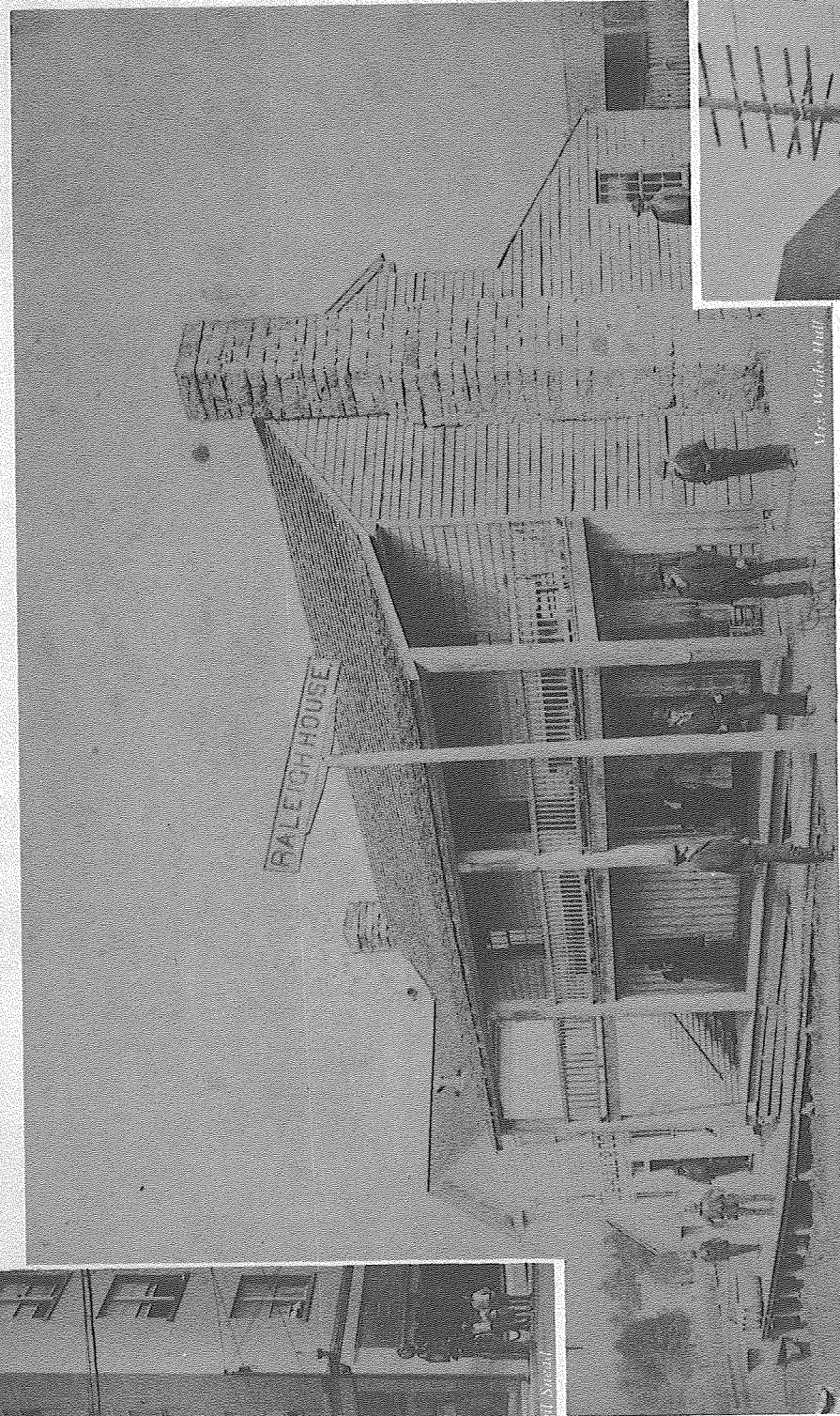
The John S.
Hull
Home

(In the far
distant
left—just
peeking
through the
trees—the
new Beckley
Post Office
location)



The Same
Scene in
1920. The
Bair Build-
ing.

XVIII



Reading from left to right: 1, unidentified; 2, Capt. Jas. H. ("Jim") Lemon; 3, unidentified; 4, "Aunt" Mary Prince Cook Cole (John Cook's mother, sister of William and Isaac Prince); 5, Lawyer W. H. ("Bill") McGinnis (later member West Virginia Supreme Court); 6, Willie Hull Howell; 7, Annie Prince Hull; 8, (in light dress) unidentified; John Cook; 10, John S. Hull; 11, Bill George; and 12, Wade Hull.

Undoubtedly, the pivot point of Beckley's early struggle for a business district, and continuing even until today. The ancient "Raleigh House" was built about 1868 by Henry Kaylor, for William "Bub" Prince, one of the co-founders of this whole community. It was torn down about 1895. James F. Prince, his son, was born here

June 1, 1868. The Princes came here from Philadelphia and the builder from Greenbrier county.

Mr. Prince replaced the structure with a two-and-a-half story, more modern store building and Mr. Hull moved his merchandise into same. Here, Mr. Hull, continued until his death on January 26, 1899. The business, and building

were purchased from Mr. Hull and Mr. Prince, by the E. M. Payne Co., that same year, (see picture at lower right) where it held forth until it occupied its new Main Street (present location) department store building, next to the Bank of Raleigh. In the early twenties, the old E. M. Payne Co., and Grass

(Continued on page 339)

The Same Scene in 1899
(The E. M. Payne Co.)

BECKLEY

TODAY



RALEIGH COUNTY ARMORY
WEST VIRGINIA
NATIONAL GUARD
XIX
UNITED STATES
ARMY RESERVES



Earl's
CECIL L. MILLER
Mayor Of Beckley

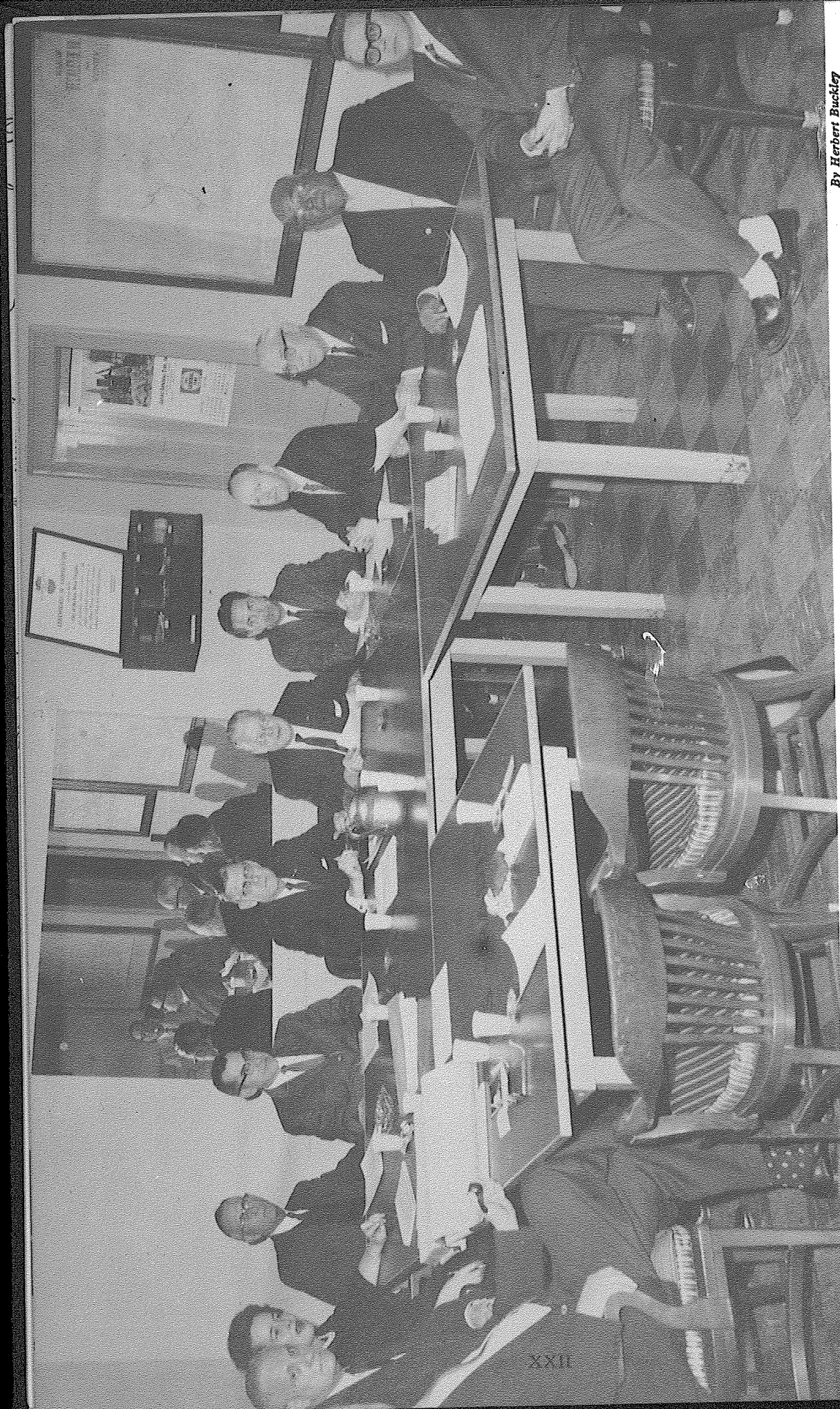


Photo Courtesy Mayor Cecil L. Miller and Council

By Herbert Beckley

Official Family, the city of Beckley, West Virginia (1961-1962)

Left to right: D. E. Warden, Street Commissioner; W. L. Humphrey, Recorder-Treasurer; Mrs. Lucy M. Mann, Secretary; George B. Chambers, Councilman; J. S. Larrick, Councilman; Mayor Cecil L. Miller; G. C. Porter, Councilman; Noel Christian, Councilman; A. A. Ross, Councilman; Hyden Smith, Councilman; Truman L. Sayre, City Attorney.

FOR THE selfsame reasons that a history of the Beckley area by this writer was attempted in the first place (Vol. I copyrighted 1955)—plus, of course, some hope that an eventual sense of completeness might be achieved—this second, and final, collection is herewith respectfully presented.

Yet there was one other motivating influence. After the first one came out—and was so surprisingly well accepted—this office was literally swamped with a constant stream of like-material, more priceless photographs, maps and other authenticated local lore. So, there seemed to be only one thing to do with such a precious acquisition: publish and preserve it alongside of Vol. I, as a living memorial to all of those many, still pioneering generations who have found happy homes and healthful living on this fabulous, salutary plateau, for as long as books are read, loved and cherished.

Apropos (see page XI) of the many “left-handed” ways to spell the name of the only city of “Beckley” in the world, Britannica Library added a few more interesting variations: “Bechelle, Becheleia, Bekale, Beccanles, Becheleay” and “Beccas LEAH cf. (sic) Beckford.” All of them criss-crossed with full authenticity.

Then, during the research, it was suddenly revealed that “Raleigh”, as a county, enjoys an even more exclusive distinction, standing alone as the only one by such a name throughout the world. And, more different ways have been conjured up to “mispell” this simple, attractive name than was the case with “Beckley”. For instance: “Ralley, Warley, Rauley, Rallie, Failey, Rowley, Rowlee,” and even “Rhalley, Rauaeus, Rauleighe, Rawleygh, Wrawly, Ralye, Raughley, etc. etc., on through over a hundred of them. And even the Sir himself (1552-1618) cooked up a special arrangement for himself, “Ralegh”. But the strangest historical note uncovered was that her Ladyship Elizabeth Raleigh, after he had lost much of his glamour and all of his life (and neck) under the ax, carried with her everywhere she went (for about 30 years), her husband’s severed, embalmed head, on a silken pillow and a silver tray, replete with Vandyke beard, but no ruffled collar!

A few rather pertinent variations between the two tomes, as well as certain continuing policies, should be taken into consideration while browsing through the approximately 800 closely-packed pages:

This second volume contains about 97% all fresh material, unpublished in the first, with much that has never before reached the bookstalls.

The idea continues to prevail that since some 85% of all knowledge is supposed to be learned through vision, pictures predominate. An example: all of the world’s dictionaries could not begin to describe the image of Grandma Martha Davis (page 431) as she sits reading her Bible in one of her nationally famous cottages.

Every treatment of even the most important people, places and things, must of necessity be sketchy, terse and to a great extent, impersonal. To be completely fair, impartial and “all things to all people”, was found to be hopelessly visionary.

Owing to the approach of an extremely critical deadline the Index which was to have been included in this Vol. II (for both volumes) is now scheduled

Preface

to be published in a separate pamphlet as soon as possible after this book comes off the press.

Instead of featuring memberships in various civic, social, business and fraternal organizations, as was done in the first installment, this edition has tried to produce actual photographs of the elected chiefs of these long-standing fellowships. The oldest of these, still active, seems to be Freemasonry whose Past Masters begin with Robert C. Cooper (1893-1894), and is followed by lawyer John W. Ball, then John S. Hull, hotelman and merchant. And uniquely, in 40-50 pages only one or two pictures were not located.

The most difficult work was an attempt to outline “family trees” of, at least, the early FFVs of this region. But the task was too taxing. Over twenty years were consumed in the production of but TWO large ones, fairly finished (the Beckleys and the Princes) to the XII generation, and a couple of smaller tries. And, as a matter of record, these two families were, in a sense, one. They united in “far away” Philadelphia, long before either dreamed of migrating to this part of the world, when John James Beckley (the general’s “honored father”) married Maria Prince, daughter of James Prince.

Many old and new Beckley families as well as individuals were asked to submit photographs, biographies and other pertinent data, but failed to provide same in time for publication. For this, the book is poorer.

You may notice that quite a few faces appear more often than others, and this came about because of regroupings of classifications, which seemed vastly more important than having a fast rule which might eliminate the basic object of the book.

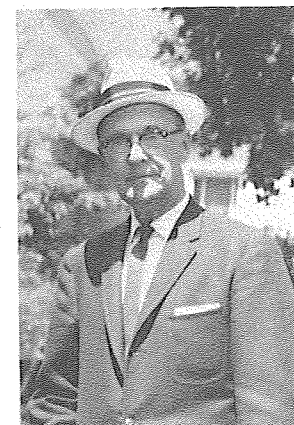
While the whole theme was to portray the story chronologically (even to transitions from the old to the new right in the middle of a page, at times), the inflexibility of numbered pages, prevented carrying the scheme as smoothly as planned. So, all departments carry out the idea as far as possible, including the final chapter, which has been designated as the “P. S.” (post script) pages to take care of dangling late arrivals.

Again, your indulgence must be sought in this final offering on the Life, the Times, and the Mores of your beloved Beckley. Not only for the unintentional errors and oversights, but for the sheer frailties of human equation, the one diabolical quality which seems to beset every well-meant effort that man undertakes. Realistically, James Russell Lowell, the famous American poet, essayist and diplomat, in writing his own epitaph, put it this way:

“Here lies that part
of
James Russell Lowell
which hindered him
from doing well.”

HARLOW WARREN

Written at
320 North Kanawha Street
Beckley, Raleigh County
West Virginia, U. S. A.
November 1, 1962



FOREWORD

West Virginia's 100th Birthday

As the years of high decision for the people of West Virginia were 1861-1863, so will 1961-1963 mark the period when we shall pay homage to the founders of our splendid state.

To commemorate the act and the actors of a century ago, and to point up developments since, the West Virginia Legislature in 1955 authorized a Centennial Commission of non-salaried members. Within the framework of the organization are a number of committees, including an advisory committee, and the finance committee organized two years ago.

The first work of the Commission, naturally, has been in the area of how to celebrate. Many helpful suggestions have come in, ranging from the scheduling of football games, the holding of mountaintop Billy Graham revivals, and a little league baseball tournament, to the erection of a tourist auditorium, equipped so that visitors may gather near the site of the National Radio Astronomy Observatory at Sugar Grove in Pendleton county, to hear sounds from outer space as far as 38 billion light-years away.

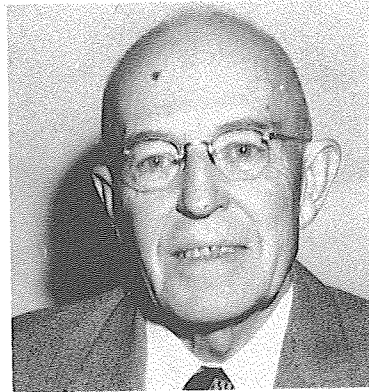
Alfred Stern of the American National Theatre and Academy, in New York City, is consultant and director-to-be. He will take over on July 1, 1962, having already rounded out a program which contemplates a state-wide celebration. Broadly, the objectives include increasing pride in the State's accomplishments, greater recognition of its opportunities, traditions and history by its own citizens, greater emphasis on young people and encouragement of our bright youngsters, the State's greatest asset, to remain in their native State. There is also need of correction and redirection of present conditions to place West Virginia in position to compete with other states in the utilization of its brains as well as its material resources. This emphasis on the State's resources and opportunities is also designed to develop industry and to attract new enterprises, as well as favorable attention to the State's tourist and recreation facilities.

The Centennial celebration program is also designed to combat a fairly prevalent national impression that West Virginia is a backward, impoverished state, largely populated by indolent people; and to create a climate of increased understanding between rural and urban areas, between north and south, east and west; in short, to develop a pride in all communities in every nook and corner of the State; and to frankly recognize the State's problems in a manner calculated to mobilize the people, their leaders and representatives, in an all-out effort toward the successful solution of such problems and deficiencies. The Centennial program will be developed so as to encourage virtually every citizen to participate in, or to attend one or more Centennial events—that we may achieve maximum publicity in national, regional, and state press, and other communications media, as well as a maximum attendance.

The Legislature has recognized the merits of the Centennial celebration's objectives, and has allocated the sum of \$400,000 to be contributed on the basis of an annual appropriation of \$100,000 over a four-year period. The Centennial gross cost is approximately \$965,000 and while most of the projects and events are to be free, certain events will produce income and thus net cost will be about \$785,000. This sum is less than 50 cents per citizen. Certainly a program which costs so little, yet will dramatize the past and dedicate the present to a greater future, justifies this comparatively modest cost.

Surely we shall use the Centennial year to reassure our-

by



Charles Hodel
Chairman
West Virginia
Centennial Commission

selves and to advertise to the world our great resources and fine achievements. West Virginia has much to be proud of. Already plans are well-advanced to present West Virginia in her best dress on a stage for all to see.

One of the prime celebration projects is to be the Centennial Special Exhibits' Train, containing a number of cars devoted to exhibits on agriculture, industry, natural resources, history and heritage, education, tourism and recreation, arts, crafts, folklore, state government. This train will visit many West Virginia communities; also Washington, D. C., and the capitals and principal cities of the five states bordering West Virginia, much after the fashion of the Freedom Train of some years ago. For smaller communities where railroad sidings and technical facilities make the Exhibit Train less practical, a second motorized traveling exposition, containing similar exhibits material on a more modest scale, has been proposed through the use of trailer trucks. It is estimated that both railroad and motorized units will reach approxi-

mately 3,500,000 persons in West Virginia and the neighboring states; and expose them to comprehensive exhibits of West Virginia's accomplishments and resources.

Another Centennial project is the creation of a series of eight "overnight group campsites" in state parks and forests. This would be a part of the "Campways-USA" program of the Boy Scouts of America, including the use of national and local tour permits.

Another contemplated event is the West Virginia Forum of the Future, a conclave of nationally recognized industrial, economic, and sociological leaders, to be held at the Governor's invitation in Charleston. These authorities will discuss the State's most pressing problems, and will deliver papers expressing their own thinking as to their solution. Such papers will be published, either by the Centennial Commission or by an appropriate educational institution, and subsequently distributed throughout the State.

Theme-Center Centennial Stages are proposed for several communities. Indeed any community which can assist the Centennial Commission in underwriting the construction of a large stage may well develop such a project. These outdoor theatres-in-the-round will be located in downtown squares or city parks, and each night during the peak Centennial period, various civic and community organizations will present their own salute to the Centennial at such Theme-Centers. Thus, one night youth organizations may present a program; another night will be devoted to music and folk organizations; Sundays, will be devoted to church programs, etc. This will permit every conceivable type of civic, educational, religious, fraternal, cultural, and service organization to actively participate in the Centennial celebration. Theme-Center communities can also invite groups from neighboring communities to use their Centennial stages, thus encouraging an influx of neighboring visitors to the host communities. All such programs will be presented free.

A Spectacle Show, which in terms of popular entertainment (music, dance, and pagentry) presenting West Virginia history, is contemplated for several large cities. The script for this Spectacle will be so developed as to include a major episode devoted to the contributions to the history of the State of the particular city where the show is appearing. Thus, for example, the show will be different in Clarksburg than in Charleston, Wheeling, or Parkersburg. The professional cast and key technicians involved in the production, will travel from city to city; but in each city large groups of local participants such as bands, square dancers, choral

(Continued on page 354)

1835

BECKLEY USA

A Continuing History of General Alfred Beckley And The Only BECKLEY in the USA, 1750 to 1963



Photo Courtesy Mrs. J. C. Prince

Beckley's Earliest History

From left: Lady sitting is Clarkson's son Robert Prince's wife, the former Hettie Shavely; kneeling is another son, Andrew Prince with his boy (sulking because he "didn't want picture taken," Wm. "Bill" R. Prince, now living at 201 Grove Ave., Beckley.) Standing at steps with dog, is Clarkson's youngest

son, Robert; and sitting in the rocking chair, his wife Susan Hull Prince. The picture was taken in 1893, and the home stood almost directly across the road from Todd's Grocery & Hardware Co. store.

Mr. Prince and Susan Hull were

married in 1835 and this log "mansion" was erected either for or by him in 1835. Here, he lived until his death in 1876; Susan lived until 1904. Afterwards, the structure was occupied by a number of families, among which were the Bill Fishers. It burned in 1915.

(Note: This final chapter, which he had marked "Number Seven," is believed to be—and complete—all of the major writings of General Alfred Beckley—just five years before his death in 1888. The series appeared in the Raleigh County Index of 1883).

(Number Seven)

At this date when Raleigh is a prosperous, growing county, fast filling up with enterprising citizens, now reaching to between seven and eight thousand, and is being dotted everywhere with improved farms and with handsome, well constructed buildings; our county seat, with its neatly painted and penciled and commodious courthouse standing on a beautiful level

country lot, well set in grass and shaded with thrifty maple trees; its handsome Odd Fellows Hall with a high school apartment, and the many tasteful new stores and dwelling houses that have been and are being erected and the writer wishes he could point out to visitors a symmetrical piece of gothic or Corinthian architecture, with a graceful spire pointing heavenward, and occupying the site of our present worn out and near dilapidated church. The want of this is the reproach to our town which is to be hoped will soon be wiped out.

Now, when from the point of view my retrospection

(Continued on page 334)

goes back to the little band of old men, heads of the few families living in what was then a perfect wilderness, with here and there a settler and to their sons and daughters then springing up; when I cast my lot among them in 1835 and 1836 together with my family in 1837, my heart feels sad that many among them have paid the debt of nature and with those that have gone hence, as well as with their aged survivors still living on the shores of time.

The time honored first settlers of Raleigh, with whom I oft exchanged the greetings of a simple, unceremonious, unaffected friendship and, for as a band of brothers, hand in hand, shoulder to shoulder, we were battling with wild beasts, rattlesnakes, gnats, bad, horrible roads, having our corn wheat, rye and buckwheat ground on horse mills, breaking down our horses, our timber choppings, our log rollings, working on our miserable roads, and many other impediments and deprivations of a wilderness settlement. 'Tis true, I cannot go back to my West Virginia experience to 1810, but I can with keen memory, to 1828-29 when, with the venerable Col. Christian Snidow, father of Giles County, a sole commissioner of partition of the Moore and Beckley patent among the heirs with Josiah Shanklin, a marker and a hunter in charge of a pack horse, while Ja. commissary packed to the party in the woods by the old hunters paths, their supply of corn meal, we commenced and in about a month affected a partition among the several claimants, thus opening the lands for sale and settlement. While engaged on this survey, I had occasion to visit Logan Court House, and show the paucity of settlements at that day, from the round spring near Shady to Logan Court House I found but three stopping places, viz: old Daniel Shumates at what is now called Trap Hill, the McDonald farms on Clear Fork, some miles below what is now Oceana, and a third settlement whose name I have forgotten. I recall with sincere gratitude that my old fellow settlers so constantly stood by me and held up my hand in all of my efforts to establish a better thoroughfare through our section and lay solely the foundation of a new community, and that wherever I visited their humble cabins, so freely, hospitably and cordially set before me their whole of bread, bacon, bear meat, venison, milk and honey, and sometimes coffee, and I can truly declare that the latch string of my log cabin was ever on the outside and that as the object of their friendly aid and social kindness in the early settlement I enjoyed myself as much or more than in my subsequent roaming in Raleigh. Then as early neighbors choppings, grubbing, working roads, raising houses and stables, making efforts to build water grist mills. (I bought a pair of small mill stones and the fixtures from old Mr. John Bailey on Paint Creek, hauled them up in a long pen, letting the water on them through a fume made of a hollow log, and we soon had wheaten bread as well as corn dodgers, to our great joy.) When the week of the day was over, if a fiddler was on hand, and this hardly ever failed, there was a free hop to the exciting tones of the violin, and pretty much all present young and old, male and female, took part, and things passed glibly like marriage "bells."

Names First Families

Commencing with Samuel Pack at the foot of

White Oak mountain and his sons William, Andrew and Augustus, and daughter Rachel, who married a Honaker of Pulaski; and northwesterly near the Big Glade the veteran hunter, Vincent Phillips, his sons Joseph, Jack, Lewis, Reuben, Clarkson, Rufus and Preston, and daughters Mrs. Wm. Meadows, Mrs. Joseph Meadows, Mrs. Alfred Luster.

At Shady Spring, Henry Hull, his sons, Lewis, John and Andrew J., and daughters Mrs. Clarkson Prince, Mrs. Wm. Prince, Mrs. Angeline Scott and Mrs. Amanda Hundley.

At old Thompson Farm, Charles Lawrence, (children unknown) Old John Pittman, one of nature's gunsmiths, with a rock for an anvil, living where Squire Jim Scott after owned and lived upon, and afterwards on Little Beaver, just above Clarkson Princes where he built a saw mill, his sons, Thomas, Peter and William, daughters Mrs. Delilah Ward, Mrs. Emily Hundley and Miss Malinda, who went west.

At the forks of Big and Little Beaver, Clarkson Prince, and his wife Susan, sons Isaac (who died in the war at Russellville, Ky.) John, (who volunteered in place of his brother), David, Henry Clay, Andrew and Robert, and daughters Mary and Susanna, (single), Mrs. Glarden of Cincinnati, O., Mrs. Emily Williams and Mrs. Lee A. Scott.

At Mouth of Beaver Creek, Mm. Prince and Margaret, his wife, sons James, Henry, William, (Bud), Alfred and Isaac, daughters Julia, and Eliza (single), Mrs. J. A. Cook, Mrs. Ella Ferguson, Mrs. Emily Swentzel and Mrs. Anna Hull.

On Guyandotte road a mile from John Bailey, the venerable and genial John Williams, now in his 82nd year, son of David Williams (selfstiled "Lonesome") who came to Paint Creek from Giles in 1818, John's sons Lewis, Daniel, Eli, Jackson (killed in the Battle of Cloyd's Farm in Pulaski) Birl, and Andrew, daughters Mrs. Eliza Stover, Mrs. Canada Smith, Mrs. William Phipps, Mrs. William Davis, Mrs. Susanna Warden, (now Baldenberg), Mrs. Elizabeth Sweeney, Mrs. Jane Warden (Judson Warden's wife).

Mr. Thomas Warden on the Kanawha Road (old John Harvey's first settlement), his sons Robert, John, Hughes, Judson and Willia, and daughters Mrs. William Carper, Mrs. John Stover, Mrs. Ira Hurt, Mrs. John Grear and Mrs. Clairborne Curtis.

At Trap Hill, Daniel Shumate, his sons James, Amos, Newton, Tolison and Daniel (first county clerk), and daughter Mrs. James Moore.

At the head of Clear Fork of Coal, Mr. John Stover, son of old Jacob Stover, the patriarch of the Coal River Stovers, whose sister was Susanna Williams, wife of John Williams, aforesaid, and his sons Irving, John, Silas, Stephen and daughters unknown.

On the waters of Whitestick, Mr. John Cook, who came to the county in 1850, his sons Lewis (killed at Fort Donelson), James H., John A., Harvey and George W., and daughters Mrs. Sallie Cook and Mrs. Margaret Humphreys.

New River Falls, Mr. Samuel Richman and Sarah, his wife, sons William C., Samuel, Hughes, A. Caper-ton and Henry Alexander and daughters Mrs. Thomas Bragg, Mrs. Polly Meadows, Mrs. W. Thomason and Mrs. Sallie Bragg.

Near Glade Creek, Mr. Satterwhite Tyree, and

(Continued on page 336)



Dr. Thomas Walker
1714—1794

Physician, surveyor, explorer and statesman. His home in eastern Albemarle County, "Castle Hill", is about 7 miles from Charlottesville. Guardian for Thomas Jefferson; said to be first non-red man to see Cumberland Gap; also surveyed the boundary line between Virginia, North Carolina and Kentucky.

Amelie Rives, distinguished Virginia novelist, who inherited the original home built by Dr. Walker in 1765, and who married Prince Trobetzkoy.

Dr. Walker's exploratory journey of 1750 was the subject of an earlier article in this series, which told of his experiences along the Big Sandy, Guyandotte, New and Greenbrier Rivers in what is now West Virginia. He recorded in his journal seeing out-croppings of coal in this region, but he was not the first, as John Peter Salley discovered coal on Coal River years before and gave its name to that river.

Dr. Walker had a long and active career. He was commissary general in Braddock's campaign in the French and Indian War. He was a member of the House of Burgesses of Virginia. He was one of the commissioners to treat with Indians at Fort Stanwix, again after the battle of Pt. Pleasant and presided over still another conference with Indians in 1775, when his fellow commissioners were Andrew Lewis, Adam Stephen and James Wood.

Made Surveys

Dr. Walker and Daniel Smith made the surveys which extended the old Virginia-North Carolina boundary which had been surveyed by Joshua Fry and Peter Jefferson.

Dr. Walker was appointed by Peter Jefferson in his will

Dr. Thomas Walker

(Earlier story begins on page 1)

The First Known White Man To Have Transversed This Region And Recorded Much of its Original History. Circa 1750. (The two rare pictures supplied by Dr. F. L. Banks, great-great-great grandson of both)

(From an article by William H. Maginnis, in the Charleston Gazette, Sept. 21, 1952—by permission.)

Links to Heroes And Royalty

Kanawha Valley and Raleigh County Residents Descended from Common Ancestors.

Ex-Gov. Adlai E. Stevenson of Illinois (now U. S. Ambassador to the United Nations) is related to many Kanawha Valley and Raleigh County residents through his descent from Dr. Thomas Walker and Col. Joshua Fry, who played important parts in the early history of western Virginia, and from Mildred Washington Gregory, aunt and godmother of George Washington.

As Mildred Washington Gregory was the great-granddaughter of Augustine Warner, Jr., of Virginia, ancestor of the Bowes-Lyon family of Great Britain, Adlai is ninth cousin of Queen Elizabeth II of England. Adlai would probably wise-crack about that.

These kinships with historic personages were brought about by the marriage of Mildred Washington to Roger Gregory, by whom she had three daughters, Frances, Elizabeth and Mildred. They married three brothers, Frances married Col. Francis Thornton, Elizabeth married Reuben Thornton and Mildred married Col. John Thornton.

Mildred, daughter of Col. John Thornton and Mildred Gregory Thornton, married first Nicholas Meriwether and after his death, Dr. Thomas Walker. After her death, Dr. Walker married her double first cousin, Elizabeth, daughter of Col. Francis Thornton and Frances Gregory Thornton.

Explored Kentucky

Dr. Thomas Walker of Castle Hill, Albemarle County, Va., who was born Jan. 25, 1714 and died Nov. 9, 1794, was believed to have been the first person of English descent to explore Kentucky. He named Cumberland Gap and Cumberland River.

A copy of the Journal of one of his later explorations in 1750 is in the West Virginia Department of Archives and History. It contains a preface written by his grandson, William Cabell Rives, who gave it to Dr. John P. Hale of Charleston. Rives was the grandfather of

to serve as guardian for his son Thomas, who later became world famous as the author of the Declaration of Independence.

Col. Joshua Fry, who was born about 1700 and died on May 31, 1754 was also prominent as a surveyor and military leader in colonial Virginia. Col. Fry married Mary Micou Hill, a widow, daughter of Dr. Paul Micou, a French Huguenot physician.

When Albemarle County was formed from Goochland County he was the first presiding justice and one of the first two representatives of the county in the House of Burgesses. He was one of the surveyors of the Fairfax grant a large part of which comprised what is now the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia.

Col. Fry's map of Virginia was used for many years.

Col. Fry was one of the commissioners who negotiated the treaty of Logstown with Indians of the Iroquois, Shawnee, Mingo and Delaware tribes.

Washington's Chief

In 1754 he was commander-in-chief of all militia in Virginia, but died in camp soon afterwards and the lieutenant colonel, who succeeded him in command of the regiment was George Washington.

The line of descent from Joshua Fry to Adlai Steven-

(Continued on page 336)



Col. Joshua Fry
1700—1754

(Continued from page 335)

son comes through his son, John Fry, who married a Miss Adams. Their son Joshua II married Peachy Walker, daughter of Dr. Thomas Walker. Their son Thomas Walker Fry and his wife Betty Smith were the parents of Mary Fry, who married Dr. Lewis W. Green, president of Centre College, Danville, Ky. Their daughter, Letitia Green, married Vice President Adlai E. Stevenson, whose son Lewis and his wife, Helen Louis Davis, were the parents of the present Democratic candidate for President.

Dr. Lewis Green, member of an old Culpepper, Va., family, was a brother of Duff Green, who married Miss Crecy, a niece of the pioneer hero, Simon Kenton, who lived for a while near the site of Kanawha Airport before the revolution.

Adlai E. Stevenson's Kanawha Valley kinfolks include those descended from Col. Joshua Fry's son, Henry, who married Susan (Sukey) Walker, an older daughter of Dr. Thomas Walker. Their son Reuben Fry married Anne Slaughter, daughter of Col. James Slaughter, a Revolutionary officer. Their son, State Senator James Henry Fry was married twice, first to Chloe Donnally, second, to Jane Donnally, daughters of Col. Andrew Donnally, Jr., and Marjorie VanBibber Donnally.

Borne 10 Children

Joseph L. Fry (son of James Henry and Jane Donnally Fry) married Miss Lia J. Follansbee and had 10 children of whom five are living: Cleveland S. Fry, Parkersburg; James F. Fry, Miss Jane E. Fry and Mrs. Virginia Wine, wife of Roy B. Wine, druggist, all of Charleston.

In the West Virginia Dept. of Archives and History is an old volume of 112 pages containing memoir of Col. Joshua Fry, an autobiography of his son, Rev. Henry Fry, and a census of their descendants by Rev. Philip Slaughter, D. D.

The book is of general historic and genealogical interest, since it gives an insight into life in Virginia in early days, especially in Albemarle, Orange, Culpepper and other counties of the Piedmont section. Genealogical data links about 150 families, including Maury, Lewis, Willis, Bullitt, Harvey, Hope, Nash, Garnett, Banks, Aylor, Nicholas Minor, Taliaferro and others.

Rev. Henry Fry in his autobiography tells of his spiritual experiences from his boyhood, through his youth, which was marked by intemperance; his conversion and his services as a Methodist preacher. His graphic description of his spiritual struggle up to his conversion, his doubts and uncertainties in com-

paring different religious doctrines preached in different churches and his final acceptance of the Methodist belief would interest many readers in a similar state of spiritual confusion.

Link to English Thorne

Augustine Warner, Jr., common ancestor of these American and English families, had a daughter Mildred who married Lawrence Washington, the father of Augustine, who was the father of George, our national hero. Lawrence Washington and Mildred Warner Washington were also the parents of Mildred Washington Gregory, ancestress of Walkers, Frys and Stevens.

Augustine Warner, Jr., also had a daughter Mary, who married John Smith of Purton. Their daughter, Mildred, married Robert Porteus. Their son, Rev. Robert Porteus and his wife Judith were the parents of Mildred Porteus, wife of Robert Hodgson. Their son, Rev. Robert Hodgson, Jr., and his wife, Mary Tucker, had a daughter, Henrietta Mildred who married Oswald Smith. Their daughter, Frances Dora Smith, married Oswald Lyon-Bowes, later Bowes-Lyon, earl of Strathmore. Their son Claude Bowes-Lyon and his wife, Nina Cecilia, were the parents of Elizabeth who married King George VI of England and became the mother of Queen Elizabeth II.

BECKLEY'S EARLIEST HISTORY—(Continued from page 334)

sons Richard, Edward, George and Granville, and daughters Mrs. Sarah West, Mrs. Sparriel Bailey and Mrs. Rebecca Meadows.

On the Flats between Glade Creek and Piney River, old Mr. William Redden, and all his sons, John and William and their children, Mathias, Jack, etc.

At the foot of Guyan mountain, Mr. George Snuffer, Sr., his sons, Owen, Cyrus, George and daughter Mrs. Coonrod Riffe.

Near Owlsburg, Mr. Coonrod Riffe, his sons, Henry M., Peter L., William C. (our late delegate), Owen S. and daughters Mrs. Mary Bryson, wife of Capt. Alexander Bryson.

On Shockleys Fork of Marsh Fork, Mrs. James Bryson, his son Alexander and daughter Mrs. Polly Mankin.

At Fiddlers Green (so named by the famous J. Rowzer Peyton), Mr. John H. Anderson, the first commissioner of revenue, his sons Joseph, who was killed in the Civil War, Chapman and Brooks and daughters Mary, Lizzie and Blanche.

Joseph Harper, Esq., his sons and daughters on Coal River especially my old friend Jacob Harper, so shamefully murdered and his enterprising sons, Jackson, Joseph, George Wesley, William and Franklin.

I could, perhaps, mention other names, but suffice it to say I was better acquainted with the old settlers upon the line of the old Bluestone and Guyandotte roads than with the settlers on the fork of Coal and

on Paint Creek, and I can truly testify that all the head of families, I have enumerated were honest, industrious men, and they have stamped an impress of their worth upon their immediate descendants and their children, whose name is "legion" who are making useful citizens of our fair county of Raleigh. During the pendency of measures to establish our county, and since its establishment many, very enterprising and useful families have moved in, but I think the earlier settlers of what was in 1836 a perfect wilderness, should be chiefly honored by our whole population. This is my affectionate, sincere tribute to all associated with me in the settlement of Raleigh County.

EDITOR OF THE INDEX:

Permit me to add a P. S. to the letter I recently communicated to you for publishing in your columns. I read with pleasure the Rev. Matthew Ellison's account of those worthy old settlers of the Marshes of Coal and Clear Fork. His son Rev. Father James Ellison, Daniel Shumate, the hunter, Thomas Riggon, Michael Mann, Charles Hutchinson, James Bryson, James Moore, George Snuffer, C. Riffe, Fielding Phipps, Square Jos. Harper, J. Scarbrough and old Jacob Stover, their children now so worthily representing their parents in the citizenship of Raleigh County. Had M. E. given the opportunity I would have incorporated all their names in the body of my letter, as I believe I have a number of them.

"Honor to whom honor is due," is my motto.

A. B., Sr.

(Continued on page 344)

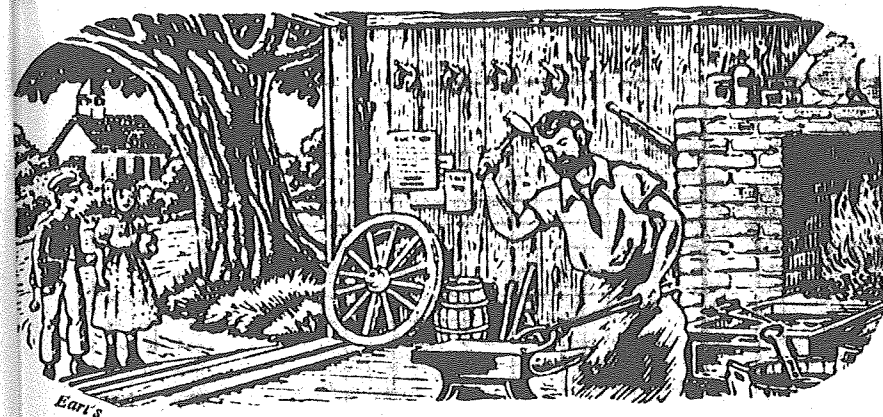
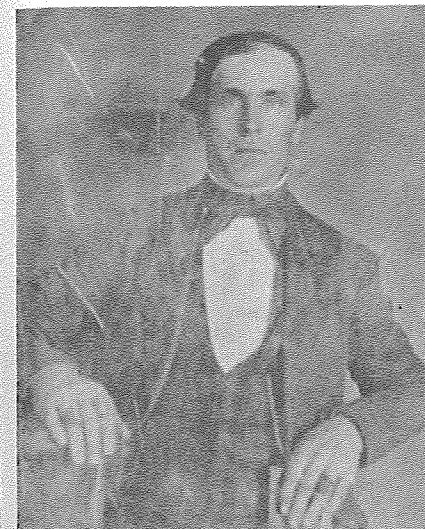


Illustration by John Dukes McKee, from MY AMERICAN HERITAGE, compiled by Ralph Henry and Lucile Pannell. Copyright 1949 by Rand McNally & Company, publishers.

James Cole



1813—1879

1st wife a Rumberg



Must have died 184?

James Cole's grandfather came from France and was reputed to be (understandably) a swordmaker, according to a great-grand-daughter.



Miss Anna Cole



Mrs. Oscar Farley

Ballard Cole (10th child of James) and his wife, Ellen Bailey, and children, 1. to r.: rear: Vergilla and Carl. Front: Pierce, Fred, and baby Roy. Three others born later: Lonnie, Anna and Clara.

Later: Ballard Cole and sister, Katherine Cole (Mrs. Lee Willis), Mrs. Oscar Farley's mother. Picture taken at Crab Orchard where James Cole had acquired several hundred acres from Alfred Beckley.

The "Paper-town's" Beginning.

"Under a spreading chestnut tree
The village smithy stands;
The smith, a mighty man is he,
With large and sinewy hands;
And the muscles of his brawny arms
Are strong as iron bands."

—Longfellow

JAMES COLE

The Primordial Seed Of A Town

First, there was a fork in the road. Nothing else. No house, barn—no inhabitant in all that original 30 acres staked out by Alfred Beckley as his "paper town" (see page 2). The road forked about a mile from the nearest settlement (also aptly dubbed, "Wildwood"), and in the crotch of the fork stood a large white oak tree. Far and wide this spot which is now Beckley ("USA" or otherwise), got its first outside-identification as "The Twenty-three Mile Tree", because of its distance from Pack's Ferry on Bluestone River, above Hinton.

Then, came one James Cole. He was born in Floyd county in 1813. And before he left here (1879) his name was legion. But instantly he saw the great possibilities, not so much where one might establish a town or county seat, but for a fine, thriving smithy business at such an important junction of the James River (south and eastern), Great Kanawha Valley (northern), Guyandotte and Big Sandy River territories (western). And, while James Cole chose this exact locale for his "toiling—rejoicing—sorrowing", Longfellow could not possibly have picked a prototype so completely fitted to make a "flaming forge, and hear the bellows roar".

So, after making suitable arrangements with the town's founder, Alfred Beckley, he built a residence under the spreading white oak, and a short step away, where the No. 1 fire department and city hall now holds forth, his bellows and forge. When this particular piece of ground was given to the first Presbyterian Church many years later (about 1907) by Senator John W. McCreery, for a place of worship, many tons of old horse and mule shoes, wagon tires and other rusty doodads were uncovered in the excavation. And, probably many more tons still remain there.

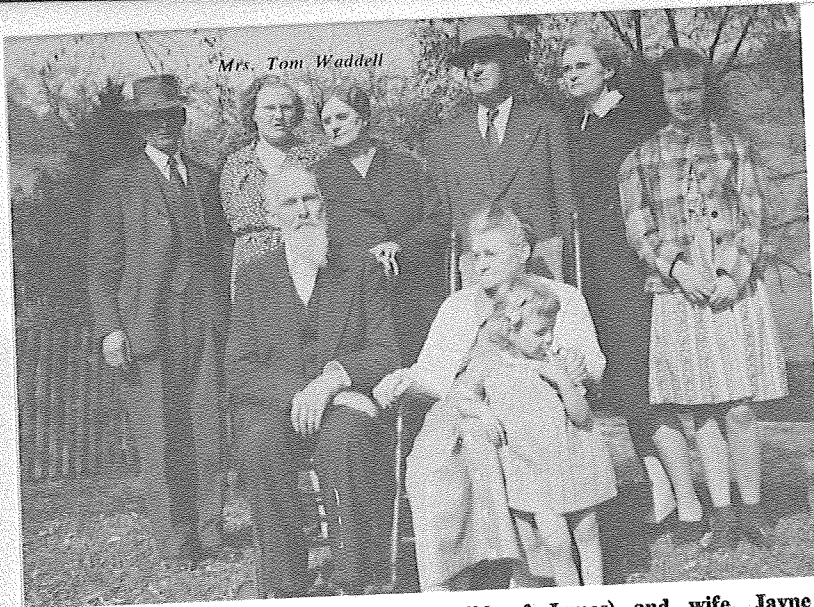
In 1850, Edwin Prince (see elsewhere) took a census of the population, and the first name he enumerated was "JAMES COAL" (sic). In the following delineation of these local people, the names have been placed in alphabetical order for quick research and reading (see under the year 1850, census).

From Floyd County, Virginia, he lists: James COAL (sic), 37, blacksmith; Mary, 24 (this was his second wife (and her name was Hoopes), since his first, a Rumberg had died, the mother of the first 4 children herein named: John, 12; Mary, 11; Burgooin, 9; Matthew, 8; (and these first 2 children of Mary Hoopes, were: Julia Ann, 4; Eliza, 2.

James Cole is believed to have been the son of Bird Cole, who died at the age of 114 years. The centenarian was declared to have been a French royal sword, mail and armor maker.

A more nearly complete tabulation of the last 8 of his and Mary Hoopes' children (not counting the 3 that died in infancy), were:

(Continued on next page)



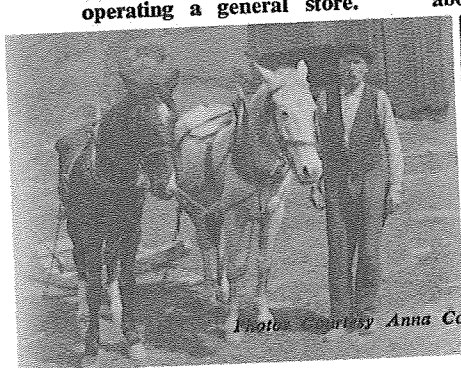
Alfred Lewis Cole (8th child of James) and wife, Jayne McAlexander, and baby grand-daughter Delores. Others, left to right: Tom Waddell, Mrs. Tom (Vicie Cole) Waddell, Mrs. John Cole, John Cole, sister Iva Cole Todd, daughter Garnet Waddell (Lilly)



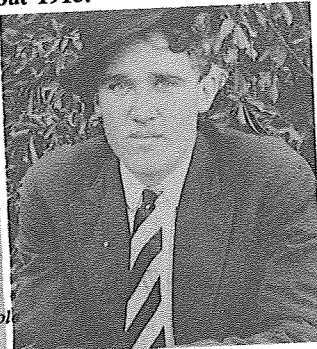
Anna Cole, daughter of Ballard Cole. Now lives at Lanard, operating a general store.



Mrs. Oscar Farley, sister of Ballard Cole. Picture taken about 1915.



Alfred Cole, father of Mrs. Oscar Farley, at his jumping Br. Farm.



Lonnie Q. Cole (6th child) of Ballard, who married Myrtle Richmond.



The Robert L. Davis' Direct Descendents
Mr. Davis, a civil and construction engineer is now engaged in the construction of Steven's Br. Lake. Mr. Davis arrives from the Hutchinson family (see below)



A FEW OF THE HUNDRED'S OF COLE'S— (Continued from page 337)

- 5 Julia Ann married Geo. Washington Hutchinson (1848-1933), (uncle of J. Q. Hutchinson)
- 6 Eliza Frances married John McVey, a Baptist minister.
- 7 Ellen became Mrs. Jerry Miller
- 8 Alfred L. married (1) Rosana Dunn (sister of James Dunn) (2) Jayne McAlexander
- 9 Crocket married Rena Farley
- 10 Ballard married Ellen Bailey (see Ballard's family below)
- 11 Margaret did not marry
- 12 Catherine married Lee Willis, whose family consisted of:
 - (1) York Willis, died in infancy
 - (2) Mary Willis (Wilson)
 - (3) Esther Willis (Arch Allen)
 - (4) James A. Willis married Ellen Lintecum
 - (5) Goff Willis married Lola Snuffer
 - (6) Julia Lenna married Oscar Farley)

Julia Ann (above, 5th child of James) and Geo. W. Hutchinson had 6 children:

- 1 Milton Wade Hutchinson
- 2 Julius Clinton Hutchinson
- 3 Mary Edith, married Perry Davis. They are the parents of Robert Lowell Davis (page 336) engineer, who married Rose Griffith, and they are the parents of Robert L. Jr., who married Martha Lee Clark, the daughter of Majorie Watts and Harlan Lee Clark of Park Ave.
- 4 Henry Homer Hutchinson
- 5 Adrian Dorsey Hutchinson
- 6 George Romain Hutchinson

The Ballard Cole family, in more detail (picture on page 335): Ballard Cole was born in his father's home where Memorial Bldg. now stands.

- 1 Vergilla May married (1) Edward Johnson, (2) Wm. Stroud.
- 2 Fred Camden, Ellen Lusher
- 3 Carl Fountain, Blanche Meadows
- 4 Pierce Iland, (1) Mayme Bennett, (2) Pearl Helen (sic)
- 5 Roy Oakley, Ruthie Sorrel
- 6 Lonnie Quaine, Myrtle Richmond
- 7 Anna Flora (unmarried)
- 8 Clara Belle, Lewis Gulliams

Alfred Cole was the FIRST child to be born in the Beckley proper of that time; this was in 1852 and he lived for 91 birthdays. He was also the best rifle shot in his acquaintance. His picture shown with some of his family on page 336. His picture could not be complete without a list of his 6 children. They were: Earl, Irene, Curtis, Ted, Lelia and Garnet.

The full story of James Cole can never be told, because it never ends, and his mark on the community is inestimable.

(Continued on page 339)

Ballard Cole, 95, City Native, Dies

Aged Man's Father First Settler Of Beckley

Ballard L. Cole, 95, whose father was the first man to settle in Beckley more than a century ago, died at 9:30 a. m. yesterday in a local hospital following an extended illness.

Cole was the son of James Cole who came to Raleigh County from Floyd County, Va., in 1842. He made his home with his daughter, Miss Anna Cole of Stanaford, and was a member of the Church of Christ.

His birthplace was in his father's farmhouse located where the Memorial Building now stands on South Kanawha Street.

A farmer most of his life, Cole was married to Virginia Ellen Bailey in 1873. She preceded him in death.

Among 124 descendants of Cole who survive him are five sons, Fred Cole of Stanaford, Carl of Beckley and Pierce, Ray and Lon all of Ramsey; three daughters, Miss Cole of Stanaford; Mrs. W. E. Johnson of Lanark and Mrs. L. R. Guillian of Stanaford; 52 grandchildren, 58 great grandchildren and 16 great-great grandchildren.

The body was taken to Quesenberry and Webb Funeral Home pending funeral arrangements.

Cole reportedly was a witness to the only execution of a Raleigh Countian for the crime of murder. The execution, in the form of a hanging, took place Oct. 3, 1890, at the corner of Valley Drive and Piney Avenue. The man who was hanged was William I. Martin of Brooklyn, near Hinton, who murdered his wife.

Beckley paper's notice of the death of Ballard, Alfred Cole's son, April, 1952.

*"Toiling—rejoicing—sorrowing.
Onward through life he goes;
Each morning sees some task begin,
Each evening sees it close;
Something attempted, something done,
Has earned a night's repose.*

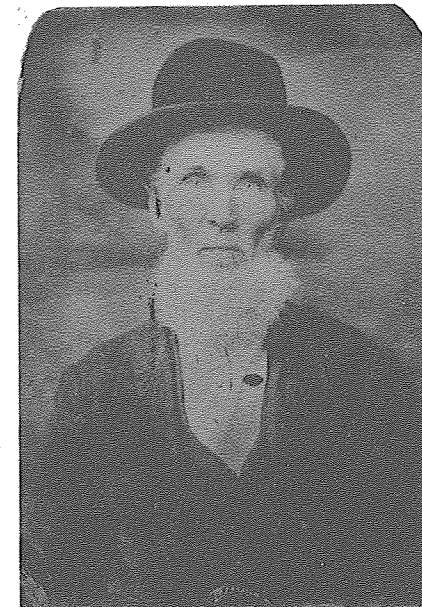
*Thanks, thanks to thee, my worthy friend,
For the lesson thou has taught!
Thus at the flaming forge of life
Our fortunes must be wrought;
Thus on its sounding anvil shaped
Each burning deed and thought."*

—Longfellow.

(Continued from page 338)



Mrs. Ballard Cole (above), Miss Anna's mother; and James Cole (below) in their twilight years.



In his late 1870s

THE HULL STORE—(Continued from page XVIII)

Meat Market frameworks were burned to the ground. Both were replaced by the Bair Brothers for their Ford Agency and rental office spaces on three floors.

Incident to all this, next door to the auto agency, came the Raleigh Herald newspaper, where it remained until taken over by the new Daily News syndicate, settling on south Fayette street.

From the Centennial Edition of the Raleigh SUNDAY Register, of June 19, 1938, came this story, as quoted by Wade H. Hull of South Kanawha St., verbatim:

"THE TAVERN -- A QUIET PLACE"

There was a tavern in the town back in 1868 but no True Love sat him down to guzzle while his spouse "hung her heart on a weeping willow tree."

Ancient taverns in many parts of pioneer America were the scenes of many a joyous party, many a wild fling, many a wife and mother weeping outside while the man of the house caroused with the boys.

But the Princes and the Hulls didn't run their taverns, or hotels, that way. All of the records there are now of ancient Beckley testify that the town, including the wayside inns, was sedate and law abiding.

Beckley was an agricultural community then, despite the pleas of the town's first editor that somebody get started in the coal mining business. Apparently there were no rowdies at all; that is, no rowdy-set which started out periodically to make whoopee and paint the town.

When Saturday night came, everybody got to bed early; they didn't even have to wait up long enough to fold up the sidewalks.

Wade H. Hull is one of the best authorities on Beckley life of that day. And he describes the Raleigh House, the only inn here then, as a quiet, homelike establishment.

John S. Hull for many years had a store alongside the hotel building (see more of this store in a separate picture with pertinent facts regarding same, on page 345), but in 1892 he employed John Mellen to construct a hotel building (which became the Hull Hotel) on the corner diagonally across the street from the Raleigh House (a picture of this also, on same page).

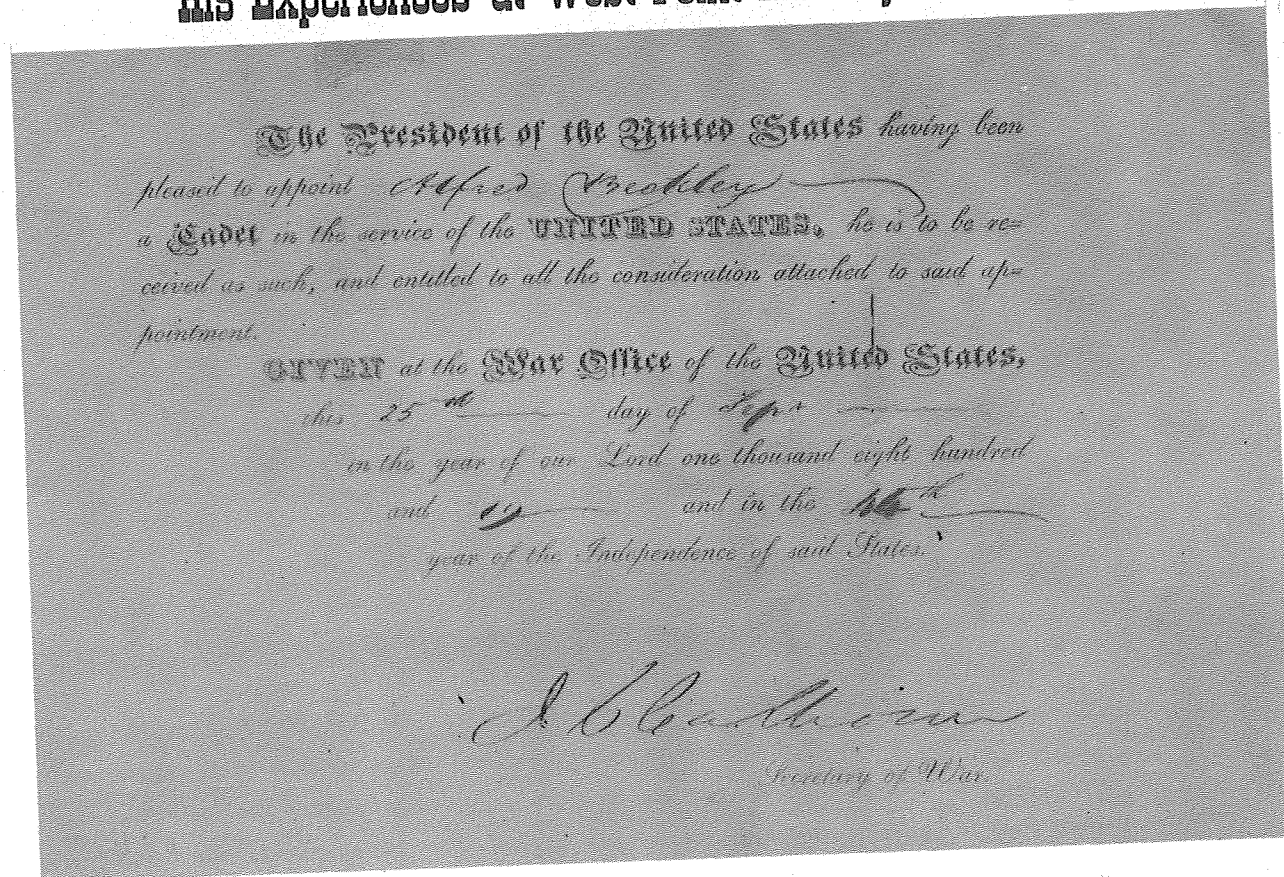
Completed in 1893

The three-story building was completed in the latter part of 1893, and John S. Hull moved into it in January, 1894, and resided there until his death, Jan. 26, 1899.

Wade Hull himself, a brother to John Hull, came to Beckley in April, 1889,

(Concluded on page 345)

General Alfred Beckley's Priceless Documentation of His Experiences at West Point Military Academy



Photographed by Earl's Courtesy Col. Stuart Alfred Beckley, great-grandson

When the boy Cadet, Alfred Beckley began his Military Career, ending in a Generalship

Above is an exact photograph of the presidential (James Monroe 1817-1825) appointment of Alfred Beckley, as a lad of seventeen, to the United States Military Academy at West Point, dated September 25, 1819, "in the 44th year of the Independence of said States". It is signed by J. C. Calhoun (1782-1850), Secretary of War.

Also ranking high in the small, but invaluable, sheaf of personal records and documents, left to posterity by the general, is the pamphlet reprinted herewith in this special block of 6 pages, beginning with these notes and continuing on the opposite page and subsequent pages in the latter part of the book, as indicated.

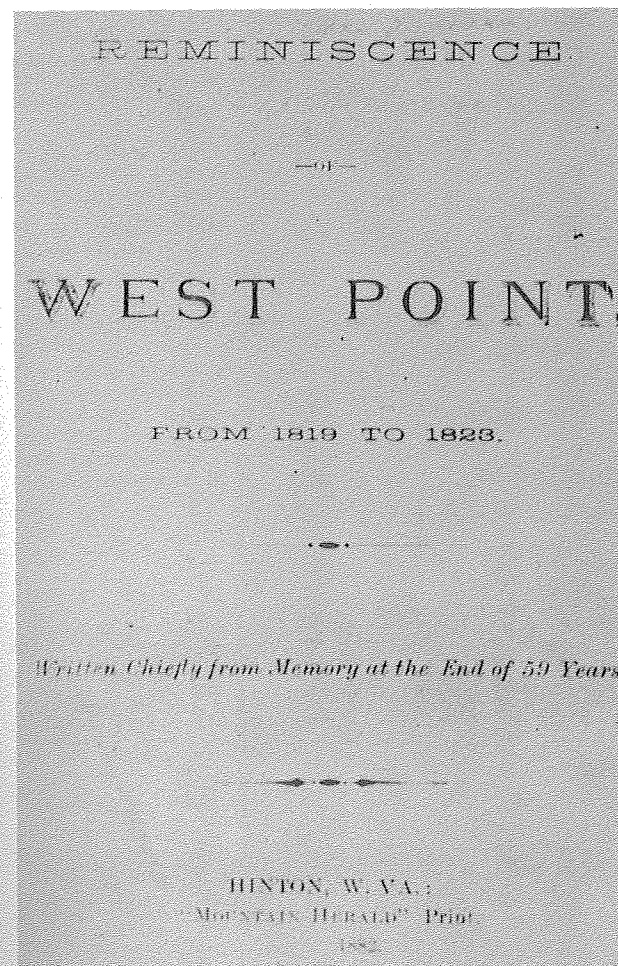
To clarify the extra-personal touch at the top of the title cover, he has written in his inimitable, curlicued penmanship, this dedication and presentation:

Daniel Webster Beckley Esq
With the affectionate regards of his
Father Gen. Alfred Beckley Sr
June 5th 1882
"Scribo ut Miminerum"

(All three of these priceless historical documents are published through the courtesy of Mrs. M. M. Ralsten, the general's great-granddaughter, the daughter of Mrs. Betty Beckley Campbell)

(Continued on next page)

Pamphlet Reproduction through the Courtesy of Mrs. M. M. Ralsten



All negatives by Earl's

Exact facsimile photographed from the title cover of the original pamphlet, which was about twice the size of this copy.

Cadet Alfred Beckley

Having spent four years at the U.S. Military Academy West Point, under the superintendency of General, then Col. Sylvanus Thayer the "Nursing Father of that institution. It is proper for me to give a brief summary of my appointment as a Cadet, and my journey from my home in the city of Frankfort, Ky., via North Bend, the residence of Gen. William Henry Harrison, the Hero of Tippecanoe and the Thames! to West Point. In the winter of 1818 and 1819. My mother unable to afford me a collegiate education, through Gen. Harrison a Senator from Ohio in Congress applied to James Monroe, President of the U.S., and an old intimate friend of my deceased father, John Beckley, for aid in my education. Mr. Monroe immediately gave me a cadet's warrant; and that most noble, benevolent man, Gen. Harrison, invited me to North Bend to share with his sons the instructions of an accomplished privat tutor, (whose name to my great regret has escaped my memory) so as to prepare me for admission to M. Academy,—and he wrote to my mother that his namesake and protege, Harrison Scott was going to accompany his son William to Frankfort, and that I could ride William's horse back to North Bend. Wither in April or May, 1819, after a very affecting parting from my devoted, admirable mother, Harrison Scott and myself stated via the Forks of Elkhorn, for N. Bend, 16 miles below Cincinnati, on the Ohio river. We rode one day fifty miles, riding after midnight, in almost "Egyptian Darkness," hearing as I supposed, a child crying in the woods, I desired Harrison Scott to turn out of the road and rescue the child. Harrison laughed heartily, and said it was a cry of a wolf. I was most kindly welcomed by all of this distinguished, amiable family,

the General, Mrs. Harrison, Miss Lucy, his second daughter, afterwards the wife of Judge Estey, and by the sons, Symmes, Scott and Benjamin, and while an inmate of the family was treated in all respects as one of the children, so much so that when their summer clothes were made, Mrs. Harrison had the same suits made for me. The tutor, by the General's directions, was very attentive to give me a proper preparation for West Point making me proficient in **Decimal and Vulgar Fractions**, which stood me in good hand at my first examination for admission.

About the middle of August Gen. Harrison deeming it time for my journey to West Point, placed me under the care of a Mr. Kinney, of Newark, New Jersey, and placed money in his hands for my traveling expenses. I accompanied the Gen. and Mr. K., to Cincinnati, there I bid adieu to my kind benefactor, and with Mr. K., rode on horseback to Dayton, and thence traveled with Mr. K., and his friend and Mr. Asa Whitehead and his aged mother in a dearborn wagon. During my journey somewhere in the Dutch settlements of Pennsylvania I was attacked with bilious fever, but Messrs. K. and W., would not stop a single day, as the accommodations were unsuited to the sick; the rough riding and the disease reduced and weakened me so that I believe I would have died if good old Mrs. Whitehead had not permitted me to lay my aching head upon her lap. (I trust the Lord rewarded this charity shown to a sick suffering boy.) When we reached Newark, I had to remain some week or more to recruit my strength after the fever abated here I was tenderly cared for by Mrs. Kenney, and two of his or her sisters. I trust God blessed them.

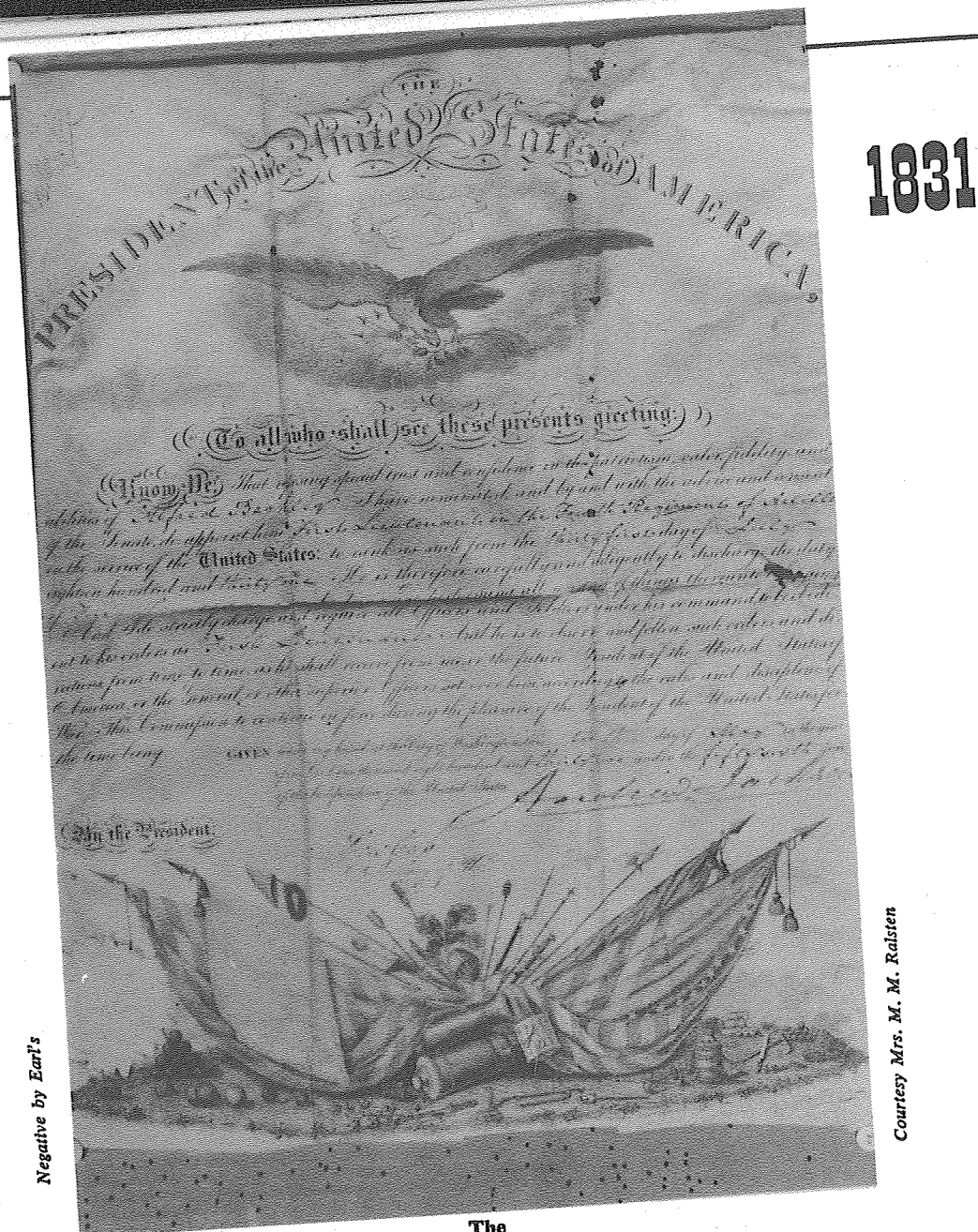
Before I was well enough, as I thought to persue my journey Mr. K., instead of going with me on Monday, the 21st of September, 1819, put me in the hack, gave me five dollars to pay for passage, etc. On reaching Jersey City the **Equinoctial storm** was raging, and the water too rough to cross the Hudson to the city. With my saddle-bags, containing all my baggage, on my arm, I sought entertainment, and from my inexperience stopped at a sailors' tavern; but I soon found I was in the wrong pew, and watching my opportunity, I snatched up my saddlebags, took "French leave," and went to Lyon's Hotel, a very genteel place. I was detained all night, and till late on Tuesday afternoon, when I reached the dock of the North river boats, and found all the streets **fenced up** on account of the **Yellow Fever**, and that the steamboat "Constitution" would not start till next morning. In my dilemma I had great difficulty with the Captain to get leave to stay on his boat during the night, and I had only two half or two quarter dollars left of the \$5.00, and the fare to West Point was three dollars.

Most providentially my mother had given me a letter of introduction to a Mr. Samuel Corpe, a retired merchant living in Beaver Street, New York, and seeing a black man standing idle on the wharf, I gave him one of my pieces of money to take my letter to Mr. Corpe, as he said he knew where he lived. I went back to my lounge in the cabin, which the steward had furnished me with. After some time I went up on deck, and seeing the same black man on the wharf, I inquired whether he had delivered my letter, and he said: "Didn't you see him? He rode down in his carriage, with his son, and went on board the boat, and inquired for you, and was told there was no such youth on the boat, and returned home." I then wrote another note to Mr. Corpe, and gave the same man my remaining piece of money to carry my note. In a short time Mr. Corpe's son came down, and handed me a **three dollar note** as a loan, (afterwards repaid with thanks).

The boat started late on Wednesday morning. We reached the dock at West Point early Thursday morning the 24th September, and was landed in the trice with my saddle bags; it was a chilly, dark, drizzling morning, and the poor boy debilitated with fever, hardly able to put one foot after the other, had to plod his weary way with snail pace up the steep road to the plain, upon which was located the M. Academy. I saw some of the Gray Jackets lounging about, and the said (as they told me afterwards,) "That fellow is a **Kentuckian** or **Ohioan**; we know by his **saddle bags**." I was directed to Col. Thayer's quarters, he occupied then one of the row of one story frame houses on the brow of a hill, west from the monument of Col. Woods, killed in battle in 1812. I handed him my warrant signed by John C. Calhoun, Secretary of War. The Colonel resigned me pleasantly, and noticing how pale and weak I looked he assured me that in

(Continued on page 649)

1831



Negative by Earl's

1831

The
President of the United States of America
E PLURIBUS UNUM

To all who shall see these presents greetings
KNOW YE, That reposing special trust and confidence in the patriotism, valor fidelity, and abilities of Alfred Beckley I have nominated, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, do appoint him First Lieutenant in the Fourth Regiment of Artillery in the service of the UNITED STATES: to rank as such from the thirty first day of July eighteen hundred and thirty one. He is therefore varefully and dilligently to discharge the duty of First Lieutenant by doing and performing all manner of things thereunto belonging. And I do strictly charge, and require all Officers and Soldiers under his command to be obedient to his orders as First Lieutenant. And he is to observe and follow such orders, and directions, from time to time, as he shall receive from me, or the future President of the United States of America, or the General, or other superior Officers set over him, according to the rules and discipline of War. This Commission to continue in force during the pleasure of the President of the United States, for the time being.
GIVEN under my hand, at the City of Washington, this tenth day of May in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and thirty two and in the fifty sixth year of the Independence of the United States.

ANDREW JACKSON

BY THE PRESIDENT

Lewis Cass
Secretary of War

(NOTE: the above underscoring indicates pen and ink fill-ins; except the original signature of "Andrew Jackson" which was underscored by himself, and Lewis Cass was also an original signature, though not underscored.)

SEAL

342

1850

FIRST OFFICIAL CENSUS OF RALEIGH COUNTY

Quiet appropriately, and somewhat prophetically, the first name appearing on the original 1850 Census Bureau's report, just happened to be the very first resident, James Cole, to move his abode and place of business into that "thirty acre" plat laid out and presented to the newly formed town of Beckley, by General Alfred Beckley. (See the story of Beckley's first citizen on page 337)

The article shown on page 5 of the Post-Herald Centennial Edition, and written by Jim Wood, follows:

"Every Resident Tabulated By Edwin Prince, Early Merchant.

"Listed here are 1,765 persons (287 families) who could be called 'Charter Members' of the great Raleigh County family.

"By pure coincidence, 1850 was the first year that the Bureau of Census ordered that the name and age of each individual was to be listed. In previous census reports (the first taken in 1790) only the names of the heads of families

were recorded. Others were listed by sex only.

"Edwin Prince of Raleigh's famous Prince clan took the county's first census, starting in April and working into the first of August. Prince's task was a difficult one indeed.

"Traveling by horse and afoot, he visited every corner of the county, diligently taking down the information called for on the census forms. (Prince was 28 years old).

"Considering the obstacles which he faced at that time, he did an excellent job, although a number of early settlers were omitted in his returns. His

reports however are fairly accurate.

"Present-day readers may find that some of their ancestors are not listed. Investigations show that many of the McGinnises, Riffes, Snuffers, Lesters and Stovers were missed in the count. Without a doubt there were others.

"When an individual was born outside the state of Virginia, his state of birth is also listed . . . since most early Raleigh Countians were born in Virginia."

So, below you find the complete roster, with the exception that here the names have been rearranged alphabetically for this specific publication:

10TH CENSUS by EDWIN PRINCE

ABBOTT, Wilson, 52, farmer; Mary, 54; William, 20; Julia Toney, 24; Harriet, 2.
ACORD, Robert, 23, laborer; Michael, 17, (Ohio).
ACORD, Robert, 45, farmer; Nancy, 42; Eli, 17; Rebecca, 14; Joseph, 12; John, 9; James, 6.
ACORD, William, 21, farmer; Sarah, 17; Nancy, 1.
ADKINS, Barbara, 40; Pack, 18; A—(male) 21; Ann, 16.
ADKINS, Grove, 48, laborer; Elizabeth, 42; Nancy, 21; Stephen, 18; William, 15; John, 12; Daniel, 7; Robert, 5.
ADKINS, John, 47, farmer; Elizabeth, 43; Arthur, 22; John, 17; Lewis, 14; Elizabeth, 12; William, 9; Nancy, 5; Henry, 2.
ADKINS, John, 40, farmer; Rody, 35; Henry, 31; Nancy, 19; William, 15; Catherine, 11; Ann, 10; Robert, 8; Isaac, 6.
ADKINS, Larkin, 47, farmer; Elizabeth, 43; Jane, 18; Claressa, 16; Barbara, 14; Mary, 12; Eliza, 10; Peter, 7; Amanda, 5; Louisa, 2.
ADKINS, Mark, 55; Margaret, 53; (female), 23; Harrison, 21; David and William, 16 (twins); Clarkson, 12; Martha, 10; Margaret, 14.
ADKINS, Mathew, 41, farmer; Elizabeth, 39; Sylvester, 17; Squire, 14; Mary, 12; Matthew, 10; Parker, 8; Hiram, 6; Cynthia, 2.
ADKINS, Rickels (?), 34, farmer; Lovey, 30; Emeline, 8; Clarkson, 6; Jacob, 5; Melly, 2.
ADKINS, Parker, 37, farmer; Barbara, 36; Rebecca, 12.
ADKINS, Robert, 40, farmer; Nancy, 35; Reanie (?), 15; Anderson, 13; Jane, 11; Lethia, 10; Ira, 9; Thomas, 6; Hiram, 5; Jacob, 3; Joseph, 2.
ADKINS, Thomas, 25, laborer; Barbara, 26; Amy, 20; Anna, 16; Sarah, 20.
ADKINSON, Daniel, 41, farmer; Sarah, 33; Eliza, 10; Ellen, 7; Maria, 6; Frances and John (twins), 4; Isaac, 2.
BAILEY, Booker, 33, farmer; Sarah, 31; Emily, 14; Cynthia, 11; Clarence, 9; Jane, 7; Arminta, 6; Susan, 2; Alethia, 1.
BAILEY, George, 30, farmer; Rachel, 30; Daniel, 12.
BAILEY, Sparrel, 37, Jane, 36 Washington, 15; James, 14; William, 12; McDowell, 9; Margaret, 6; Armentia, 4; Amanda, 2.
BAILEY, John, 60, farmer; Sarah, 54.
BASHAM, Floyd, 51, farmer; Henrietta, 44; Mary Ann, 21; James, 17; Green, 15; Melvina, 9.
BEAVERS, James, 50, farmer; Moses, 25; laborer.
BEAVERS, William, 28, farmer; Mary, 20.
BECKET, John, 50, farmer; Rachel, 47; Octavia, 18; Elizabeth, 14; Martha, 13; Sarah, 11; Samuel, 10.
BECKLEY, Alfred, 48, clerk and superintendent of schools (Washington, D. C.); Neville, 15; (New York); Henry, 14, (Pennsylvania); Isaac, 9.
BECKNER, Michael, 29, laborer; Hannah, 25.
BENNETT, Jacob, farmer; Nancy, 42; Fanny, 28; Robert, 22; Henry, 19; Ephram, 17; Andrew, 14; Jackson and Washington, 10, (twins); Susan, 8.
BENNETT, Jeff, 34, farmer; Nancy, 34; Robert, 10; William, 8; Rachel, 9; Martha, 6; Parker, 5; Andy, 3; Mathias, 1.
BENNETT, William, 26, farmer; Elizabeth, 24; Irwin, 3.
BERRY, James, 30, farmer; Ellen, 30; John, 9; Elizabeth, 6; Barbara, 4.
BLAKE, William, 25, farmer; Mary, 23; John, 2.
BRADLEY, George, 38, farmer; Ellen, 34; Sarah, 12; Elijah, 8; Spicy, 5; Rachel Vily, 65.
BRADLEY, Joshua, 63, farmer; Lucinda, 30; John, 8; Sarah, 6; William, 1.
BRADLEY, Simon, 36, farmer; Evy, 32; Joshua, 5; Harriet, 7; Lucinda, 5; Louisa, 3; George, 1.
BRAGG, Adam, 46, farmer; Mary, 29; Lucretia, 12; — (female), 10; Andrew, 5; Rufus, 4; Mary, 3.
BRAGG, David, 46, farmer; Catherine, 38; Milly, 6; Alexander, 4; Luvina, 2.
BRAGG, Jackson, 28, farmer; Nancy, 33; Alvira, 1.
BRAGG, Lewis, 31, farmer; Clara, 23; Mary, 5; Alfred, 3; Lath, (?); Adkins, 22.
BRAGG, Nancy, 55; H— (male), 18, farmer; Mary, 15; William, 14; Amber Slusher, 14.
BRAGG, Peter, 50, farmer; Ellen, 50; John, 24; Robert, 23; Martha, 17.
BRAGG, Thomas, 31, farmer; Malinda, 22; Mary, 1.
BROWN, Alexander, 56, farmer; Johannah, 57; William, 23; Harrison, 21; Alexander, 17; Deliah, 15; John, 13; Nancy, 11.
BURGESS, Hiram, 39; Nancy, 24; Arminta, Prince, 13; Daniel, 2; Alexander, 1.
CADLE, James, 28, farmer; Jackson, 24, miller; Green, 16, miller; Sarah, 53; Margaret, 10.
CARPER, Joseph, 53, farmer; Jane, 18; Andrew, 20; Eliza, 18; Samuel, 16; William D., 15; Susan, 13; Mary, 9; Isaac, 7; Warden, 4.
CARPER, Washington, 23, farmer; Deliah, 20.
CALES, Ephram, 21, farmer; Rachel, 30.
CANTERBURY, —, 36, farmer; Susan, 30; James, 5; Jane, 3; John, 2; Andrew Webb, 38.
CANTERBURY, Nancy, 33; Martha, 15; Palina (?), 12; Riley Raines, 35.
CANTLEY, Alexander, 55, farmer; Mary, 45; James, 23; Eliza, 28; George, 22; Caroline, 15; Ladoicia, 8; John, 24; Jordan, 22; Richard, 18.
CANTLEY, Samuel, 30, farmer; Sarah, 22; Rebecca, 3; Amanda, 2.
COAL, James, 37, blacksmith; (1st wife) a Rumberg; John, 12; Mary, 11; Burguoin, 9; Matthew, 8; (2nd wife) Mary Hoopes, 24; Julia Ann, 4; Eliza, 2; (9 children born after Eliza, 3 of which died in infancy—see James Cole's story elsewhere, this book).
CLAY, Charles, 46, farmer; Ora (?), 44; Rebecca, 23; Grocella (?), 19; Green, 15; Henry, 14; Mitchell, 12; James, 10; Ralph, 9; William, 5; Mary, 3; Charles, 1.
CLAY, Meredith, 35, farmer; Nancy, 35; Booker, 14; America, 13; Charlotta, 10, (Kentucky); Lucinda, 12; Andrew, 8; Jackson, 7; Floyd, 3; Lefredge, 2.
COLLINGS, David, 60, shoemaker; Rebecca, 58.
CLAY, John F., 30, farmer; Caroline, 23; Emerline, 4; Arimenta, 2.
COLLINS, George, 28, farmer; Susan, 34; Sarah, 7; Ann, 5; Rebecca, 3; Mary, 1.
COLLINGS, Rupel, 34, farmer; Anna, 28.
COMBS, John, 35, farmer; Pencia, 25; Mandavil, 7; Nancy, 6; Sarah, 5; Eliza, 3; John, 3; William, 1.
COOK, George, 32, farmer; Mary, 23; John, 1.
COOK, Wilson, 33, farmer; Deaborah, 29; Ellen, 14; Rimley, 9; Sarah, 7; Ellison, 5; Marinda, 3; Parkinson, 3.
COON, James, 24, farmer; Louisa, 20; Lethia, 1.
COOPER, Anson, 34; Eliza, 40; Thomas, 15; Emerline, 11; Lewis, 9; Amanda, 7; Susan, 5; William, 2.
COX, Daniel, 37, farmer; Sarah, 23; Elizabeth, 4; Erskin, 1.
COX, Moses, 34, farmer; Centhia, 32; Elizabeth, 11; Sarah, 9; Frances, 8; Nicholas, 5; Daniel, 4; James N., 1.
COX, Penira, 65; Elizabeth, 40; Erskin, 19; James, 22.
CRAWFORD, James, 45, farmer; Rody, 30; Rebecca, 16; Julia, 14; Margaret, 10; Larkin, 8; John, 6; Charles, 4; Joseph, 3; James, 2.
CURTIS, Claiborn, 59, farmer; Martha, 44; Claiborn, Jr., 15.
DANIEL, Jesse, 24, laborer; Sarah, 22.
DANIEL, Nehemiah, 46, farmer; Catherine, 45; Joel, 19; Nancy, 18; Robert, 16; Mosley, 14; Sarah, 12; Emily, 10; Martha, 8; William, 5; Nehemiah, 2.
DANIEL, William, 37, farmer; Jeremiah, 16; Clovy, 38; James, 14; Robert, 13; John, 11; Temperance, 9; William, 7; Mary, 4; Matthew, 2.
DARE, Goodall, 34, farmer; Sarah, 64; Charles, 77; Thomas Robinson, 89 (Delaware).
DAVIS, H—, 33, farmer; Rho—, 23; Henry, 9; Alexander, 7; Hewston, 5; Sarah, 3; "Baby", 2.
DAVIS, John, 40, farmer; Mary, 36; William, 18; Ruth, 16; Peter, 13; Samuel, 9; John, 6; Rachel, 4; Irvin, 1.
DAVIS, Sam, 23, farmer; Lucy, 24; William, 3; Saterwhite, 2; "Baby", 1.
DEAN, James, 32, shoemaker; Amanda, 23; Cinthy, 3; Eliza, 1; Riley Lowen (?), 21, Elizabeth Lowen, 17.
DICKINGS, Isaac, 33, farmer, (Indiana); Elizabeth, 25; Sarah, 8; Emily, 6; Ralph, 5; Caroline, 2.
DICKINGS, Ephram, 29, farmer; Mary, 30; Margaret Millam, 60; Covington Abbott, 25, farmer.
DICKINGS, Jasper, 21, farmer; Rody, 20.
DICKINGS, John, 35, farmer; Ellen, 28; William, 8; Francis, 8; John, 4; Julia, 2; Ellen, 1.
DICKINGS, Thomas, 25, farmer; Milly, 23; James, 18; Clarsipa, 1.
DICKINGS, Thomas, 66, farmer; Rody, 60; Julia, 17; Henderson, 15; John, 14; Mary, 12; Mahala, 7; Julia Beasley, 5.
DICKINGS, Thomas, Jr., 27, farmer; Amelia, 22; Randolph, 3; Clarendia, 2.
DICKINGS, James, 23, farmer; Susan, 20.
DUNN, John, 28, farmer; Mary, 24; Elizabeth, 4; Hewey, 2; Narcepa, 1/2.
EDWARDS, John, 40, farmer; Lidy, 36; Isaac, 17; Nancy, 17; Elizabeth, 15; Sarah, 11; Thomas and Martha, (twins) 2; John, 1.
ELLISON, Andrew, 57, farmer; Nelly, 56; Martha, 26; Burly, 22; Casey, 19; Sanford, 17.
ELLISON, Matthew, 46, farmer; Elizabeth, 44; William L., 21; Eliza, 19; Mary E., 17; James, 14; Matthew, 9; and Elizabeth, 9 (twins); Lucreta, 6; Martin, 2.
George B. Vass, 30, school teacher; G. H. Ashworth, 25, carpenter.

(Continued on page 519)

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Photo J. Q. Hutchinson

Early Lester School

This the tiny log school in which one of Beckley's foremost historians and attorneys, the late Sen. John Q. Hutchinson (who always preferred to be called "J. Q.") received his initial schooling.

These logs were mortared together in 1867 and barely a stone's throw from where the Virginia Railroad station used to stand.

Mr. Hutchinson's teacher was from another famous family, Sarah Bryson, who have distinguished themselves in this, McDowell and neighboring counties. Sarah Bryson (Dunn) was the mother of C. O. Dunn, a sister of Carolyn Canaday on Vine street. D. W. Bryson, former superintendent of schools of Raleigh County (who is Sarah's nephew) was preceded many years before by his father, James Bryson (1890). George Bryson was county superintendent of McDowell county for many years. (See Raleigh County School Superintendents).

BECKLEY'S EARLIEST HISTORY—(Continued from Page 336)

"LETTER FROM GENERAL A. BECKLEY"

(An undated clipping and other memorandums found among his effects at Fincastle, Virginia, the late home of his son, Alfred Beckley, Jr. This is through the courtesy of Mr. John J. Allen, family attorney at Fincastle-Roanoke, Virginia.)

Editor Greenbrier Independent:

You cannot maintain the INDEPENDENT sheet you publish without cash, and I am glad to hand you two dollars.

I congratulate you good people of Greenbrier, as well as all the people of our staunch Third District, upon our victory of the 7th instant, which will enure to the benefit, the growth, and ever-increasing wealth and prosperity of the whole State; and I have no doubt that the people of the First and Second Districts will, by and by, come to the conclusion that it was best for their own interests, as well as ours, that the hunter 'sang-diggers' came up so resolutely to the rescue, and cast such a wise, understanding, and may I say discriminating, vote.

I have felt very sad, my dear Mr. Harlow,* ever since it pleased divine Providence to remove so suddenly your and my venerable friend. Dr. Thomas Creigh. Whether we regard his medical skill and experiments, or his value, nay, his inestimable worth as a citizen, a man of the most exuberant benevolence of heart, liberally overflowing with the milk of human kindness, the large circle of his relatives and friends have cause to regret his departure, a void has been

made in your society that can be supplied once in a generation only. Dr. Creigh was among my earliest acquaintances, when, in 1828-29, I first visited Greenbrier, and he ever honored me with his friendship, and I'm sure none of his bereaved friends will regret him with more unaffected spontaneous sorrow than myself. Dr. Creigh was a most genial companion; in fact, my dear sir, he was a grand old man, with a good deal of good Old Virginia idiosyncrasies. With much regard, my dear Mr. INDEPENDENT, I am

Your friend and obedient servant,
ALFRED BECKLEY, SR.

*Benjamin F. Harlow, grandfather of Mrs. Charles Hodel and the author, Harlow Warren, who was founder of THE GREENBRIER INDEPENDENT.

EXCERPTS FROM GENERAL ALFRED BECKLEY'S SCRAPBOOKS

From the variety of interesting odds-and-ends items gleaned from General Alfred Beckley's writings, clippings, etc., it seems obvious that his mind ran in an extremely versatile series of channels. Certainly he must have been fascinated by the famous Mother Shipton's almost unbelievable prognostications, corroborated somewhat by Encyclopaedia Britannica and other authorities—almost 500 years after the old lady was supposed to have lived.

In his inimitable and clearly written penmanship he recorded in one of his scrapbooks, the following

(Continued on Page 345)

1867

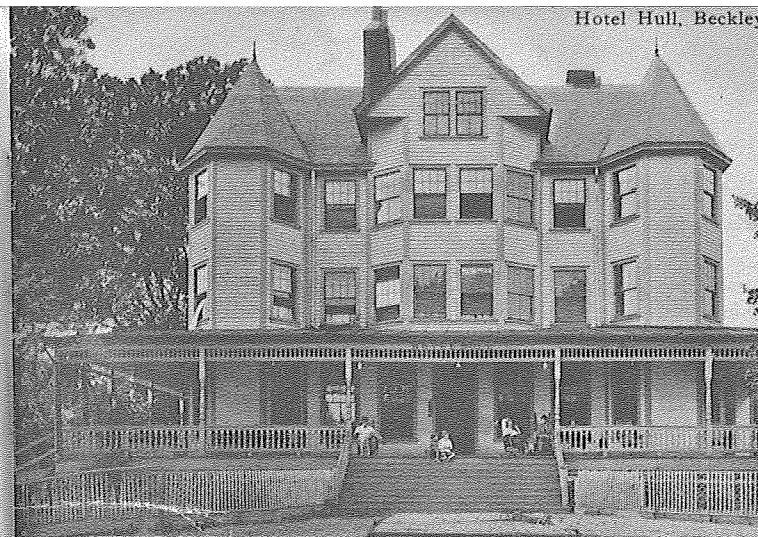


Photo Courtesy L. A. Wood

THE HULL STORE—(Continued from page 339)

and of the town then he says:

"On Saturday night you might see one man up town, or you might not. You might see Dr. Overton (W. E.) or 'Frone (Euphronious) George, but probably not anybody else."

Wade Hull was born May 9, 1863, the son of Lewis Hull, the fifth child of six.

"Two weeks after I was born General Cook at the time in the Kanawha

10,000 men at Raleigh," he said. "He expected to have a battle there, and they cut down logs and placed them on end, side by side, all around them, then cut holes for the rifles.

"The battle was never fought, however," he said, "McCausland deciding to fall back to Princeton." Hull said he thought McCausland had expected to engage a federal force under General Cook at the time in the Kanawha Valley.

BECKLEY'S EARLIEST HISTORY—(Continued from Page 344)

poetic rendition of the English-born prophetess' incredible forecasts:

"This curious prophecy was written in the year 1488, Republished in 1641":

'Carriages without horses shall go,' (Rail Road Cars)

'And accidents fill the world with woe.'

'Around the world thoughts shall fly'

'In the twinkling of an eye.'

'Water shall yet more wonders do'—

'Now strange yet shall be true.'

'The world upside down shall be'

'And gold found at the root of tree.'

'Through hills men shall ride'

'And no horse or ass be at his side'

'Under the water men shall walk'—

'Shall ride, shall sleep, shall talk.'

'In the air men shall be seen'

'In white in black and green'

'Iron in the water shall float'

'As easy as a wooden boat.'

'Gold shall be found, and found'

'In a land that's now not known'

'Fire & waters shall more wonders do,'

'England shall at last admit a Jew'

'The world to an end shall come'

'In Eighteen hundred and eighty One.'

(The parenthesized notes above are the general's own.)

There are a number of books and references in history of Mother Shipton's strange predictions, investigation, etc. Her prophecy that the world would come to an end in 1881 caused panic in England as well as other countries. Already her prediction of the great fire of London, in 1666, had come true.

Some of the entries from the general's journal, are herewith recorded:

1865

Sep. 12th Loaned H. M. Beckley (1836-1868, his son) five dollars (Wheeling Bank)

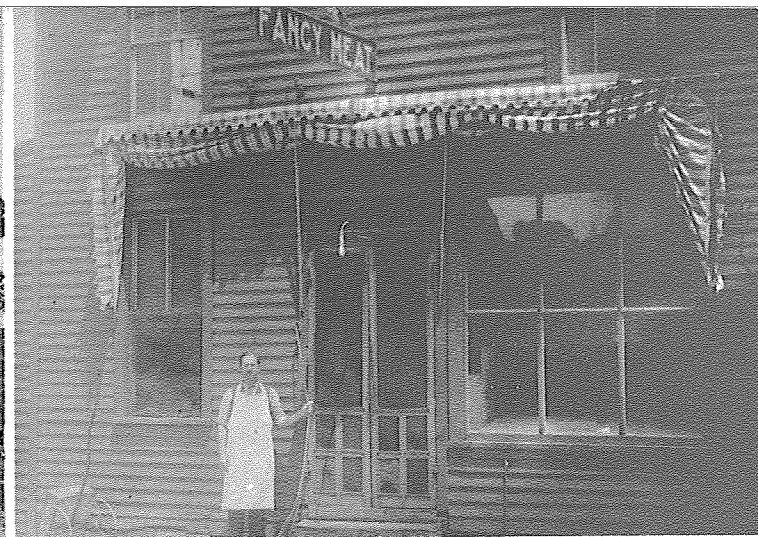


Photo Courtesy Mrs. Edith Sneed

A sidelight to the above story is to the effect that when John S. Hull married Mr. "Bub" Prince's sister, Anne Prince, Mr. Prince erected a two-story store building next to his Raleigh House, down the street a few feet, and set his new brother-in-law up in the mercantile business. This was in 1881. On this page is shown the almost exact building, with very few changes, occupied in the teens by H. Grass' Meat Market.

This was repaid
1866

Sep. 16th Paid Andrew Richman \$5 toward stack of hay.

1867

January 24th Paid J. H. McGinnis (grandfather of W. H. McGinnis, Jr., Hull Street) Esq. \$22 50/100 in full of all demands on Scire facias (levy of execution) in Case of F. Hendric for benefit of John Jones vs Henry & John Hess and recd his stamp and receipt.

Account of Hauling by Wagon & Team in Charge of Peter Miller (Coloured)

1868

Received the Wagon Harness Bay Horse and Yellow Mare "Copper" on Friday 27th December 1867 from Dr. M

1868

Jan 1st Wagon to Mat Cole for ¾ days chopping 75.00

Chs 50c to AB and 25c to Peter Miller

RALEIGH COUNTY

Raleigh County Index

VOLUME 1

NO. 1

Its territory was originally in Montgomery county, Va., then successively in Giles, Logan and Fayette counties, until stricken off from Fayette in 1850 and created into the county of Raleigh.

Its average length is thirty-eight miles, and its width twenty-four miles containing nine hundred and two (902) square miles, and five hundred and seventy-seven thousand, two hundred and eighty (577,280) acres of land, and is bounded on the S. W. by Boone and Wyoming counties, S. E. by Summers county, on

(Continued on Page 348)

The C&O Railway's Interesting Tabulation of its Raleigh Customers

Page 29, Supervisor's Dist. No. 52, Enumeration Dist. No. 131, "A", Vol. 192.
Inhabitants in Town District, County of Raleigh, State of West Virginia.
29th day of June, 1880 (Signed) Wm. McCreery, Enumerator.

(Continuing the complete Town District, Except Beckleyville see Page 3-4)

ALIFF, John 64, farmer; Sarah, 55, wife; Thomas J., 22; Morris C., 19; Virginia A., 16; Eliza E., 14; Caperton, 12.
ARNOLD, Elizabeth 55, widow; Lorenzo Maspie, son-in-law; Rachel E. Maspie, 18.
ARLHUR, Chandler M., 39; blacksmith; Martha J., 35, wife; William L., 14; Mary E., 13; John P., 11; Amanda J., 8; Lewis C., 5; Sallie F., 3; Eliza S., 8 mons.
BAILEY, Amos 32, farmer; Miriam, 21, wife; George W., 12; Henry E., 11 1/2.
BAILEY, Booker, 53, farmer; Sarah, 62, wife; Joseph 15; Otis T., 12; Sarah, 83, mother.
BAILEY, George, 26, farmer; Letitia, 23, wife; Charles H., 6; Mary J., 4; Bertha S., 3.
BAILEY, Geo. W., 59, farmer; Rachel, 59, wife; Betty Quesenberry, 16, domestic servant; William Quesenberry, 1.
BAILEY, James M., 43, farmer; Mary, 42, wife; Dexter S., 22; Francis M., 20; Alfred B., 10; Charles, 10; Ella, 10; Rothy, 8; Lula, 5; Ida, 3.
BAILEY, John, 23, farmer; Julia A., 21, wife; Louetta, 4; Almeta, 2; Laurence, 7 months.
BAILEY, Lewis A., 34, farmer; Nancy E., 27, wife; Green C., 9; Diana, 6; Mary, 3; Rachel, 5 months; Virginia A. Walker, 3, niece.
BAILEY, Marshal, 19, farmer; Emily, 22, wife; Harvey, 2.
BAILEY, Paris, 28, farmer; Octavia, 29, wife; Clarence C., 8; Ida C., 6; William A., 3; Walter L., 1.
BAILEY, Sparriel, 66, farmer; Mary J., 65, wife; Margaret, 34; Walter R., Ann Farley, 15.
BAILEY, William H., 42, farmer; Aley A., 50, wife; Elias T., 17; Daniel J., 15; Charles M., 13; Aley Ann, 11; James P., 40, stone mason; Adela, 44, wife; Rhoda M., 23; Rebecca J., 10; Laura H., 13; Ardela B., 12; Reuben A., 12; Lewis B., 10; Leona V., 8; George O., 2.
BALL, William 23, farm laborer; Mary J., 21, wife; Charles, 1; 3 month old unnamed son.
BALDENBURG, Susan, 42; Charles A. Warden, 18; Hughes J. Warden, 10; Milton J. Warden, 14; Martin Baldenburg, 12.
BECKELHEIMER, Henkison, 40, farmer; Sarah, 39, wife; Martha A., 19; Mary H., 15; Sarah A., 12; John H., 8; Maholia, 5; Levi H., 2.
BECKETT, John H., 77, farmer; Rachel, 73, wife; Martha, 41; Samuel, 35, farmer; Emily R., 22, wife; Rachel A., 4; R., 2; Joseph W., 1.
BECKLEY, Alfred, 78, farmer; Jane B., 50, wife; Daniel W., 29; Marrah E., 22; Dudley Anderson, 20, laborer (divorced), Negro; Mary Shaver, 14, domestic, Negro.
BIGGS, Andrew J., 68, tanner; Susan, 67, wife; Andrew J., 20.
BIGGS, Gordon B., 33, farm laborer; Nancy C., 25, wife; Julia E., 4; Marinda M., 1.
BIGGS, Harmon E., 38, farmer; Mary A., 34, wife; Sam W., 7; Edward S., 4; Columbus F., 2; Susan E., 4 months old.
BIGGS, Rezin G., 42, farmer; Virginia C., 34, wife; Ella S., 11; Anna L., 9; John A., 7; Alonzo C., 5; Mary, 3; Erma, 2; Sydney J., 7 months.
BOGGESE, Samuel, 41, farmer; Mary C., 41, wife; Cornelius E., 18; Joseph S., 17; Loretia F., 14; Sabina C., 12; Sarah C., 10; Michael L., 1.
BOGGESE, Thomas, 40, farm laborer; Martha, 40, wife; Julia, 15; George R., 13; Belinda J., 11; Alice, 9.

BOWER, Jacob W., 31, farmer; Sarah E., 31, wife; Araminta C., 8; Martin S., 5.
BOWER, John H., 34, manager, county poor house; Rebecca, 35, wife; Marie E., 9; William H., 7; Lewis F., 5; Romanza, 2; daughter; George Ransom, 85, pauper; George Collins, 65, pauper.
BOWER, Martin, 58, farmer; Marie E., 55, wife; Marie, 24; George W., 20; Commodore P., 16.
BRAGG, James, 26, farmer; Paulina, 25, wife; Sarah M., 1.
BROWN, John J., 45, farmer; Margaret E., 5, wife; Ida J., 16; Ingabo C., 15, daughter; Lizzie E., 13; Evan L., 9; Sarah W., 7, mother.
BURGESS, Nathan, 21, farm laborer; Margaret, 21, wife; Rachel, 19; Wilson, 17.
BURTON, John H., 40, wagon maker; Martha, 19, wife; Doctor H., 2.
CALFEE, Elizabeth, 51, widow; Emily J., 25, teaching school; William, 22, farmer; Henry T., 19; Margaret, 10; James G., 13; Robert L., 11.
CANADA, Pleasant, 32, farmer; Christina, 28, wife; Marie, 1; Jessie B., 8, Martin L., 6; Cabon, 3.
CANADA, William P., 27, farm laborer; Marinda C., 26, wife; Roberta L., 7 months.
CANADA, William R., 32, farmer; Angeline, 29, wife; Edward M., 1; McLee, 8; Julia E., 6; James B., 5; Henry J., 3; Elkany, 1; Alex H. Via, 19, boarder and farm laborer.
CARPER, James W., 33, farmer; Louisa, 26, wife; Bertha, 4 mos.
CARPER, Daniel 42, farm laborer.
CARPER, Nancy, 57, divorced; Sallie, 10, daughter.
CHRISTIAN, Ariathia, 29, widow; James, 12; John B., 10; Marshal Cook, 8; Julia Christian, 6; William, 4.
CLAY, Floyd, 25, farm laborer; Angeline, 27, wife; Preston, 8; Amos, 7; Sarah J., 5.
CLAY, German, 26, farm laborer; Paulina, 17, wife.
CLOUD, George, 50, farm laborer; Frank P., 23; Martha A. Miles, 42, housekeeper; O. Miles, 10.
COLE, David C., 23, farmer; Cerena E., 21, wife; Mary M., 2; Imoginian, 8 months.
COLE, Mary M., 53, widow; Ballard L., 23, farmer; Virginia E., 20, Sarah M., 15; Memorah C., 11.
COLEMAN, John E., 4, Richmond, wife, 21; Emma V., 4; Richmond M., 2; Minone M., 4 month old daughter.
COOK, George P., 34; Sarah J., 36, wife; Ettie, 12; Ward, 10; Nellie, 8; Emily, 1.
COOK, Henry C., 43, farmer; Lucy A., 25, wife; Minnie B., 9 months.
COOK, James A., 40, farmer; Cerilda, 30, wife; Virginia, 13; Eliza, 12; Stephen L., 10; William O., 9; Anna, 5; Catherine, 2; Ada, 6 months.
COOK, John, 67, farmer; Sarah, 51, wife; Daniel Fipps, 23, stenographer; Martha Fipps, 20; Howard Fipps, 1.
COOK, John B., 29, farmer; Mary E., 23.
CRADDOCK, Alex, 29, farm laborer; Mary I., wife, 20; Peter L., 24; Mary E., 21, wife.
CRADDOCK, James, 55, farmer; Levisa, 55, wife; Mary J., 30; Charles J., 32; Mary J., 30, wife; Iowa, 11; Lee A., 9; Sarah A., 6; Malvina S., 3; Joseph E., 1.
CURTIS, Claiborn A., 45, farmer; Elizabeth M., 43, wife; Ewell, 14; Mollie, 11; Luther, 9; Laura J., 7; James C., 5; Macy M., 2; Milton, 25; Minervis A., 22, wife; Martha L., 72.

DAVIS, Evan, 35, farmer; Olivia, 38, wife; George W., 12; Ruth, 9; Mary H., 8; Henry H., 4.
DAVIS, John, 70, farmer; Elizabeth, 37, wife; Dennis H. Poff, stepson, 10; Julia A. Poff, 15; stepdaughter; Ida Davis, 7; Emmett Smith, 5.
DAVIS, John W., 23, farmer; Permelia F., 19, wife; Etha, 5 months old.
DAVIS, Samuel L., 52, farmer; Lucy, 53, wife; Martha A. Feazell, 22; Cynthia Feazell, 6; Ruth Feazell, 4; John W., 31; Henry, 19; Sarah, 14; Alexander, 11; Eliza E. Tyree, 7.
DAVIS, Samuel L., 37, farmer; Seania, 35, wife; Gilbertus L., 13; William C., 12; Fernie E., 10; Richard T., 9; John F., 6; Joseph W., 4; Mary J., 2; Rufus J., 9 mons. old.
DAVIS, William 48, farmer; Lusinda, 43, wife; Henry L., 21; Mary E., 19; William N., 18; Margaret, 16; Ruhama, 14; Peter B., 12; Owen, 10; Celia, 9; Andrew, 8; Perry, 5.
ELLISON, M. L., 32, farmer.
ELLISON, Matthew, 75, minister; Elizabeth L., 74, wife; M. A., 33, dentist; Eunice, 32; Alethia E., 6; Enoch L., 4; Junius S., 2; Evermont, 7 months.
EVANS, John 59, farmer; Mary A., 52, wife; George W., 16; Virginia, 14; Lucinda, 11.
EVANS, Levi, 44, farmer; Susan, 34, wife; 34, wife; Margaret, 12; John A., 9; F. Evans, 7; Elbert L., 5; Ada D., 1.
EVANS, Peter, 46, farmer; Nancy M., 46, wife; Malinda C., 21; Anderson S., 12; Julia A., 10; Catharine, 84, mother; Harvey Cook, 24, farmer; John Burgess, 21, farm laborer.
EVANS, Williams, 26, farmer; Margaret, 28, wife; Andrew S., 12; Louisa E., 4; Garner, 1 1/2.
EWING, Jackson M., 25, farm laborer; Sarah, 28, wife; Virginia F., 5; Emily A., 3; Jacob H., 1.
FARRELL, Patrick, 28, farm laborer; Amanda, 25, wife; Charles E., 6; Hezodkiah, 5; Mary J., 3; Robert F., 2; Luster P., 1.
FEAZELL, John V., 33, farmer; Mary, 27, wife; James E., 11; Eula S., 9; William L., 6; John F., 4; Virginia E. Craddock, 2.
FIPPS, Clarkson, 31, farmer; Eliza M., 26, wife; Elias C., 5; Henry E., 3; Charles E., 1.
FITZPATRICK, James, 29, farmer; Catherine, 25, wife; Jane, 2; James, 3 months.
FITZPATRICK, Timothy, 60, farmer; Ellen, 57, wife; Michael, 21; Daniel, 19; William, 16; Ellen, 14; John, 6.
FLEMING, William, 29, well digger, Negro.
FOSTER, Hough, 68, farmer; Susan, 65, wife; Adeline, 43; Emma S., 26; Charles H., 19.
FOSTER, Joseph S., 29, farmer; Mary E., 28, wife; William L., 7; Emma S., 7 months.
FRANCIS, John S., 67, farmer; Carolina V., 41, wife; Mary S., 21; Charles C., 18; Emma L., 15; Ocolia A., 11; James A., 19; John W., 5.
FRANCIS, Jones, 52, farmer; Susan Ross, sister, widow; Lelia Ross, 19, niece.
FURROW, Albert W., 31, farm laborer; Martha, 32, wife; Annie L., 14; Lula B., 11.
FURROW, Andrew, 46, farmer; Marve E., 35, wife.
FURROW, Joseph H., 47, farmer; Matilda, 35, wife; Charles S., 6 months; Maranda, 8; Emmon, 6; Elmore, 4; Everet, 1.
FURROW, Pocket, 50, farmer; Elizabeth, 51, wife; Frances L., 22; James M., 17; John A., 13; Eliza M., 10.
GADD, Leander J., 23, farm

laborer; Almora S., 22, wife; William W., 9 months.
GILLIAM, Rezin P., 48, farmer; Emerity, 43, wife; George, 18; John, 15; Elvira; Virgie, 11; Charlton, 9; Sydney, 7; William, 5; Eveline, 2; Ada E., 1.
GODBY, Alexander, 26, farmer; Elizabeth, 23, wife; Anna L., 3; Martin V., 1.
GODBY, Andrew F., 54, farmer; Anna A., 56, wife; Frannie C., 27; Anastasia, 23; Oscar B., 22; Sarah C., 19; Oliver, 16; Maudie, 1 month.
GODBY, Archibald, 68, farm laborer; Susana M., 66, wife.
GODBY, Charles A., 23, farm laborer; Martha E., 19, wife; Lillia G., 3 months old daughter.
GODBY, John S., 44, farmer; Martha, 45, wife; William E., 20; Henry L., 15; Anna L., 12; Alfred, 10.
GODBY, Rezin F., 29, farm laborer; Martha, 20, wife; Charles F., 2; Leona C., 7 months.
GODBY, William, 75, farmer; Rhoda, 70, wife.
GRAVELLY, Mankin, 24, farm laborer; Annie, 24, wife.
GRAY, Harvey, 59, farm laborer; Margaret, 54, wife; Agness, 22; Thomas, 19; Susan, 16; Fannie, 14; Emma, 11; Neona, 9.
GRAY, William H., 23, farm laborer; Mary E., 28, wife; Laura W., 6; Harvey E., 3; Minnie, 1; Nancy Quesenberry, 53.
GREER, John, 51, farmer; Martha J., 50, wife; John F., 21; Emily, 14; James, 10; Joseph, 6; Lewis W. Evans, 25; Julia Evans, 25; George W. Evans, 1.
GRIFFITH, Joshua, 68, farmer; Eliza, 42, wife; Henrietta, 15; Sophia J., 13; Rothy Amy, 1.
GRIFFITH, John C., 71, chair maker; Martha, 66, wife; Julia A., 48; Elijah J., 25; Michael Barton, 12; Eliza Barton, 10; both grandsons. Minone Griffith, 7, and Florida Griffith, 6, granddaughters.
GRIFFITH, Michael, 39, farmer; Mary E., 33, wife; Ruth A., 13; Martha F., 10; Rosabell, 9; Joseph W., 6; Clarence, 4; Staunton, 2; Unnamed 1 month old son.
HARROW, Albert, 28, farm laborer; Sarah, 30, wife; Mary, 7; William, 5; Thomas A., 3; Cynthia, 2.
HARROW, Thomas, 32, farm laborer; Nancy J., 26, wife; Burdine, 7; Thomas L., 5; Ettie J., 2; Charles, 7 months.
HAWLEY, Anderson M., 50, farmer; Ann, 53, wife; Addison U., 34, farmer; Mary E., 26, daughter-in-law; William P., 11; Milton A., 9; Annie, 6; Jacob Meadows, 19, farm laborer; Martha Lilly, 9, domestic servant.
HAWLEY, Benjamin P., 37, farmer; Abigail, 28, wife; Newton W., 9; Jonathan J., 8; Ida, 6; Lena, 5 months old.
HAWLEY, John B., 67, farmer; Elewizer, 66, wife; Minerva, 32.
HAWLEY, John B., 26, farm laborer; Juliana O., wife; Flora G., 3; Marcus D. L., 2; Emma J., 5 months.
HELEN, Albert, 62, farmer; Eliza, 44, wife.
HENDRICK, Alethia, 49, widow; Delila, 28; Sarah J.; Emily C. 14; Lawrence E., 4; James Jenkins, 22, boarder and farm laborer.
HENDRICK, Richard, 65, farm laborer, widower; Margaret J., 34, daughter; William R., 22; Elisha A., 28, daughter-in-law; Mary F., 2; Ida A., 7 mons.
HOLLANDSWORTH, Daniel, 24, farmer; Martha B. Stanley, widow, 30, sister; William H., 9; Philip S., 7; Elizabeth J., 6; Walter, 1 month old.
(Continued on page 669)

About a year after Mr. William McCreery's numeration, the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway issued (1881 and 1882) an impressive history, compiled by J. H. Chataigne, with a wide variety of details regarding this important link between the East and the West. It was called a "DIRECTORY," and subtitled, "History

and Description Of The Road, together with Improvements and Connections Already Completed and Those in Contemplation; Also The Names of the Merchants, Manufacturers, Professional Men, State, County and City Officers, and Farmers, with Post-Office Addresses" of all the counties skirting the

railroad through Virginia and West Virginia."

For a matter of permanent historical record, the names of these sturdy pioneers, with introduction of the railroad's prevailing general officers, are listed in the C&O order, below:

The general officers, Richmond, Virginia, consisted of: C. P. Huntington, President; A. S. Hatch, First Vice-President; WMS. C. Wickham, Second Vice-President; E. T. Tournier, Secretary and Treasurer; C. W. Smith, General Manager; H. W. Fuller, General Passenger Agent; B. S. Fitch, General Freight Agent; J. C. Dame, General Southern Agent; E. F. Kelly, General Western Agent, Cincinnati; H. W. Carr, General Eastern Agent, New York.

RALEIGH COUNTY

Population—White, 7,200; colored, 167; total, 7,367.
County Seat Raleigh Courthouse (and Beckleyville), pop. 144.
Vote of county, November, 1880: For President—Democrats, 563; Republicans, 309; Greenbacks, 55.
Value of personal property \$193,837.00
Tax on personal property 6,118.23
Tax for county support 970.21

COURTS

The Circuit Court meets the fourth Monday in March, June, and October.
Judge, David E. Johnston. Clerk John Beckley.
The County Court meets the second Tuesday in March, July, September, and November.
President, Tollison Shumate. Clerk, John Beckley.

COUNTY OFFICERS

Sheriff, Wilson Sweeney; State's Attorney, Jno. W. McCreery; Surveyor, James A. Hutchinson; Assessor, H. H. Cook; Treasurer, Wilson Sweeney; Supt. Poor, John A. Bower.

MAGISTRATES

Jesse Evans, Anderson Hawley, Raleigh Courthouse; Green Bailey, Coal River Marshes; A. J. Williams, Clear Creek; Jacob W. Petty, Beckenridge; George W. Hendrick, Flat Top; Moses E. Scott, Table Rock; Wm. E. Richmond, Hinton.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS

A. Barrett, Jarrold's Valley.

ATTORNEYS-AT-LAY

George W. Cook, Benjamin Ellison, Martin Ellison, P. P. Garland, D. Halley, A. W. Hawley, J. W. McCreery, J. H. McGinnis, and Wm. H. McGinnis, all of Raleigh Courthouse.

BARBERS

Wm. McKeever, Raleigh Courthouse.

BLACKSMITHS

John Brady, John Richmond, C. Walker, Jarrold's Valley; E. D. Cole, M. M. Cole, John Daniels, E. D. George, William Snuffer, B. H. Thomas, Raleigh Courthouse; John Henry, John Honaker, G. B. Johnson, Sam'l John Sessler, Shepherd, Hiram Willis, of Clear Creek; Henry Hunt, Jacob Sessler, Soak Creek; G. R. McKinney, Egeria; M. Plumley, Table Rock; James Roger, William Shepherd, William Steele, Prosperity.

BOARDING-HOUSES

Mat Cole, G. W. Cook, M. A. Ellison, Martha B. Rogers, B. Williams, Raleigh Courthouse.

BUTCHERS

H. Cook, Raleigh Courthouse.

CABINETMAKERS AND UNDERTAKERS

Wm. H. Bailey, Joseph Hanna, John H. Mellon, Raleigh Courthouse; Lewis Vines, Jacob A. Walker, Egeria; Alex Watts, Clear Creek.

CATTLE DEALERS

Hugh Davis, J. S. Lewis, Raleigh Courthouse; John S. Francis, Prosperity; Lawson Jarrell, William Jarrell, William H. Jarrell, W. J. Jarrell, Jarrold's Valley; John Jones, Coal River Marshes; James E. Lilly, Shady Spring; J. Bartley Pack, Table Rock.

COAL DEALERS

John Beckley, T. Fitzpatrick, John McVey, John Spangler, Raleigh Courthouse.

DENTISTS

M. A. Ellison, Raleigh Courthouse.

DISTILLERS

Hugh Davis, Joseph Lilly, Flat Top, Mercer County; Dupree L. Maynor, Prosperity; P. Maynor, Raleigh Courthouse.

DRUGGISTS

George A. Prince, Raleigh Courthouse.

FURNITURE DEALERS

William Bailey, Joseph Hanna, Raleigh Courthouse.

GENERAL MERCHANTS

A. Barrett, Jarrold's Valley; Robert Barrett, Robert Beasley, Martin Bowers, J. N. Hutchinson, Geo. H. Prince, B. Williams, Raleigh Courthouse; Jesse Daniels, J. Griffith & Bro., Shady Spring; H. H. Harper, Miller's Camp Branch; Samuel McGinnis, George Swentzle, Clear Creek; George R. McKinney, Egeria; James Mankin, Coal River Marshes; Pack & Scott, Table Rock; Wm. Plumly, Sunflower; C. Smith, Clark Swentzle, Daniel Williams, Prosperity.

HARNESS & SADDLERS

Jas. H. Hutchinson, Raleigh Courthouse.

HIDE & LEATHER DEALERS

Andrew Biggs, Raleigh Courthouse; G. W. Calloway, Coal River Marshes.

HOTELS

J. T. McCreery, and Robert Beasley, Raleigh Courthouse.

LUMBER DEALERS

John H. Mellon, R. T. Tyree, Raleigh Courthouse; Wm. Bair, C. W. Tolly, John L. Williams, Shady Spring; Knott Bros., Clear Creek; Wilson & Son, Quinnimont, Fayette County.

MACHINISTS

John H. Mellon, Raleigh Courthouse; T. K. Campbell, Egeria.

MILLS—CORN AND FLOUR

W. C. Acord, W. E. Honaker, Coal River Marshes; W. H. Bair's, A. Bragg's J. R. Ellison's, Table Rock; Reed & Campbell's, Egeria; T. Harrison, Jacob Pettry, Sr. Gibson Thompson, Floyd Williams, Jarrold's Valley; John Hull, John H. Mellon; P. Snuffer, Asa Spangler, C. P. Spangler, Raleigh Courthouse; Anthony Lilly, Soak Creek; Samuel McGinnis, Henry Williams, L. Williams, Clear Creek; Michael Reddin, Sunflower; Wm. R. Taylor, New Richmond, Summers Co.; R. T. Tyree, A. Watts, Paint Creek, Kanawha Co.; C. Walker, Flat Top, Mercer Co.; John L. Williams, Shady Spring; M. Williams, Paint Creek.

MILLS—SAW

Wm. C. Acord, Wm. Honaker, Coal River Marshes; William H. Bair, Table Rock; Knott Bros., A. Watts, Clear Creek; Andrew Lilly, Soak Creek; John H. Mellon, Raleigh Courthouse; G. Tauber, Sunflower; G. W. Tolly, John L. Williams, Shady Spring; Charles Walker, Flat Top, Mercer; John M. Walker, Egeria; Wilson & Son, Quinnimont.

MILLS—PLANNING

John H. Mellon, Raleigh Courthouse.

MILLWRIGHTS

C. Tolly, Raleigh Courthouse; C. E. Tolly, Soak Creek.

MILLINERY

Mrs. M. A. Parris, Raleigh Courthouse.

MINES—COAL

E. McVey, E. Prince, G. H. Prince, B. F. Ruff, A. Spangler, Raleigh Courthouse.

NEWSPAPERS

Raleigh County Index, Independent, A. M. Prince editor, Raleigh Courthouse.

NOTARY PUBLIC

Robert C. Barrett, John Beckley, J. R. Ellison, Raleigh Courthouse; J. W. McCreery, Robert Scott, Table Rock; Wm. E. Tezell, Clear Creek.

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Wm. T. Vandervort, Clear Creek.

PHYSICIANS

S. Matlock, Wm. M. Overton, J. Q. Stoval, Raleigh Courthouse; J. Brown, Soak Creek; Wm. S. Dunbar, Wm. E. Tezell, Wm. A. Winston, Clear Creek; W. J. Jarrell, Jarrold's Valley.

PRINTERS

James L. G. Mazes, Raleigh Courthouse.

REAL ESTATE AND LAND AGENTS

J. T. McCreery, E. Prince, Raleigh Courthouse; Wm. Turner, Clear Creek.

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

C. H. Smart, Raleigh. There are 80 public schools in the county. Superintendent, J. A. Manning, Coal River Marshes.

TANNERS

A. J. Biggs, Prosperity; G. W. Calaway, Coal River Marshes; Joseph W. Carper, Table Rock.

WATCHMAKERS

C. F. Johnson, Joseph Rutrof, Raleigh Courthouse.

WOOD AND COAL DEALERS

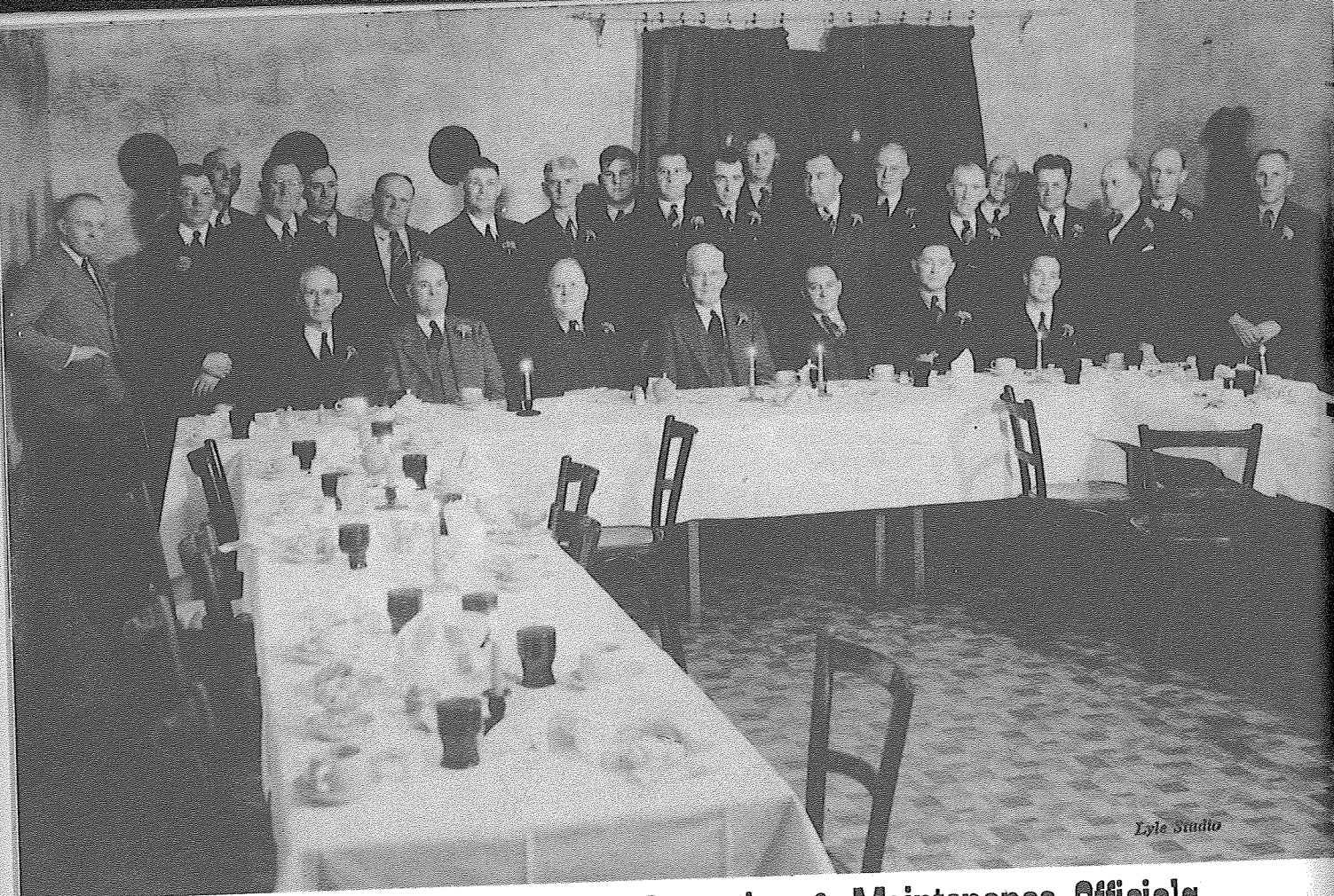
Jerry Peas, Raleigh Courthouse.

WOOLEN MILLS

Hull & Lilly, C. P. Spangler, Raleigh Courthouse.

PRINCIPAL FARMERS

Breckenridge—William H. Abbott, Andrew Workman, John T. Serratt, William G. Honakerm Hiram Wells.
Clear Creek—R. P. Toney, Ballard William, James A. Toney, Samuel McGinnis, John Stover, John Allen, Samuel W. Knott, James Wriston, William Turner, William Daniel, James A. Toney, B. Stover, Jr., Levi Bailey, Lewis Williams.
Coal River Marshes—T. Shumate, William Callaway, Owen Snuffer, S. Snuffer, Hugh Davis, Newton Shumate, Joseph Harper, Simeon Mankin, Henry Harper, William H. Shumate, John Jones, Thomas Herderson.
Egeria—Martin V. Tolesberry, George W. Tolesberry, James Graham, W. H. Jewell, D. H. Agee, M. W. Peters, Lewis Graham, A. Mill, J. N. Walker.
Jarrold's Valley—James Jarrell, Lawson Jarrell, L. Jarrell, Jacob Pettey, Sr., B. Pettey, George Bradley, John Bradley, Floyd Williams, Andrew P. Jarrell, Mattison Jarrell, Christopher Walker, A. Pack, Henry Hodge, Gibson Thompson, John Jarrell, Preston Stover, A. Crawford, Aksolem Pettey, Wm. H. Jarrell, Chapman Thompson.
Matville—Wm. Turner, Samuel McGinnis, Wilson Dillion, Madison Williams, Robert E. Barrett.
New Richmond—H. A. Richmond, Alex. Bragg, A. F. Bragg, Thos. Bragg, Wm. C. Richmond, Martin Nee, H. A. Richmond, W. Dillion.
Prosperity—Daniel Williams, Eli Williams, James Bailey, John Francis, Canada Smith, Lewis Williams, Irvin Stover, Joseph Smith, Charles Hollandworth.
Raleigh Courthouse—Wm. McCreery, Alfred Beckley, Sr., E. Prince, Wm. Prince, Wm. Davis, A. Godby, John Godby, John E. Hull, Martin Bowers, Peter Snuffer, C. C. Roles, James W. Harper, E. C. Maxwell, J. Tell, Lewis Williams, Hugh Davis, Eli Williams, J. S. Lewis, B. Williams, Newton Shumate, Syrus Snuffer, Wm. Warden.
Shady Spring—C. C. Murnaw, William J. Sweeney, Dr. Lewis, Thos. J. Massey, Robert Scott, C. E. Tolley, James E. Lilly, Isaac Griffith, Charles Griffith, C. C. Roles.
Soak Creek—William C. Riffe, William Calfee, Hugh Foster, Sunflower—John Plumly, Wallace Plumly, A. Bragg, John Redden, Sr. B. L. Hint.
Table Rock—Bartley Pack, Joseph Carper, H. Plumly, James H. Reddin, Harvey Reddin, Wm. F. Neely, Mrs. James Scott, Jackson Carper, Wm. D. Carper, Henry O. Carter, R. Scott, James Richmond, Wm. Kidwell, S. M. Scott, A. Bragg, O. Scott, Henry Plumly, Trap Hill—J. Mankin, G. W. Callaway, R. G. Trump.



A Later Gathering of C&O Operating & Maintenance Officials

On April 1, 1940, at the old Raleigh Railway Terminal building, since used for everything else except its original purpose, this group of supporting workers met to solve the major problems of depleting Raleigh county's rich coal fields as quickly as possible. Photo supplied by Z. W. Lafon, N. Kanawha St.

Setting: T. H. Allen, Supervisor of Bridges and Buildings C & O Railway; J. M. Goock; Train Master, Raleigh;

Grubbs, General Superintendent C & O; W. J. Hedrick, Supervisor Maintenance Way (retiring); Harry Snuffer, Assistant Cost Engineers; Bert Hatcher, Road Foreman of engines and unidentified.

Standing: Charles Hodel, Publisher and reporting for his Beckley Newspapers; Eugene Nichols, Section Foreman, unidentified, W. C. Martin, Section Foreman; J. L. Hamlet, Section Foreman; Emmet Wray, Section Foreman;

Cales, Supervisor of water supply; Z. Bennett, Section Foreman; W. J. Hedrick, Jr. Beckley Depot; Ed Hedrick, Ticket Agent; unidentified, Harry Huffman, Train Master, Thurmond;

McVey, Engineer; Jerry Mannix, Shop Foreman, Raleigh; Z. W. Lafon, Section Foreman; unidentified; M. E. Luster, Section Foreman; John Brackman, Train Dispatcher; George Thompson, Section Foreman and G. A. Farley, Section Foreman.

BECKLEY'S EARLIEST HISTORY—(Continued from Page 345)

the N. E. by New River, separating it from Fayette and Summers counties, and on the N. W. by Fayette county.

The town of Beckley (named after John Beckley the first Clerk of the House of Representatives under President Washington), is the County seat, and is centrally located among the Mineral Springs of West Virginia.

It is watered by New river and its tributaries, Piney river with its adjuncts of Big and Little Beaver, Soak, Crab Orchard, Big and Little Whitestick, Fat, Glade and Coopers creeks; the Marsh and Clear Fork of Big Coal River, the head of Paint creek, all affording great water power. It presents a large tract of table land some rolling, but a great proportion of level land, enclosed by mountains and rivers, covered with forests of the soundest timber, such as white and yel-

low pine white, black, spanish, red and water oaks, walnut, hickory, lynn, poplar, locust, etc.

The soil in the uplands is a sandy loam upon a clay substrata, but along the bottom of the streams the soil is more clayey and dark. The soil produces fair crops of corn, wheat, rye, oats and buckwheat.

The county is healthful to a remarkable degree, with pure water, and an atmosphere untainted with malaria, and the whole county is underlaid by veins of the finest quality of stove or bituminous coal, iron ore, and it is believed with copper ore in certain localities. There are several Alum and Chalybeate Springs noted for their medicinal properties.

Beckley is situated twelve (12) miles from Quinimount, a station on the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad; it is reached by a pleasant drive up the mountains, where one can see nature in all its beauty.

A. B. Sr.

(Continued on Page 349)



Prof. Carl Taylor's School, about 1888 or 1889

Photo Courtesy Mrs. Wade Hull

An early-early beginning of education in Beckley is shown here in what was supposed to be the entire student body. Professor (and all men teachers were so addressed in those days) Taylor was brought to Beckley from New York, hired to a large extent by the parents of these pupils, when the town's population was 158 souls. Prof. Bernard H. White, the founder and headmaster of

Beckley Seminary (many call him the "father of education in Raleigh County") also taught several classes in this same building. At the time, Prof. White was building and assisting in the construction personally, the Seminary and his large residence adjacent there to, on Seminary Hill.

Incidentally, most of the material for these two buildings was purchased

from the old bandmill back of the school location, down on Piney River; and even the nails were straightened and used again.

But the building in the picture was on the rear of the theatre lot and facing down what is now McCreery street, a bell-cupola adorning the roof.

The above students, representing most of the town's residents, were:

Front row: Leta Ellison, (Mrs. Deck Williams); Nettie Cook, (Mrs. James Keyser); Maggie Williams, (Fink); Aletha McCreery, (Keatley, half-sister to the other McCreerys); Professor Taylor, Teacher; Minnie Cook, (Mrs. Henry Keyser); Lacey McCreery; Willie McCreery, (Mrs. Harry Patterson); Pearl McCreery, (Mrs. D. Howe Johnson); Clarence Ewart; John Price Beckley; Maggie Prince, (Mrs. Henry Davis).

Back row: Stovall; John Earl McCreery; Lucien Davis; Stovall; Alma McCreery, (Mrs. E. M. Payne); Ora McCreery, (Mrs. Jim Calfee); Grace Ford, (daughter of Azel Ford); Cora Fugate, (daughter of the Methodist minister); Stovall; Willie Hull, (Mrs. Howell); Ruby Beasley; Quince Stovall; Bradley McCreery; Frank Hull; unidentified.

BECKLEY'S EARLIEST HISTORY—(Continued from Page 348)

"WE LIVE IN DEGENERATE DAYS", CLARKSON PRINCE TOLD BECKLEY IN 1877.

(Clarkson Prince, along with his brothers William and Edwin fathered the Prince clan in Raleigh County. Sons of Isaac and Mary Clarkson Prince of Philadelphia, Pa., they came to Beaver Creek, Fayette County, Va., in 1835 to look after 1,500 acres of land left their father by their uncle, John Beckley, who had married their father's sister, Mary Prince. Clarkson was born May 3, 1811, died Oct. 15, 1882. He married Susan Hull, daughter of Henry Hull who operated a pioneer "tavern" or boarding-house at Shady Spring, on Nov. 3, 1835. William married Susan's sister, Margaret Hull, on May 9, 1837. Edwin married incidentally, Alethia Phillips.)

"We live in degenerate times," wrote Clarkson Prince from his home on Beaver Creek to General Alfred Beckley at Wheeling in 1877.

Prince and General Beckley were kinsmen and close friends for many years. General Beckley had gone to Wheeling as a member of the House of Delegates from Raleigh County, the State Capitol then being located in the northern city. The original letter, in the possession of Mrs. A. C. Sutphin, of Beckley, who is a granddaughter of Mr. Prince, is as follows: Dear Cousin Alfred,

Your very welcome letter of the 19th of January is at hand, received last evening. I will reply this the first opportunity; I am also truly pleased to learn that you have comfortable quarters. We have delightful winter at present, matters are getting on in our "dig-gins" much as usual. I am glad that you like your situation, I have no doubt that you will make an admirable member as I know you will be attentive to duties. The speaker gave you the right profession as Chairman of Military Affairs. "Pole" French will be in place as Sgt. at Arms, remember me to him.

(Continued on Page 353)

1891

The Frank Harper "Commercial Hotel" And General Store At The Corner Main & Fayette Streets Raleigh County Bank Corner

350

Photo Courtesy Mrs. H. F. Harless

A Truly Remarkable Unpublished Photograph of Earliest Beckley

Only a bare few pictures have been added to this priceless collection, having equal value with this one of an ancient landmark.

Appearing here, so casually posed, from left to right, lower: Dr. J. A. Campbell, Mrs. Jack Anderson, and Dr. William Overton, seated in side-walk chairs; and, above on the upper deck, Mr. & Mrs. Franklin Harper. Mrs. Harper was the former Jannie Calfee, sister of Robert, Henry and James Calfee; a Concord graduate and former teacher. This section of the structure stands where the Raleigh County Bank has its 6-story-and-penthouse, steel-

framed building, together with the small in-between jewelry store. Standing in the open doorway of the general store, is Mr. Robert L. Calfee, and this section is the space now occupied by Thompson Drug Store, in the Atlas Building. The board and picket fence to the right of this surrounds the famous Davis Cottages. To complete the "Then & Now" aspect of all that appears here—Virgil Miller's News Stand occupies the spot where you see the large locust tree in the Davis yard; and, to the far left, beneath the "Hotel" sign, can be seen only the foundation work—about three feet high—of the new brick courthouse abuilding at the time. Ye

olde lamp post stands at the hotel entrance, and two other kerosene lamps hang inside the store; a four-prong awning rack adorns the front of the store, together with tops of hitching posts showing across on this near side of the street.

Over the years many different faces were given these two locations, such as the Willis Hotel; Haupt's Barber Shop; Lewis, Heberlin and Allen dry goods; "Peggy" Hull's confectionery, etc. etc. Now, the newly-renodeled Raleigh County Bank with its huge, also new, parking lot to the rear and opening onto four streets, dominates the corner.

1894



1906

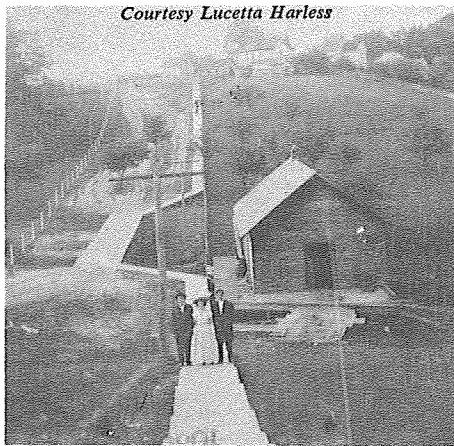
Along the Old Crow Road

Courtesy Delbert (Cubby) Bair

Old Crow, as it was known in the early days of Raleigh and Fayette Counties, is difficult to describe now that there is little left of what it used to be. For instance, it was the largest settlement in Raleigh county; many said it stood fair chance of having the county seat established there. The population was greater than in Beckley. They had a railroad, Beckley did not.

In the above picture may be seen the center of this lively little village. Dr. Abshire, with his wife (an aunt of Cubby Bair's) stand in front of their residence which is about the same spot where Charles Jordan now lives. Dr. Abshire was the company doctor for the great Beaty Lumber Company and its company-built railway—the first wood, then steel rails to be laid in Raleigh County. The track stretched from New River at Glade Creek, wound up the valleys to pierce a hundred-foot tunnel,

Courtesy Lucetta Harless



coasted down into Crow, thence along Beaver Creek to Raleigh, up the valley to what was called the Old Band Mill

(half-way between Raleigh and Mabscott), inching up Happy Hollow to end in front of what is now Institute School. In the smaller photograph may be seen this terminal. You are looking from old Beckley Seminary down and then up 1st Avenue toward Neville Street where the First Baptist Church now stands. The hut, (used at this picture-taking time by the A. B. Maxwells as a cow and pig barn) was Beckley's first railway station. The logging and freight trains, Shay powered, approached from the right, made a 90 degree right turn and stopped back of where these three unknown people pose. Wooden stairs led up both the far and near hills.

Crow was the old home-place of "Jim Bob" and Matty Beaty (Buntion), as well as several hundred other pioneering families, but it was the Beatys' progenitors who established and operated the mill.

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Glade Creek and Raleigh Railroad Co.

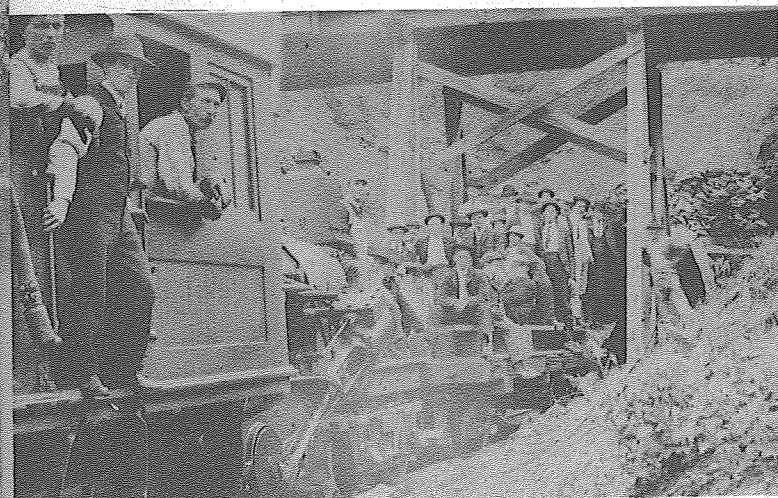
Connection with
Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad from Glade, West Virginia
to Crow, Beckley and Raleigh, West Virginia

Main Office
Bullitt Building, Philadelphia

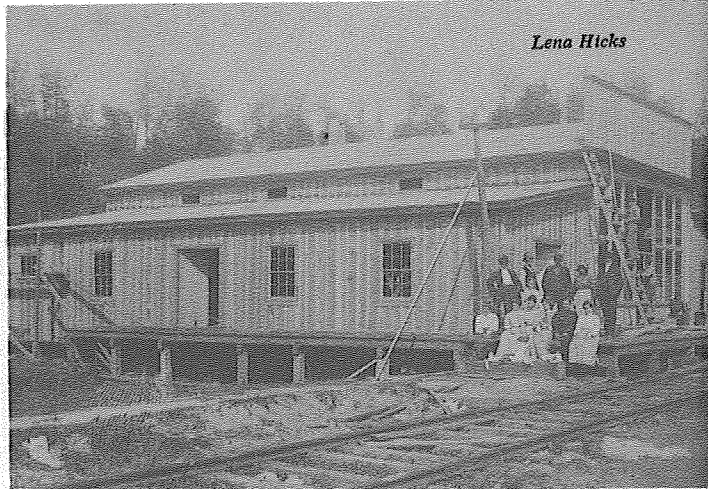
Superintendent's Office
Crow, Raleigh Co., W. Va.

Courtesy Lewis Meadows

Famous names adorn the above ancient letterhead. Azel Ford was the industrial power behind many promotional operations throughout the county; Logan M. Bullitt's name is scattered all over Court House records and historical document of every conceivable nature, along side of Mr. Ford's.

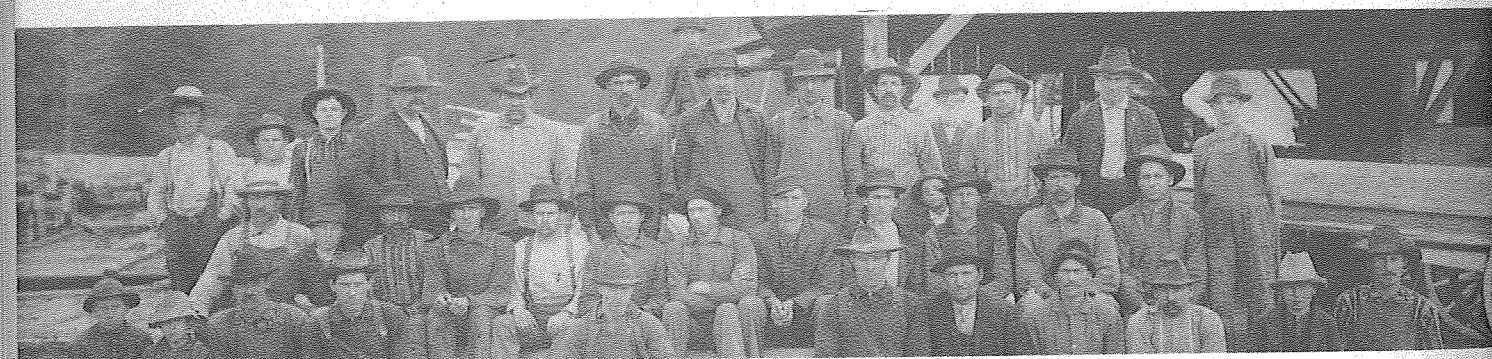


It was a feat of engineering skill to punch this hole in the ridge; drummers used to short cut horse-back through it.



Lena Hicks

The "huge" store to provide provisions for the whole valley was also an erection of great importance; the hub of civic activity.

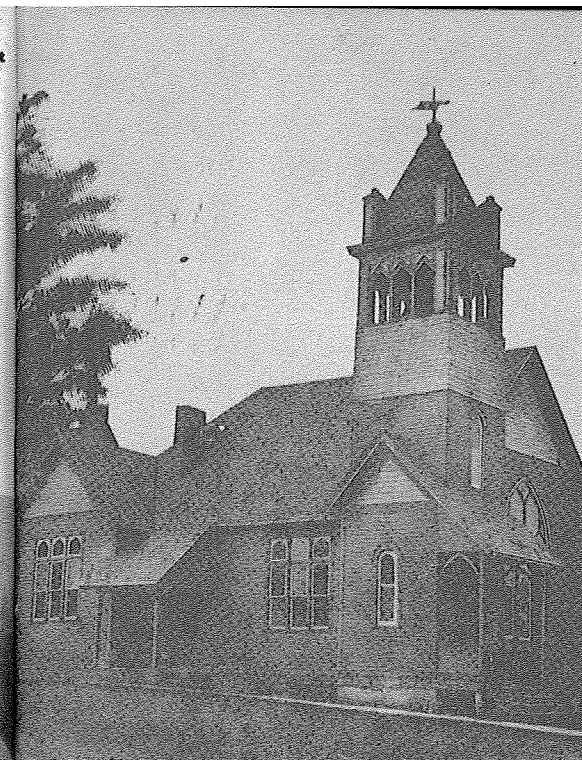
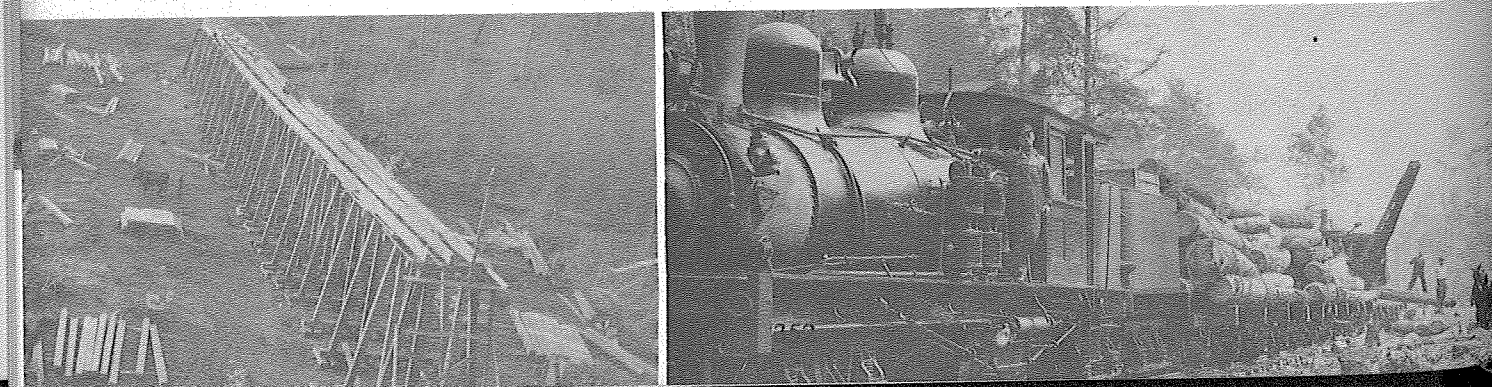


The brawn and sinew to man the old band mill (back of the Seminary) is strung out here like ghosts of the nameless past. Only one or two are remembered at all.

Exact location of this wooden trestle is not clear, but it shows the dogged persistence of men with a job to do.

A museum piece if ever there was one—it's at Crow, and the soul, heart and blood-line of the lumber industry.

John Mellen

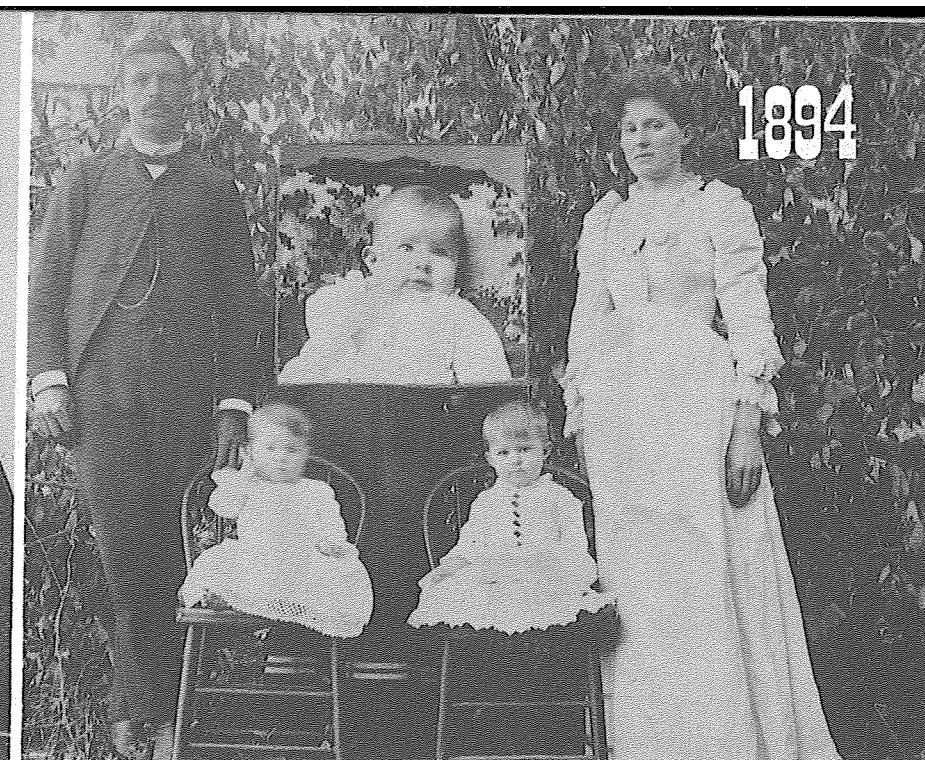


This was the second Methodist church built on this site; the first of any kind in Beckley; a building used for a court house stood here, while the old brick court house was being raised. The Rev. Pownell took charge of this situation in 1910, moving his family here from Romney, W. Va.

BECKLEY'S EARLIEST HISTORY—(Continued from Page 349)

By your letter and also the papers, I see that all of the West Via delegation in Congress are at Wheeling, out on such reformers, however it is always thus with these modern shams. Jefferson views were that the Office should seek the man and not the man the Office, but we live in degenerate times. Tell Henry S. Walker that I wish him God speed and would help him if I had a vote in preference to any of the delegation that should be in Washington. I trust that Faulkner may beat H. G. Davis. Now Gen. you know both men & I know that you will agree with me when I say that Faulkner is made of Clay and Davis of Mud. I trust your "cold" has departed and left you in good health. I calculate to go to Wildwood tomorrow to stay a day or two with Cousin Jane & Maria. I will take your letter with me to show them and will also write to you on Friday, giving you all the points I can gather, the mails have been very irregular for some time, but they no doubt will improve shortly.

Wheeling is a clever city, all whom have seen the Capitol speak of it in like terms as yourself, take good care of your health and don't be our much in the night air. All well this way. Susan & family desire to be remembered & send their love. You will write to me again soon please. It's a great gratification to me to hear from you. I still keep telling that they must not look for this Legislature to do much as the Capitol question and the election of Senators must consume much time but more will be done than many preceding Legislatures. You have done plenty for Raleigh Co. a long time ago now in my old age I would take it moderately and do as it seemed best without trouble or fuss, for should you do every thing that was asked, someone would trump up something to complain of. I send you an account of an accident that like to have been serious.



The Rev. H. H. Pownell and wife when they lived in Romney where he taught school for a number of years, and before taking a pastorate. The two children on chairs are, Virgil (California now), and Teresa (Mrs. Herbert Stansbury, Beckley). The inset is of Eva now a drama teacher in the University of Cincinnati—since the original picture was taken before she and Emerson (deceased) were born. Mrs. Pownell is wearing her wedding dress.

I trust again that you are in good health and that it will remain with you.

Very affectionately yours,
Clarkson Prince

"LETTER FROM RALEIGH COUNTY"

Wildwood, Raleigh County,
December 18, 1878

Editor Greenbrier Independent:

A case of contested election came off at Raleigh Court-house, before the December term of the County Court, on Wednesday and Thursday, 11th and 12th inst., between Capt. Christopher Roles, contestant, and John Beckley, who had received the certificate of his election as Circuit Court Clerk, by a majority of 24, and as County Court Clerk by a majority of 26 votes. Messrs. Jas. H. McGinnis and J. B. Ellison appeared for Capt. Roles, and Messrs. J. Speed Thompson and H. W. Brasie for John Beckley.

It appeared, for the discussion, that the first or original notice alleged that certain clerical and other errors had been made at the Richman Princt, viz: That one of the clerks at the head of his tally-sheet had written 'John Beck', though below, in the same sheet, he had written, 'John Beckley received 51 votes and C. Roles 6 votes,' (though the latter was written C. C. Roles.) Another objection was that the conductor, Martin Nee, had sworn the two clerks, one of whom was William C. Richman, Esq., who had previously sworn the conductor and the other two commissioners.

A second amendatory notice alleged that at the Court-house after the closing of the polls the ballot-box was for a short time in the hands of only one commissioner, and during that time had been tam-

(Continued on Page 354)

(Continued from page XXIV)

groups, drill teams, and others, will be integrated into the Spectacle.

Fireworks festivals are proposed for several communities, to be held either on the day of the State's admission to the Union, or on the Fourth of July. These are expected to have great popular appeal.

There are many other elements of the celebration program, too numerous to discuss. But basically, every annual event which occurs in West Virginia including fairs, festivals, symphony programs, little theatre activities, art exhibits, major sports events, will be tied in with the Centennial from a promotional standpoint; and that includes HONEY IN THE ROCK at Grandview Park. Most Centennial events will reach their peak in the summer and early fall of 1963 when tourism is at its height.

To be sure, we shall use the Centennial celebration as the occasion to brush up on our history. We cannot blink the facts of life which gave us birth in the middle of the Civil War, an episode calculated today to stir us with pride rather than unhappy memories. More than that, much lasting good came out of that conflict—along with West Virginia.

BECKLEY'S EARLIEST HISTORY—(Continued from Page 353)

pered with, but with no specification of the manner, extent, time or place, or person guilty or charged, of such tampering.

On Wednesday, J. Speed Thompson opened the discussion by moving the Court to quash the notice for want of substance, it being a general charge or assertion of the clerical and other errors, at the Richman Precinct, without charge of pretence of fraud, and Mr. T. supported his motion with a remarkably sensible, lucid feeling speech, in which he referred to the legal precedents pertinent to the case, quoting largely from the opinions and decisions of the three *pro tempore* Judges in the contested election between Judges Loomis and Jackson. Bystanders pronounced it the best speech he ever made at this bar. J. Speed Thompson was followed by J. B. Ellison, Esq., with a short argument, also giving his view of the law in the case; Then James H. McGinnis, Esq., Capt. Roles' principal counsel, commenced, as usual, with a very ingenious, plausible argument, which the writer of this sketch, known as a general admirer of this gentleman's legal acuteness, thinks, in the close of his remarks, was more verbose than in his wont; and from his unusual restless manner, seemed to betray his want of confidence in his case. Mr. McGinnis spoke altogether from two to three hours.

Major H. W. Brazie concluded the argument by a very calm, common sense, but elequent speech—very comprehensive, satisfactory and to the point. This speech confirmed the impression made by Mr. Thompson, and must have convinced the Court, if, indeed, not already satisfied in their own minds, that the notice was totally insufficient and without any reasonable grounds for contesting the votes of a majority of the good people of Raleigh at the recent election.

The Court unanimously quashed both the original and amendatory notices, whereupon, Mr. Jno. Beckley came before the Court, and Justice Becket administered to him the oaths of office of both Clerkships, and he filed his official bonds, which were approved by the Court and ordered to be recorded.

It is believed that this decision of the County Court affirming the previous judicial action of Court house

So let us commemorate its years as a period of greatness here as elsewhere in the nation.

We will indeed use the Centennial year as the occasion to mine, refine, and polish, the finest gems of our history; for it is history alone which can bring into focus that greatest of all our natural resources—the high character, the quality, and the abilities of our citizenship.

The Centennial affords a unique opportunity for all of us to present West Virginia, its institutions, organizations, and its citizenry, to the world in the most favorable light, and in a manner calculated to benefit our state and all of its many interests and activities.

In the final analysis, though, the lasting values, and the complete success of the Centennial celebration depends on the enthusiasm, financial support, and active participation of the State's organizations, enterprises, and individuals; particularly those with interest, inspiration and will-to-do of the men and women of today. As Centennial plans develop, communities and organizations will be asked to participate in the Centennial program in a number of ways. I am convinced that such participation will be a long-term investment, a lasting benefit to many communities as well as to our beloved West Virginia.

Commissioners, ends this vexatious contest; although, the contestants counsel have filed bills of exceptions to the rullings of the Court, with the view of appeal to the Circuit Court, (if it be, indeed, constitutional,) but that the Circuit Court will entertain any such appeal is very dubious.—A. B. in the Greenbrier Independent

ALFRED BECKLEY, JR.
Son of Gen. Alfred Beckley
Natus March 5th, 1843—Obit February
21st, 1925

"A worthy scion of an illustrious race" throughout his long and useful life Alfred Beckley, loved and honored by all who came within the circle of his influence, bore worthily indeed his part in life's work and warfare, "lifting high" always the standard set by a long line of honorable ancestors—"keeping the faith" in thought, word and deed—leaving to his children and children's children a priceless heritage of unsullied character and lofty ideals. Of the third generation of American patriots his love of country was a strong force in his life and from his earliest childhood his inherent devotion to his native land nourished by traditions of the service of his patriot father and grandfather, grew with its growth and found its fruition in his lifelong endeavor to fulfill to the utmost his duty to "the land we love."

The grandson of John Beckley (who came to America from his native England at a very early age, and was distinguished by his service successively as alderman and first acting mayor of the city of Richmond, Va., and as first clerk of the Congress of the United States under General Washington's administration) and Maria Prince Beckley; and the son of General Alfred Beckley, (whose service to his country is likewise a matter of history) and Amelia Neville Craig Beckley; he was born at "Wildwood," Virginia, (now West Virginia) but immediately after the death of his mother, when he was but two years of age, was given over to the care of his maternal aunts (whose home was at Pittsburg, Penna.) by

(Continued on Page 356)

1895

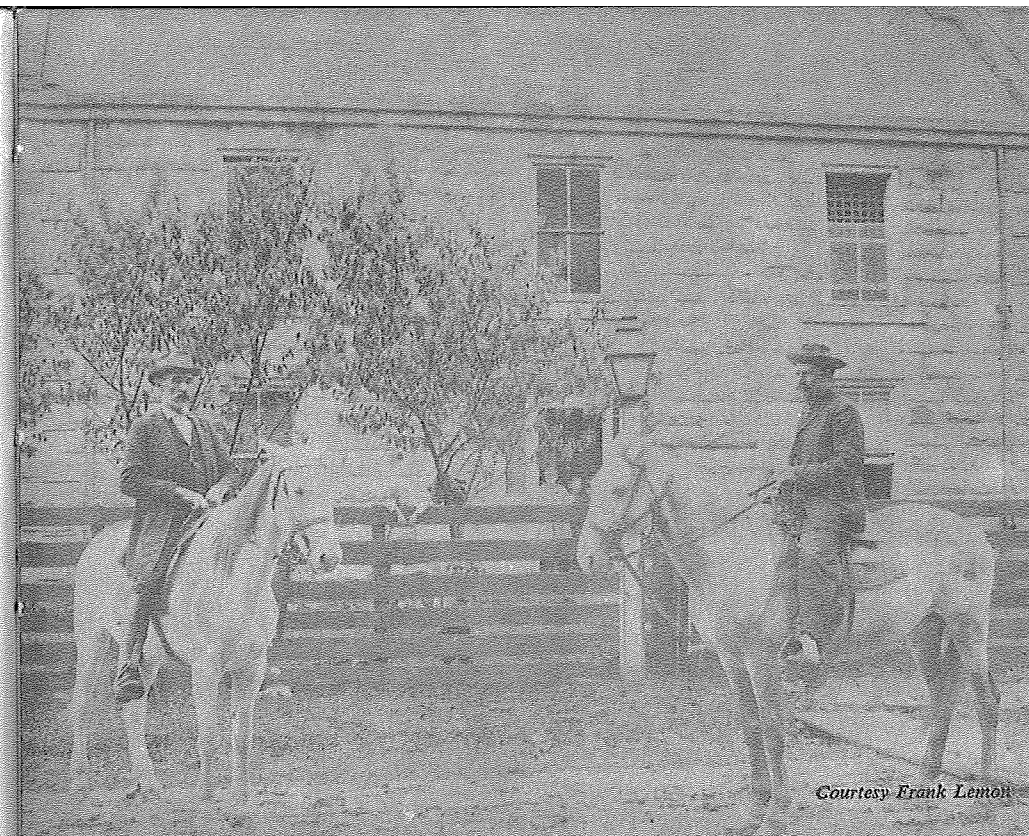
"Durance Vile"

At the time the left-hand picture was taken (March, 1895), Henry Snuffer (right) was "high sheriff" and Capt. James Lemon was deputy; Mrs. Lemon was jailor.

Peeking through the fence is Frank Lemon, as his sister, Lena (Thompson) hangs over. Stella Lemon and Zeta Williams stand in the doorway. The Lemons lived on the first floor while the prisoners basked above. Until the present court house was erected, all of the several jails occupied lot #15 of the Alfred Beckley plat at the corner of Heber and Prince streets.

In fact, this lot was supposed to have been given to the county by the general, who, with a number of other prominent civic-minded citizens had built the first POKEY-BOO in 1852. It had double-hewed log walls crammed in with pounded rock and gravel, and with 2-inch oak planking. James Phillips was the actual builder and the price was \$1,200.00.

While the work went on the county used the home of James Cole to hold the prisoners, and James Cole's house was the first residence built in the general's "paper town" of 30 more-or-less square acres.



Courtesy Frank Lemon

The First stone structure

The below jail was accepted by John Bolen and the county court, December 5, 1915.

In 1938 The Raleigh Bastile Corporation, consisting of Judge C. M. Ward, Attorney Ben Ashworth and Miss Irma Sutphin purchased this lot #15 for \$30,000.00, when the new court house was completed with its jail

("filled to overflowing") on the top floor.

A number of people have differed with D. J. Phipps of Roanoke, who built what they called the "misfit" jail below, for putting the tower on an "inside" corner instead of the street corner.

The last of Raleigh County jails on lot 15



Courtesy Beckley Newspapers Corp.



Photo Courtesy Mrs. Wade Hull

When The New "Hotel Hull" Was Ablaze At Its Glamorous Best

This is one of the book's clearest, best preserved and most charming, as well as period-revealing photographs, for both fashionable house furnishings and wearing apparel. Here you see, the colorful hotel parlor in all of its rich, modern decor. Obviously the picture was taken after the Hotel was completed and this date was 1894, when John S. Hull only had five more years to enjoy the great developments he, together with the Princes, Beckleys, Hulls and Scotts, had brought to the heart of Beckley. He died January 26, 1899.

Seated from left to right: The well-known railroad builder, Capt. W. W.



Photo Courtesy Mrs. Harry Sessions

Boxley, Flynn Hull, son of, next: Mrs. Annie Prince Hull and her husband, John S. Hull, the hotel owner, Pearl

McCreery (or, as others have thought, one of the Overton girls), and Mr. Hull's close friend, William (Bill) O. Abney, of the Abney, Barnes Co., wholesalers of Charleston. Mr. Abney was known as a drummer's drummer.

A good view of the picturesque old "drummer's inn" and social center, if included herewith. Close examination of this small camera shot with a heavy lens, shows a dark spot at the nearest corner of the porch, which was a drinking-water well. Today, this well is still there—its location is two-feet south from Lilly's Men's Shop's cash register!

BECKLEY'S EARLIEST HISTORY—(Continued from Page 354)

whom he was tenderly reared. When the need for defense of his Mother State by her loyal sons arose, he was quick to answer the call, and at the age of 18 years enlisted in the Army of Virginia, and served as a gallant cavalryman throughout the war, fighting to the bitter end in defense of his native state and for his inviolable principles. At the close of the struggle he returned to civilian life to take up the longer, harder struggle to help rebuild a new Virginia from the ruins of the old.

On November 12th, 1867, he was married to Emma Virginia Carper, (daughter of James M. and Mary Ann Johnston Carper;) this marriage, which indeed made the twain one, filled his life with richest happiness unto the end. Three children of this

union were reared to maturity—Annie Davison (Mrs. Turner McDowell;) Lila Craig (Mrs. C. W. Godwin;) and Stuart Heber Beckley. The death of this beloved son in his early manhood, while bringing infinite sorrow but cemented more closely the devotion of the bereaved parents. Mr. Beckley is survived by his wife and daughters—Mrs. Turner McDowell and Mrs. C. W. Godwin. He was tenderly laid to rest in the family plot in beautiful Godwin cemetery—on McDowell Hill—amid the scenes he loved so well, by a host of sorrowing friends and neighbors. His life, distinguished by the highest sense of honor, the utmost devotion to duty, loftly ideals and principles, and the rare sweetness of nature which endeared him to people of every age

(Continued on Page 361)

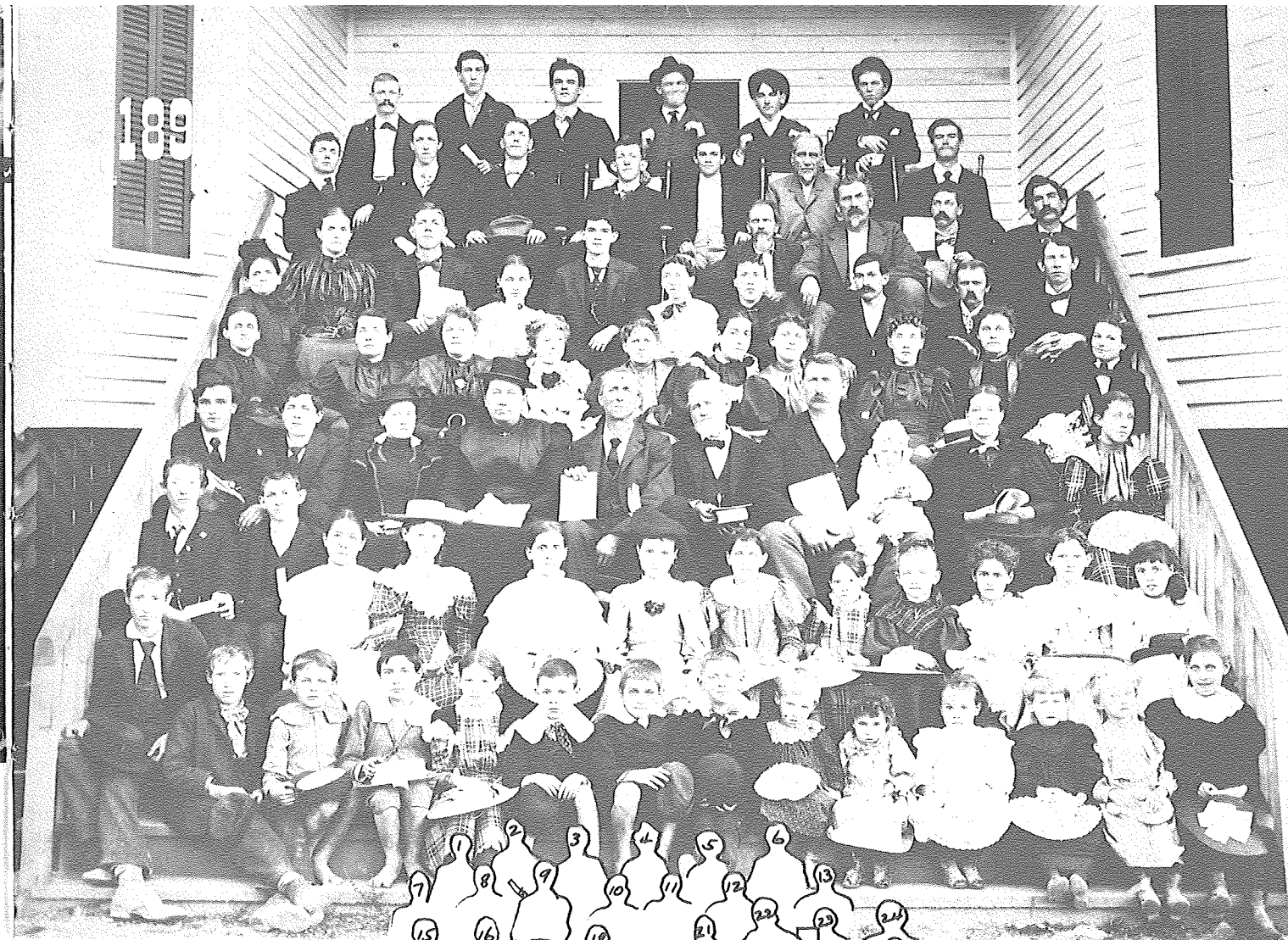
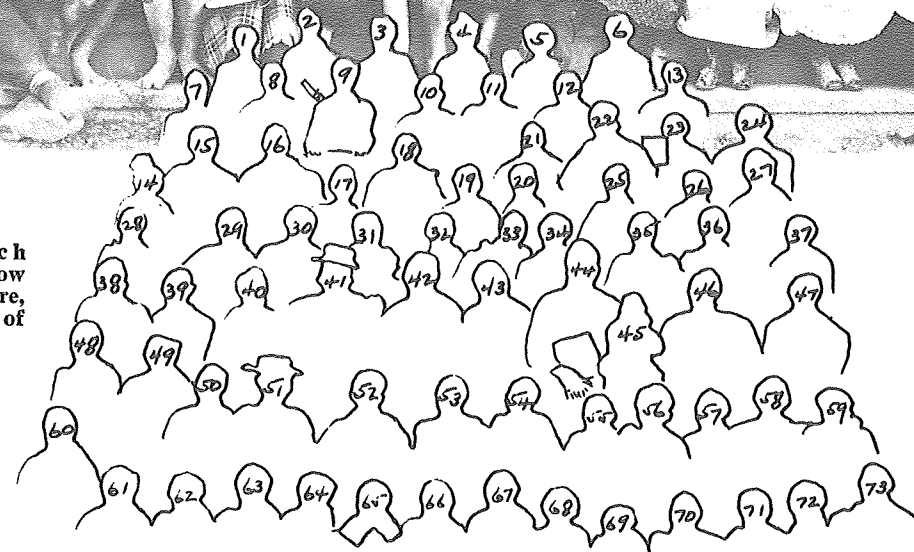


Photo Courtesy Dan & Brook Covey

Early Church Gathering at Crow—This picture, shows members of



the Christian Church Congregation at Crow, W. Va. The scene is on the steps of the old Crow (or Wright) Hotel.

Pictured from top row, reading from left to right, as numbered are: 1, Bern Dehart; 2, Peter Richardson; 3, Charles Dean; 4, Robert Boxley; 5, Clivie Wilson; 6, Neb Boxley; 7, Percy Ryals; 8, Henry Brown; 9, Eldridge Maddy; 10, Fred Williams; 11, Oscar Rakes; 12, Robert Scott; 13, Charles Hutchinson; 14, Mrs. Burton Wright; 15, Mrs. Douglas Scott; 16, William Fisher; 17, Flora Sutphin; 18, Curley Rakes; 19, Anne Lilly (Bowdin); 20, Mrs. Alfred Richmond; 21, John Furrow; 22, Charles Akers; 23, Moses Scott; 24, Joe Wright; 25, Charles Furrow; 26,

Mason Carson; 27, Mont Phillips; 28, Mrs. Moses Scott; 29, Mrs. Charles Akers; 30, May Scott (Fisher); 31, Minnie Fisher (Harlow); 32, Ivy Scott (Hunt); 33, May Richardson; 34, Vic Scott (Carson); 35, Gladie Richmond (Lilly); 36, Pine Scott (Furrow); 37, Blanche Shively; 38, Jasper Kidwell; 39, William Kay; 40, Elizabeth Hutchinson; 41, Mrs. Alice (Scott) Williams; 42, Chester Williams; 43, Burton Wright; 44, Douglas Scott; 45, Madge Scott (Tissue); 46, Mrs. George Fisher; 47, Mabel Williams; 48, Roy

Hunt; 49, Harry Thompson; 50, Lura Richardson (Brown); 51, Mamie Mann; 52, Grace McDowell; 53, Lake Fisher; 54, Birch Scott; 55, Betty Rakes; 56, Eula Scott (Bragg); 57, Annie McDowell; 58, Annie Mann; 59, Hattie Meadows; 60, Emery Hunt; 61, Fred Hunt; 62, Claude Richardson; 63, Wade Richardson; 64, Bertie Rakes; 65, Emmet Akers; 66, Cam McDowell; 67, Robert Scott; 68, Ida Scott; 69, Miss Richmond; 70, Rena Akers; 71, Mabel Beatty; 72, Eunice Scott; 72, Lake Scott (Redden).



Pearl Hull

Courtesy Mrs. Wade Hull



Henry E. Hull

Courtesy Dan Covey

About as well preserved today as it was when originally built, the old Lewis Hull home in 1898 at the former railroad crossing at Raleigh, is indeed a historical landmark, perhaps without parallel.

Evidently someone is churning up apple butter or dirty clothes outside the back gate, a short jump from the tracks that were laid there some years or two later. This property was actually considered a mansion in its time, and is now owned by Mrs. Odessa Lewis, of Daniels.

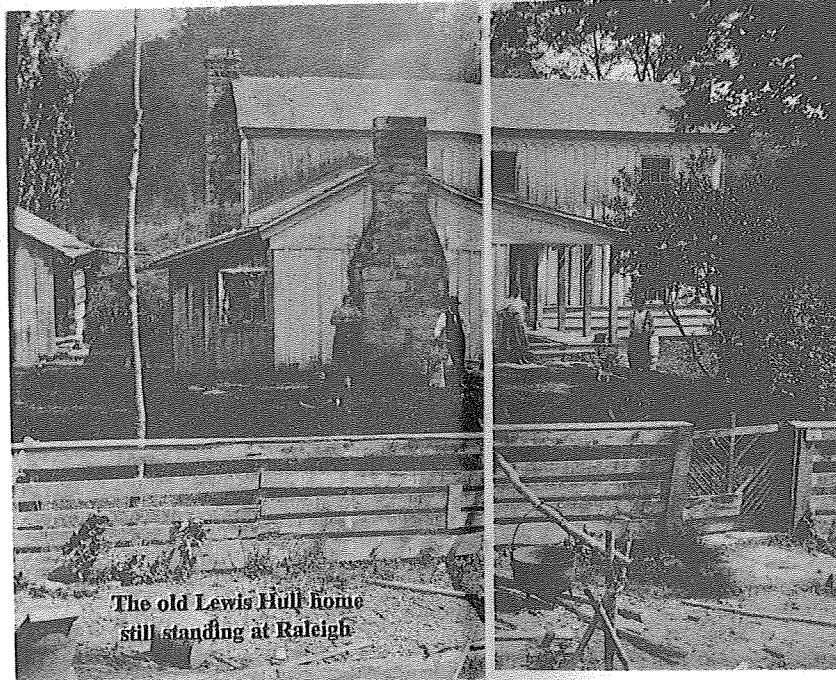
Shown are, left to right: "Aunt" Emily Prince Williams, (boy, front) Garner Williams, Robert Prince, (boy, down front) "Bill" Prince (Grove Ave.), Garnet Prince (John) Warden, dog "John," Andrew Prince, and Tom (near gate).

A Rev.
Joseph Hull came to America from England in 1635, settled in Boston, with "many descendants, but connection with German family uncertain."

- 1 Peter Thomas Hull
B 1716-D
M German wife, died there.
Came to America (Philadelphia) 1741
M 1750 Susana Margaretha Diffenbaugh, 1725-1776
D "Craig Bottom"

- 1 The Rev. Capt. Peter Hull
B 1752-D 1818
- 2 Adam Hull
B 1754-D 1836
M Ester Keister
- 3 William Hull
- 4 The Rev. George Hull
B 1756-D
M Hanah Keister
- 5 The Rev. Henry Hull (twin)
B 1760-D 1836
M (1) Elizabeth
M (2) Elizabeth Hawkins
- 6 Mary Hull (twin)
B 1760-D 1830
M Abram Berner
- 7 Elizabeth Hull
B 1762-D 1839
M James Patterson
- 8 Margaret Hull
B -D
M Adam Arbocast
- 9 Phoebe Hull
B -D
M John Yeager
- 10 Catherine Hull
B -D
M Peter Zicafoose

The Rev. Henry and Elizabeth Hull
First Family



The old Lewis Hull home still standing at Raleigh

Courtesy Mrs. J. C. Prince

2 Henry and Emily Derieux White Hull

- 1 John Hull
B 1788-D 1856
M Sophia Derieux
- 2 Henry Hull
B 1796-D 1880
M Emily Derieux White
- 3 Elizabeth Hull
B 1800-D
M Lewis Holmes
- 4 Polly Hull
B 1811-D
M Jacob Baker
- 5 Anderson Hull
B 1822-D
M Jane Nettle
- 6 Fannie Hull
B -D
M John Wills
- 7 Vianna Hull
B -D
M Anderson Meadows

Second Family

William P. & Hattie Canterbury Hull

Mrs. Wade Hull

The Hull ("Hohl") Family Which Emigrated from Germany And England —Isaac C. Prince

2 Lewis & Elizabeth Wright Hull

- 1 Henry E. Hull
B 1850-D
M Emily Jenkins
- 2 John S. Hull
B 1835-D 1899
M Annie Prince
- 3-5-7-Died very young
- 4 Wm. P. Hull
B 1858-D
M Hattie Canterbury
- 6 Wade H. Hull
B 1863-D 1941
M Fannie Arritt
- 1 Beuhring Hull
B 1844-D 1914
M Melissa Clendennin

4 John & Frances Jones Hull

- 2 Emma Hull
B 1844-D 1915
M George Hix
- 3 Margaret Hull
B 1848-D 1931
M John Bannister
- 4 Fannie Hull
B 1850-D
M Charles Ault
- 5 Mary Hull
B 1852-D
M Joseph Miller
- 6 Harriett Hull
B 1854-D
M Benj. Spruce
- 7 Lizzie Hull
B 1856-D 1917
M Victor Bannister
- 8 Ann Hull
B 1862-D
M Clark Hudnall
- 9 James Hull
B 1865-D 1906
M Alice Spruce
- 10 William Hull
B 1868-D
M Alice Adkins
- 11 Benjamin Hull
B 1870-D
M Ida Reveal

7 Andrew & Rebecca Deyerle Hull

- 1 Susan Hull
B 1817-D 1904
M Clarkson Prince
- 2 Lewis Hull
B 1819-D 1875
M 1848 Elizabeth Wright
- 3 Margaret Hull
B 1822-D 1895
M William Prince
- 4 John Hull
B 1824-D 1891
M Frances Jones
- 5 Angeline Hull
B 1824-D 1891
M Robert Scott
- 6 Amanda Hull
B 1828-D 1885
M Lou Hundley
- 7 Andrew Hull
B 1831-D 1869
M Rebecca Deyerle
- 1 Arminatie P. Hull
B 1859-D
M J. W. McDowell
- 2 Madora A. Hull
B 1860-D
M L. A. Robbins
- 3 Wm. F. Hull
B 1862-D 1925
M Garritson
- 4 Edwin G. Hull
B 1866-D 1918

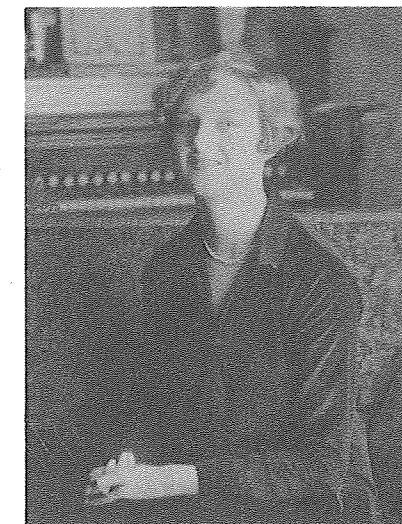
- 1 Willie Hull
M 1902 G. D. Howell
- 2 Frank Hull
B 1882-D 1922
M Maud Callaway
- 3 Neva Hull
M A. Z. Lilly
- 1 Ennis Flynn Hull
B 1883-D 1941
M Grace T. Fulks

- 1 Pearl Hull
B 1890-D 1906

- 1 John Hull
B -D 1949
M Louise Sutcliff
- 2 Elizabeth Hull
B -D
M Edmund Kuharski



John Hull, Roanoke, Va., had 2 children: John, Jr., and Betty Low of Ocean Side, Calif. He died suddenly. (See above)



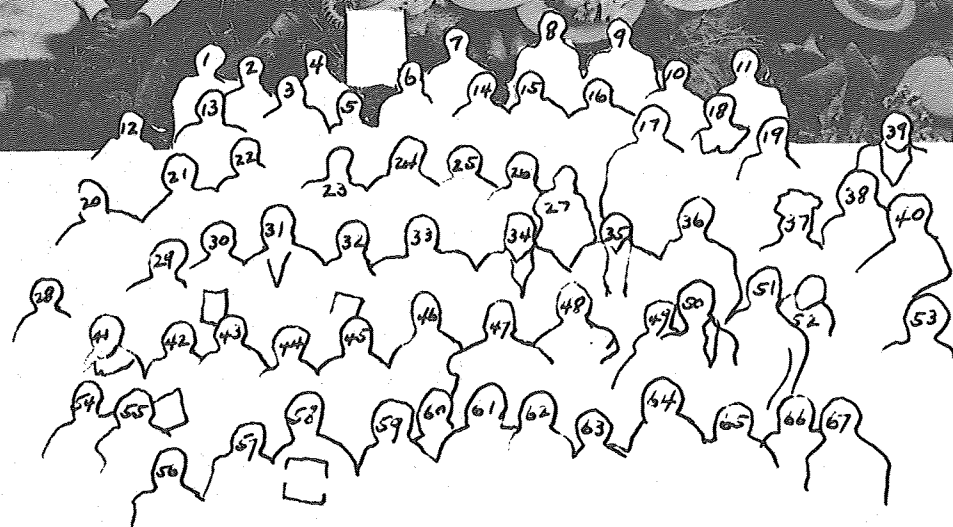
Elizabeth Hull Kuharski, Minneapolis, Minn., had 5 children: Phillip, Frances, Louise, Wade Howard and Virginia.

1899



Photo Courtesy

Mrs. M. L. Bragg



Picnic At Present Grandview State Park Site- Christian Church Sunday School

Those present as indicated by the chart, and identified, are: 1; 2, Tom Haney; Graten Haney and baby; 4; 5, Fanny Haney; 6, Joe Hunt; 7; 8, John Hunt; 9, Berk McClure; 10, Wade McClure; 11; 12; 13, Ben Carper; 14, Walter Johnson; 15, Anna Johnson; 16, Lena Carper; 17; 18; 19, Sally Hunt; 20; 21, Mrs. L. A. Martin; 22, Dr. L. A. Mar-

tin; 23, Mrs. Ellen Carper; 24, Jackson Carper; 25, Sam Carper; 26, Mrs. Sam Carper; 27, Mrs. Sam Carper's baby; 28; 29, Oliver Carper; 30, Sam Wright; 31, Ken Smith; 32, Fred Carper; 33, Mrs. Charley Wright; 34, Charley Wright; 35, Sally McClure; 36, Leach McClure; 37, Retta Carper Stuart; 38, ——— Stuart; 39, Lewis Hunt; 40; 41, Hunter

Smith; 42, Roy Johnson; 43, Willie Smith; 44, Arthur Carper; 45, Bruce Carper; 46, Jenny Bennett; 47, Maud Martin; 48, Lucy Wright; 49; 50; 51, Edith Carper (Callaway); 52; 53, Janet Carper; 54; 55, Molly Smith; 56; 57; 58, Hubert Carper; 59, Ethel Martin; 60, ——— Martin; 61, Bessie Carper; 62; 63; 64; 65; 66.



Courtesy Judge W. A. Riffe

Far From an Unlucky Thirteen

Cited by Judge Winton A. Riffe as one of Raleigh County's most intelligent men (or, "the smartest man in seven counties"), Harvey Neely was a well-known and respected Crow farmer, lumberman and business man. Obviously, he reared a handsome and well-kept family of 9 girls and 4 boys. They were, standing, from left to right: Mary,

Lake (Eads), Clarence, Doan, Lucy, Homer and Garnet. Seated: Myrtle, Cam, Mr. Neely, Donald, Mrs. Neely (formerly Malinda Underwood), Mildred, Clara, (Manley), and Orfa. Certainly, he must have had the most and prettiest daughters.

Obviously, Mr. Neely was not only

the father of a commendably fine, large family of beautiful girls and handsome sons, but an astute provider. His business in addition to farming consisted of well-drilling (with his cousin Lewis Pine) and running a thrashing machine which was, in itself, a full-time operation in harvest season.

BECKLEY'S EARLIEST HISTORY—(Continued from Page 356)

and class, is finished here to be renewed in the land where "the inhabitant shall not say 'I am sick.'"

His ashes we to Mother Earth's embrace
Return, with grief that lies too deep for tears.
His memory, enshrined in inmost place
Of hearts that love him through all coming years
Shall live and fade not; and to One above
Who loveth more than any earthly friend
All human souls, in tender, reverent love
His dauntless, deathless spirit we commend.
After life's storm and stress and stern endeavor,
Earth's warfare bravely waged, with spirit high,
Life's burden borne, at last he rests forever!
Let Peace enfold him through eternity.

Virginia Ferguson McDowell

JOHN BECKLEY'S STORY Written by the
Founder's Son, Tells Most Authentic History of
the 'PAPER TOWN'

(John Beckley, grandson of John Beckley, the man

for whom Beckley was named, in 1910 wrote his autobiography, completing it barely a month before his death.

John Beckley, the oldest son of General Alfred Beckley, who actually founded the city named for his father, was clerk of the Raleigh county court for 18 years and of the circuit court for 12 years during the same period.

He was for 25 years a member of the Town district school board, operated a store in Beckley, and was prominent in religious and fraternal activities.

His death in 1910 removed the last of the Beckley male line of descent from the city bearing the family name. His only surviving child is Mrs. Betty Beckley Campbell, who resides here now.

John Beckley's autobiography, written in language of great dignity at times approaching stateliness, was marked by long paragraphs.

It is reproduced here exactly as he wrote it, spelling and paragraph structure unchanged):

(Continued on Page 364)

1898



(See story, "Between friends")

Between Friends - A Time For Deep Meditation

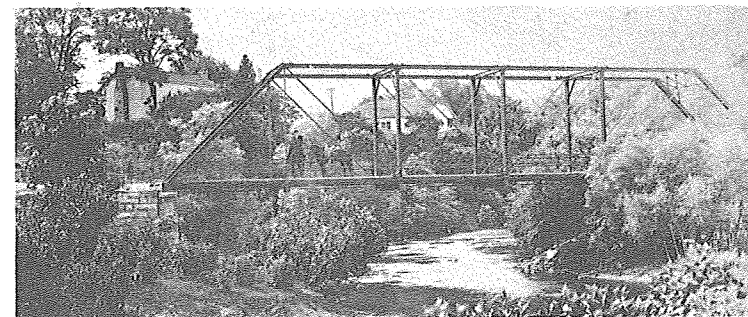
Perhaps, for more reasons than one, this may be the most spectacular contributions to this collection of priceless pictures. It is the original, free-hand drawing (on the opposite page) submitted by the late Mrs. Wade Hull. Here, in a pensive, totally oblivious mood, sits two of the area's outstanding pioneers.

They are (left) John S. Hull and his inseparable companion and business associate, William (Bill) O. Abney, drummer extraordinary for the Abney, Barnes Company of Charleston.

Yet, actually, this is the story of THREE men, not TWO. Unseen, is the top-quality producer of this pencil-and-crayon portrait. And after several years of intensive investigation and research regarding his work, the signature "H.L. Thompson" at the bottom was identified and traced. It belonged to Henry Lewis Thompson, who was described as either a relative—by marriage, perhaps—or a protege of "Aunt Betsey" Hull, the wife of Lewis Hull, of Raleigh. Also, and this is obvious, he was a highly-gifted artist.

Small of stature (about 5 feet 4 inches tall) he weighed, by present day recollection, nearly 180 pounds. From Beckley he moved to Charleston and had a studio in the Arcade, on the balcony, where he practiced his art in charcoals, watercolors, oils and inks. What finally became of him has not been learned.

Mr. John S. Hull (see also page 357; the Hull family Tree and other references in this and Vol. I), was a brother-in-



The ancient log-and-weather-boarded home of Lewis and "Aunt Betsey" Hull, still standing at the left of the old wagon bridge at Raleigh, crossing Piney River.

law of Mrs. Wade Hull, formerly of South Kanawha Street, Beckley.

Mr. Hull was born July 2, 1853 and died January 26, 1899 (the year following this picture date), at the age of 46, of "Bright's Disease and a heart condition," according to Dr. James A. Campbell.

Community Leaders and Men-About-Town of the Fading "Gay Nineties"

Perhaps more than any other group photograph taken at this glamorous period, these were some of the outstanding leaders of the budding Beckley. A whole book of interesting history could have been devoted to any one of them, and their names will be remembered as long as Beckley lives:

Left to right, standing: Frank A. Prince, Charleston banker, industrialist, state and community leader, is the only living member of the group and of his father's (William "Bub" Prince) immediate family; William O. Abney, popular drummer of Abney, Barnes & Co., Charleston wholesalers; Lyn Johnson, another drummer; John Prince Beckley, architect, merchant son of John Beckley (son of General Alfred Beckley), and brother of Mrs. Betty Beckley Campbell, was killed by lightning in June of 1900, together with Wm. ("Bill") George; Robert Spencer, an early editor and owner of the Raleigh County Index (forerunner of the Raleigh Register), son-in-law of "Frone" George, father of Lawrence and Willie Spencer; and Speed (or Bert) Prince.

Seated: Henry Lacy McCreery,

father of our present Criminal Judge Harry L. McCreery, lawyer, realtor, son of Sen. John W. McCreery, who died shortly after this picture was taken; John S. Hull, well-known pioneer merchant and host (Hull Hotel), husband

of Annie Prince William "Bub" and Isaac C. Prince; Capt. W. W. Boxley, (question) and sitting between his father's knees is Flynn Hull, an only child.



A First Entire Senior Class of Beckley's Free School

Of course, there were only 342 people in Beckley for the 1900 census, a year later than this picture was made, and therefore a small Senior Class of the Beckley Free School (situated across the street from the Day & Night Garage) could be expected.

Seated, center, is the teacher, Mr. A. Z. Lilly; a short while later and for the rest of his life he was the town's first and foremost merchant of musical instruments, and particularly the original Edison (and other) gramophones. There are probably hundreds of his cylindrical and disk records scattered over southern West Virginia.

Beside him, from left to right, is Bessie Willis (Mrs. C. C. Tucker), and Nora Ball (Mrs. Burton). Standing, are: Ida Ball (Cooper), George Willis, who operates his own Water Company in the Harper Hill district, and Stella Lemon (Mrs. Wm. Ford).



Photo Courtesy C. C. Tucker

Teacher and Pupils

BECKLEY'S EARLIEST HISTORY—(Continued from Page 361)

JOHN BECKLEY AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN OF RALEIGH COUNTY

John Beckley, the subject of this sketch, was born in the U. S. Allegheny Arsenel (at that time) three miles out from the city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on the 26th day of March, 1833. He is the eldest son of General Alfred Beckley, who was born in Washington, D. C., on May 26th, 1802, and died at "Wildwood," near Beckley, W. Va., on May 26th, 1888, and is also the oldest grandson of John and Maria Beckley, nee Maria Prince. My grandfather, (the said John Beckley,) was born about the year 1750, near the city of London, England, and came from there to America at about the age of nine years. After some years, he located in Richmond,

Virginia. While there, he filled the office of Alderman, and acting first Mayor of the city of Richmond. From there he removed to Philadelphia, and at the organization of the First Congress at the beginning of Washington's first administration, John Beckley was elected First Clerk of Congress, serving through both of his administrations, and at the beginning of John Adam's administration, my grand-father was ousted and another man was elected Clerk of Congress, serving those four years. However, at the beginning of President Jefferson's 1st term, my grandfather was again elected Clerk of Congress, serving through Mr. Jefferson's first term and being an intimate and almost lifelong friend of the President, perhaps through the influence of this friendship, at the beginning of Mr. Jefferson's second

(Continued on Page 366)

The large, barny building in which this class matri-culated, stood just about between Leed's Discount store and Snow-Thornton Florist estab-lish-ment. There were two creaky floors to this school; the upper one housed the seniors, and below, the lower grades. Mr. John W. Ball, before entering law, was a teacher here at about this same time. Many followed in the foot-steps of these two well-known pio-neering teachers.

The story is told of one anonymous teacher who asked an equally anonymous student (both too well-known to malign, safely): "Bill, tell us—what is electricity?" For a few minutes he sat silently frowning his brow, then answered slowly, "Uh . . . uh . . . I DID know . . . but, I forgot!" "Is that so?" said the teacher. "And what a pity! The only person in all the world who ever knew what electricity was—and he forgot!"



Photo Courtesy the late Mrs. E. M. Payne

Notables of the Recent "Gay Nineties" Hold a "Wing-Ding"

Small town entertainment was actually hard to come by in the recent, and terribly misnamed, decade. It was only glamorous in retrospect. For instance, in Beckley, there were no theatres (movies, such as they were, would not start their flickering until another five or six years), opera houses, dance, skating, bowling, pool, or meeting halls of any kind, except the churches, lodge-halls, court chambers and school classrooms. And none of these was suitable nor adequate for extra-special usages.

Yet, there was no absence of ingenuity and courage; especially among the distaff side. A case in point: The above pictured soiree of the upper-tendom, allegedly dreamed up and sponsored by the artist of the group, and hostess, Mrs. Blanch Preston-Preston, staged one of the most unique gatherings of record. It's theme was, poetically, "Backward Turn Backward, O Time, In Your Flight," from Elizabeth Akers Allen's famous, tear-jerker poem (later put to song), "Rock Me To Sleep".

The party was thrown in the recently-built, south Heber street home of the hostess and her husband, Judge A. D. Preston. And, as can be imagined, everyone was to come dressed kiddie-wise, a sort of early-early Sadie Hawkins affair.

Shown in this rare historical relic are,

standing; in the usual order; and, as described by excellent first-hand authority: Pearl McCreery (Mrs. D. Howe Johnson), Anzoletto Saunders (Mrs. Henry Lacy McCreery, from Bedford county, Virginia; mother of Judge Harry L. McCreery, Raleigh County Criminal Court), Mary Katherine (Molly) McCreery (with baby doll), Mrs. Edwin O. Prince (wife of an early Raleigh County Index editor), "Indian Maid" Zada King (visitor in the Ida McCreery household), Alma McCreery (Mrs. E. M. Payne), and Blanch Preston Barger (Mrs. A. D. Preston).

Sitting: Miss Alice Stirrat (daughter of Col. James Stirrat who married Chas. W. Binford, coal oper.) opened the Raleigh Coal & Coke Co., mines at Raleigh; also a supervisor of numerous other coal operations such as Fire Creek Smokeless Coal Co., Lego., Mrs. (Dr.) James A. Campbell (a sister of Mr. E. M. Payne), and Jo Lewis (Mrs. Charley Allen, daughter of Dr. Joel L. Lewis and sister-in-law of Mrs. Charles Cameron Lewis, executive director of the Raleigh County TB Asso.)

Two other participants, the only known ones still living in Beckley, were too late for the photographer. These were the sisters, Misses Elizabeth and Grace (Mrs. E. L. Ellison) Anderson, and they lived next door, west, to the Preston residence. But, their misfortune

was that they also lived almost next-door, west, to the Northern Methodist Church, where a nightly "Revival" was in progress. So, since The Church always took precedence over all other mundane meetings and after much pro-and-con, their parents, the Capt. Jack Andersons, "compromised" by letting the young ladies attend the party—AFTER the church function had been concluded.

(Note: The A. D. Preston residence, built in 1900, was the scene, perhaps a few months before (August 20th) this photograph was taken, where John Price Beckley and William E. George were killed by a stroke of lightning.)

* There are six such verses of this McGuffey's Fifth Eclectic Reader poem, the first of which is herewith quoted, for nostalgic edification:

"Backward, turn backward, O Time, in your flight!
Make me a child again, just for tonight!
Mother, come back from the echoless shore;
Take me again to your arms as of yore;
Kiss from my forehead the furrows of care;
Smooth the few silver threads out of my hair;
Over my slumbers your loving watch keep;
Rock me to sleep, mother, rock me to sleep!"



A Prince Station Photograph of about 1900 to 1905

Obviously, this is a C&O Railway celebration of some sort (since there are 4 or 5 bandmen here in uniform, and perhaps others not uniformed), and a supposition is that the Piney Creek branch has either been opened up or extended. At about this date (1900),

the road only reached Raleigh, and folks going beyond, usually walked. In the above: 1, musician; 2, conductor (RR); 3, Mrs. E. M. Payne; 4, unidentified; 5, Mrs. D. Howe Johnson; 6, Mr. Johnson; 7, Willie Overton (Summerfield); 8, (on train steps) Wm. "Bub" Prince

and Hugh Dunn; 9, unidentified; 10 (lower train steps), J. Hugh Dunn; 11, Musician; 12, to 25, unidentified: Last lady on right looks like Daisy Rose (Wilfong), yet the date would be later if this were she.

BECKLEY'S EARLIEST HISTORY—(Continued from Page 364)

term, he was re-elected Clerk of Congress for the fourth time, and during President Jefferson's second term, near the close of the year 1807, my grandfather departed this life and was buried in Old Georgetown, D. C., leaving a widow and one son, (Alfred Beckley), my father, surviving him then only a boy of five years. In a year or so thereafter, my grand-mother with her only living child removed from Washington, D. C., to Lexington, Ky., where my grand-mother with her son Alfred, went to reside with her old lifelong friends of earlier days. Captain John Fowler and his estimable wife, of Lexington, Ky., where she resided the remainder of her widowed life of more than 20 years, her death occurring on July 18, 1833, and her dear friend, Mrs. Fowler dying in an adjoining room the same day about the same hour, and both were buried in the beautiful cemetery at Lexington, Ky., under the same funeral services, at the same hour. Side by side, are their graves to this day. My father, Alfred Beckley, about the year 1818 or 1819, got an appointment as a cadet to the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, N. Y., principally through the kindness and influence of another old lifetime friend of my grand-father and grand-mother, General William H. Harrison, of North Bend, Ohio, (afterward President,) and who in his kindness, sent the young cadet on horseback, furnishing the horse and bearing all the expenses from North Bend, his home,

(where young Beckley had been living in the Harrison home for sometime, attending school at North Bend Academy with the Harrison boys,) to Pittsburgh, Pa., and from there to West Point, N. Y. traveling principally by stage coach, General Harrison paying the entire traveling expenses. My father, by close attention to his studies, graduated high up in his class at the close of four years, "A Lieutenant in the U. S. Infantry Service." A short-while thereafter, he was made "Commandant" in charge of the "U. S. Allegheny Arsenal," and while stationed there for a term of years, became acquainted with and married

Miss Amelia Neville Craig, second daughter of Neville B. Craig, and an old distinguished citizen of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, of Revolutionary Ancestry. This lady was my sainted mother, who died in Fayetteville (then Virginia), now W. Va., on the 9th day of March, 1845, and is buried at our old homestead "Wildwood." Hers is the first grave ever made in the "Wildwood Cemetery." She was the mother of seven children, six boys and one girl, four of us still living. My father at the expiration of four years, was removed from the U. S. Arsenal, near Pittsburgh to Fort Hamilton, Long Island, N. Y., where he was stationed for one year, (1834), during which year my first brother, Neville Craig Beckley, was born on December 27th. My father was then returned to U. S. Arsenal near Pittsburgh, where on November

(Continued on Page 367)

In this picture the bride and groom were long gone; "French leave" as they might have said it. Back row: Claud Prince, Maud Prince (Scott), Lake Prince (Counts), Lena Prince (Hicks), Charley Prince, Lottie Deck (Clyde Shumate), Zeta Williams (Walker), Bess Kent (Charley Prince).

Front row: Bertie Prince (Griffith), Ada Prince (Fitzpatrick), Motie Deck (Prince), Lyde Deck (Adney C. Sutphin).

The oval shows the hurriedly departed couple—some years later, perhaps! At this period of history the man still sat to have his masterful photo taken, while the weaker (?) sex stood.

Ernest Ewart, the son of Col. J. A. Ewart (large land and farm owner and coal lessor) was the popular liveryman here for many years. This book is not complete in the absence of a picture of "Silver Heels," his proud, prize pacer (a medium sized mare) the smoothest single-footing saddler to ever smooth the cobbled, muddy streets of Beckley or any other town.

BECKLEY'S EARLIEST HISTORY—(Continued from Page 366)

23rd, 1836, my second brother, Henry Martin Beckley, was born. My mother remaining in Pittsburgh at her father's with her children, father was ordered in 1835, to Florida, at the breaking out of the Seminole War, where he remained with the Army until near its close, and early in 1837, he returned to Pittsburgh, resigning his commission in the U. S. Army in order to take charge of his wild lands lying in this part of West Virginia, and in the fall of that year moved his family from Pittsburgh to "Wildwood," then in Fayette county, (now Raleigh county). At that early day all this section of this country, for miles in every direction was almost a waste, howling wilderness. The woods were then full of all kinds of wild game, both large and small, such as the bear, panther, deer, wolf, fox, turkey, pheasant, squirrel, etc. The population of the country at that day was very sparse and scattered the nearest neighbors living four, five and six miles apart. The distance from our home, "Wildwood", to Vandalia, as it was called then, (how Fayetteville), on the north, was 26 miles with five families living in that distance, and on the south, to Pack's old ferry, on New River, was 24 miles, with four or five families living



The Sumptuous Wedding Party of Ernest Ewart and Ella Williams, June 18, 1902.

Photo Courtesy the Henry Princes

in that distance.

This section for some years thereafter made very slow advancement in population or improvements. However, my father continued to live on in this wilderness country, with its then many inconveniences and disadvantages, and my dear and beloved mother, born and raised in a city, with all the conveniences and advantages of city life, never murmured or complained but ever content and happy with her lot, devoting her entire life, to the care and comfort of her husband and children, and never was a mother more untiring and devoted to her family. At "Wildwood," on July 29, 1839, my third brother, William Gregory Beckley, was born. He is living, but in feeble health. On March 2, 1841, at "Wildwood", my fourth brother, Isaac Craig Beckley, was born. He and W. G. Beckley live in Calloway county, Mo. On March 5, 1843, my fifth and youngest brother, Alfred Beckley, was born and who now lives in Virginia. In October, 1844, on account of some business engagements, my father and his family moved temporarily from "Wildwood" to Fayetteville, and on January 12th, 1845, my only sister, Emma Jane Beckley, was born and mother dying when the babe was seven weeks old, Grandpa and Grandma Craig came out at my mother's death and took the babe with the four youngest boys back with them to their home in Pittsburgh. Our little sister was soon the idol of the old Pittsburgh home. Her life, however, on earth was very short, for it pleased the good Lord to transplant her life in Heaven, for about August 20th, 1848, she died after only two or three days' suffering from the dread disease among children, scarlet fever, at about the age of three years and six months. Her little grave is in the

(Continued on Page 368)

1902

Back row: Maud (Clayton Scott) Prince; John Prince; Lena Prince (Oliver) Hicks; Mrs. David (Nannie Toll) Prince; Joe Griffith; Alfred Prince; Lake Prince (Mrs. John Counts); James Scott.

Middle row: Two people, (left) Fred Prince, Ada Prince (Mrs. John Fitzpatrick).

Front row: Ella Prince (Watts); Mary Prince (Smith); Okey Prince; Bert Prince (Mrs. Joe Griffith); Maggie Bair (Holly); Mable Bair (Saunders); Oma Prince (Mrs. Warren Dunn).



Photo Courtesy Mrs. Lena Prince Hicks

An Old Crow Road Branch of the Prince Family

(See Prince Family Tree in index)

BECKLEY'S EARLIEST HISTORY—(Continued from Page 367)

family plot, in the beautiful Allegheny Cemetery on the hills overlooking the city of Pittsburg, beside and close by that of our great-grand-mother, Amelia Neville Craig, consort of Major Isaac Craig, of the Revolutionary War. Our little sister's grave is simply marked by beautiful white marble head and foot stones, and on the head stone alone are inscribed only these four words, "Our dear little Emmie."

The above being more of a historical sketch of my distinguished ancestors and my immediate Beckley family, than otherwise, I will now try to make the sketch more personal to myself. In the year 1841, my father built a small log school house on the lot afterwards known as the "Doan Lot," now within the corporate limits of Beckley, and at present owned by the Widow Lewis Williams and others. This was the second house ever erected in Beckley. After building the school house, my father hired a little wandering Englishman, traveling along the road, who claimed to be a school teacher, by the name of "Johnson," to teach a subscription 3-months' school.

This was my first school. Among my fellow students in that 3-months' school I will mention a few names: John Stover, Buerell Stover, Silas Stover, Lewis Stover, and Stephen Stover, (sons of old John Stover, who lived on Coal River). These are all dead, but one. Also Lewis Williams, Daniel Williams, John Warden, Hughes Warden, and others whom I do not now remember. Of the last named, only Eli Williams is now living. This was a successful short term of school. We had an excellent teacher, all made some advancement and we all had a happy time. Yet with the only fight I ever had in my life was at this school—a little "fist fight" between Hughes Ward-

en and I. All the damage or injury done was two bloody noses, but afterwards a third party appeared on the scene, and two boys that afternoon had sore backs.—My next school, in 1844, I was sent to Pittsburg to school to Miss Jane Finney, who taught a fine school on Marberry street for a number of years. Sometimes after my mother died, in 1845, I returned home to my father's at "Wildwood," he having returned from Fayetteville after the death of my mother. Remaining at home for several years, about the first of the year 1849, I went again to Pittsburg, and at once entered "Caton Academy" on Favoy street, where by close and arduous attention to my studies I was enabled to graduate at the head of nearly all my classes on Commencement Day, June 30, 1851, returning to my home at "Wildwood" in July, 1851. That fall and winter I taught my first school, a four-months' subscription school. The little log school house (long since gone) stood on Big Beaver Creek in the bottom near the old Road, just above the present residence of the widow Mary Lilly.

Among my scholars I mention some—Jas. Prince, Harvey, Bub, and Julia Prince, of Wm. Prince family, then living at Piney; Mary Prince, Isaac, Sarah, John and perhaps Emily, of Clarkson Prince's family; Emaline, Susan, Martha and Pomp Thomason, Emily Pittman, and sister, and among a number of others that came to the school not above mentioned, was old John Pittman, a man of more than 70 years, who came to study arithmetic and nothing else. This was a successful term. Then for about three years, I labored and worked on my father's farm. On November 21, 1855, I was married to Miss Margaret Jane Price, youngest daughter of Old John Price, at that date a very successful

(Continued on Page 369)

1901-2-3



Photo Courtesy Alfred Quesenberry

Raleigh County Group Attending Concord Normal ("College" now)

Some of Raleigh County's distinguished collegiates attending nearby Concord Normal (College, now) about 1901-2-3, Athens.

Front row, l. to r: unidentified; Charley Garten; Jessie McGuire; Blanch Phil-

lips; Thomas K. Young (prominent Presbyterian minister now); Sue Laing; (Dr.) Robert A. Ashworth, Sr. (father of Robert and John Ashworth, Beckley lawyers), of Moundsville, at present. Second row: ——— Garten (sister of

Charley); Willis West; George S. McKinney; Ken R. Callaway; Maud Martin (Dr. L. A. Martin's daughter). Third row: Mrs. Jennings McKinney; Judge J. W. Maxwell; John L. Hawley; Morris McGuire; George Daniels.

BECKLEY'S EARLIEST HISTORY—(Continued from Page 368)

farmer of Savannah, Greenbrier county, Virginia, (Now W. Va.). We have had five children born to us, three living to be grown, and two dying at birth.

Mary Emily, our oldest child, was born June 15, 1857, in Greenbrier county, and died at Beckley, April 28, 1878, near 21 years of age. Bettie Dixon Beckley, (now Bettie D. Campbell). Our second child was born October 5, 1868, and is now our only living child. Then John Price Beckley, our youngest, and the baby boy, was born on the 28th day of April, 1875. He died on the morning of August 20, 1900, aged 26 years, leaving a widow and one little daughter, then three and a half years old—Margaret Julia Beckley. My poor wife has been a great sufferer and invalid for more than 12 years, with little hope of her ever recovering, who being now well advanced in years. In the early part of 1856, I built a frame cottage at "Piney Bluff," and lived there until about September 1st, 1859, when we moved down from "Piney Bluff" to the Mill on Piney, known as the "Old Beckley Mill," (now known or called the Worley or Compton Mill), where we lived until the spring of 1866. These years included the four years of the Civil War, and they were years of constant uneasiness, worry, fear, anxiety, trial, hope, and disappointments, for all non-combatants, as we were, here on debatable ground between the Armies—one day the Federal Army in possession of the country—next day the Confederate Army in possession of the country—and this state of things continued throughout the entire

struggle, and then it was such a cruel war—father arrayed against son,—son against father, brother against brother, family against family, and neighbor against neighbor, and even one community arrayed against another community. As an instance of this: one day during the war, I had the pleasure of shaking the hand of two brothers, each one in a separate army, each one remarking to me as I shook their hand, that they would like to have shaken their brother's hand had he been wearing a different uniform. One of these brothers is living to-day on the "Carper Mountain," and the other has been dead some years. Was living then in Charleston, W. Va. Both at one time were citizens of Raleigh county. My family (at that time consisting of my wife and one little daughter "Mary Emily," about 5 years of age) and myself during those four years had many dangers and very great hardships to undergo, yet by prudence and care we came out without a scratch. The young and present generation of today, know very little of the trials and hardships of the war. A Yankee picket, consisting of a Sergeant and three soldiers were picketed for months near our door. Most of the pickets were nice men and treated us kindly. Others were very cross and treated us very unkindly. The 23rd and 34th Ohio Infantry Regiments were then stationed in Beckley, and many of the soldiers during those days would come to our house for a fresh dinner. Their call to Mrs. Beckley, was usually, "Can we get to-day a meal out of camp?" always paying promptly for

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