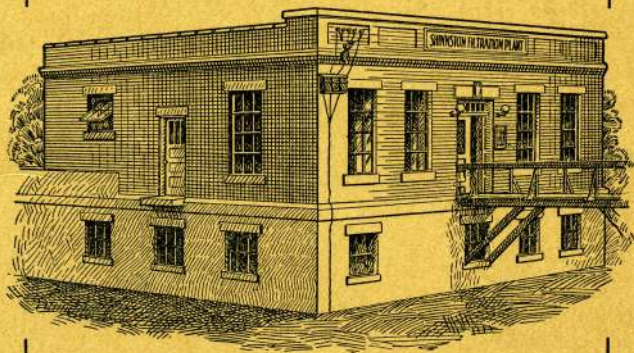
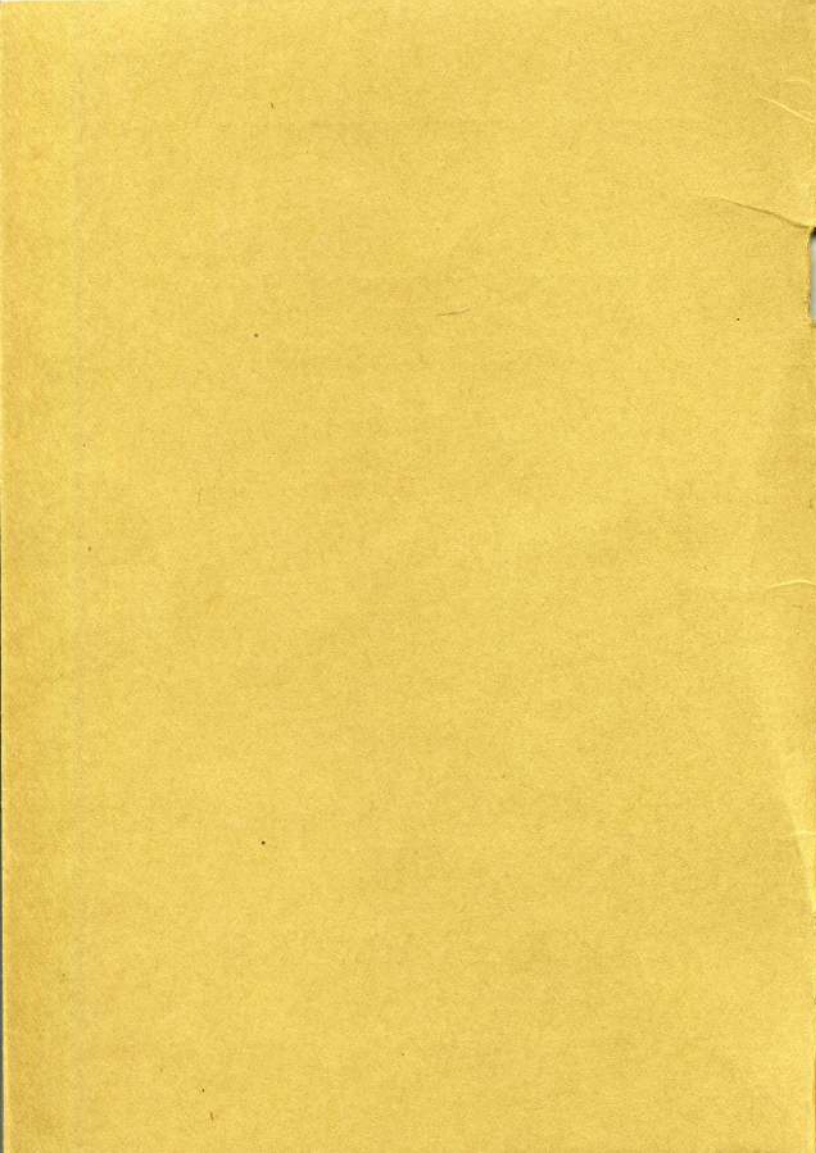


P 7839

THE
CITY *of* SHINNSTON
(WEST VIRGINIA)



AND ITS
WATER WORKS



The
City of Shinnston
and its
Water Works

1927

The objects of this booklet are twofold:

FIRST—To advertise Shinnston by showing its present advantages as a place in which to live from the standpoint of natural resources, geographic location, business opportunities, public improvements and social conditions.

SECOND—To present a brief history of the city for future reference and to preserve a record of the present time.

SHINNSTON DIRECTORY, 1927

Mayor—F. F. ROBEY,

Recorder—T. M. GILLUM.

Councilmen: J. R. Robinson, S. B. Davis, Guy A. Hardesty, George R. Ogden, R. S. Johnson, Lloyd Riley, Lloyd Chalfont and A. R. Walls.

City Attorney—Hugh M. Martin.

Assessor—John J. Sturm.

Street Commissioner—James A. Janes.

Fire Chief—A. E. Vassar.

Chief of Police—H. H. Carder.

Night Police—James Harbert.

Supt. Water Works—George Riffée.

Post Master—C. S. Randall.

Banks: First National and Farmers.

Churches: Methodist Episcopal, Methodist Protestant, Roman Catholic, Baptist, Christian, United Brethren.

Schools: Shinnston Public School and Clay District High School.

Railroads: Baltimore & Ohio and Monongahela West Penn Railroad.

Wholesale Stores: Shinnston Wholesale Grocery and C. F. Lucas & Co., Wholesale Grocery and Feed.

In addition Shinnston has a weekly newspaper, THE NEWS; two hardware stores, two drug stores, two undertaking establishments, a furniture store, two plumbing shops and stores; an electric supply store, six meat stores, twelve groceries, five restaurants, five dry goods stores, general stores, confectioneries, three garages, and other business establishments.

SHINNSTON SCHOOLS

HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS—1926-27

Clyde R. McCarty, Principal, District Supt.
 Grace A. Martin, Asst. Principal, English.
 Helen Bolman, Languages.
 Frances Sprigg, Home Economics.
 Dorothy Bone, Home Economics, English.
 R. E. Winters, Agriculture, Science.
 Florence Shaid, Mathematics.
 Virginia Laird, History.
 Edwin V. Richardson, Manual Training.
 Blanche Bice, Typewriting.
 Marie Johnson, Bookkeeping.
 Henry Rohrbough, Science, Coach Athletics.
 Beulah Coffindaffer, Librarian.

Shinnston Junior High School and Grades

Dallas C. Bailey, Principal.

Teachers:	Boys	Girls	Total
1st Grade—Esta Hewitt	27	24	51
1st Grade—Lucretia Thompson	34	21	55
2nd Grade—Rhea Fisher	14	21	35
2nd Grade—Geneva Maxwell	24	13	37
3rd Grade—Ella Sturm	27	20	47
3rd Grade—Mary Nutter	15	26	41
4th Grade—Berta Lynch	25	20	45
4th Grade—Pauline Bailey	20	24	44
5th Grade—Alice Mahan	20	29	49
5th Grade—Virginia Walls	27	22	49
6th Grade—Regina Robey	27	19	46
6th Grade—Laura V. Coffindaffer	22	22	44
7th Grade—Grace Matthew	10	25	35
7th Grade—Mildred Hursey	14	19	33
8th Grade—James P. McNutt	13	14	27
8th Grade—Freda McCarty	11	17	28
1st & 2nd Grade West Side— Bertha B. Davis	24	19	43

Music Supervisor—Marshalline Randall.

Penmanship Supervisor—Catherine Harper.

Board of Education.

W. S. Hursey, President; J. G. Lucas and W. O. Bice, Commissioners.

HISTORY

From the very nature of the case, the recital of matter-of-fact actions of people engaged in peaceful pursuits, unless touched with the wand of genius or embellished with romance, is dull and dreary reading.

But when the narration treats of the migration of a primitive people and the founding of states, colonies and settlements in remote and out-of-way places and the development of society, our imaginations are stirred and our interest aroused, especially if these migrations are attended with perils, privations and hardships.

The accounts of the wanderings of the Israelites, as narrated in the Book of Genesis, is true poetry, even if written in prose.

And sometimes a plain, dry-as-dust statement of the common, every day occurrences that have taken place on the immediate surface of the earth whereon our lot has been cast and we have had our beginning, because of this intimacy, has a peculiar interest.

The history of early settlements is nearly always imperfect, because of the scantiness of record and the unreliability of tradition and legend.

There was no printed page, no newspapers, and the actors were engaged in a severe struggle to overcome the obstacles of their surroundings, and they lived a life of toil in subduing the forest, rearing homes and securing subsistence, and hence they did not have the time or inclination to preserve records for future generations.

The wilderness swallowed them up and little

did they realize that the toilsome pursuits of obscure back-woodsmen in the solitudes of the forest would be epic reading and epochal events for generations to come.

The early history of Shinnston is a history of the first settlers, the Shinns.

According to the best accounts available and the general voice of tradition, in the year 1776, Levi Shinn, perhaps, accompanied by his brother, Clement, set out from Hopewell, Virginia, whither he or they had migrated from Salem, New Jersey, and plunged into the forest on a journey that was to land them to the place where Shinnston is located.

Here is a theme worthy of the genius of a Walter Scott to touch with his wizard wand and weave into story and song.

How they treaded the trackless forest and for mile after mile they saw not a settler in his wamus, nor a field yellow with grain nor gay with apple blossoms.

For mile after mile they heard not the bleat of a lamb or the bark of a shepherd's dog, and the only sound to be heard was the dashings of the streams or the shrill cry of some bird of prey from some far off pinnacle of rock, or the growl of some beast aroused in his lair.

But the migratory instinct was the spirit of the age and they followed the star of civilization westward, and, according to the best record and most reliable traditions, arrived on the brow of the hill a little to the east of what is now known as the Fleming Addition, cleared away the forest from a few acres and reared them a home, and the year following returned to Hopewell and returned again to Shinnston with their families and some of their relatives.

Whatever we have of written history as to

the time and location of the first settlement, is founded upon tradition and is somewhat contradictory.

Josiah Shinn, apparently a laborious and painstaking writer, in his "History of The Shinn Family," inferentially, at least, places the time as the year 1778, and the location along the Clarksburg turnpike about one and a half mile south of the town, where the old log house on lands of Mrs. Mable Randall stands, as the place of the first settlement and, he states, that the above mentioned log house was the first house reared in the neighborhood.

From an anonymous article that appeared in The Shinnston News-Letter of December 13th, 1895, evidently contributed by an old resident, and one familiar with tradition, it is stated that in 1776, three brothers, Levi, Jonathan and Clement Shinn, cleared the forest from several acres of land and built a house about two hundred yards south of the residence of the late D. M. Shinn, which was the first house that was built.

A comparison of the several accounts and traditions and probabilities confirms me in the belief that the first house built in the town or its vicinity was the house that was built in the Fleming Addition, south of D. M. Shinn's residence, and in the year 1776.

The old house situated on lands of Mrs. Randall is a hewn, two-story, log house, and would take several assistants to raise it, and is too pretentious and commodious a house for a first settler.

The News-Letter writer was evidently in error in stating that Jonathan Shinn accompanied the two brothers in 1776.

Two sons of Jonathan Shinn, Levi and Asa, of whom we will speak later, were born in

New Jersey, the former in the year 1779 and the latter in the year 1781, and we have the authority of Miss Isola Shinn, who is a great-grand-daughter of Jonathan Shinn, that he arrived at Shinnston after the revolutionary war in the year 1790, or afterwards.

It is safe to accept an accurate history that the two brothers, Levi and Clement, were the first arrivals, perhaps together, built the house in the Fleming Addition, returned to Hopewell, Virginia, and came back with their families and some relatives in a year or two; and in a few years Levi built the house still standing on lands of Mrs. Randall for a permanent home, and Clement built him a home, still standing and known as Emaline Robinson house, on Mudlick Run, then called Middle Creek.

When Jonathan Shinn arrived in 1790, he in all probability took up habitation in the house built in the Fleming Addition that had been vacated by Levi and Clement, for Miss Isola Shinn, above mentioned, says when she was a little girl her father, Alpheus Shinn, who was a son of Levi Shinn, and grandson of Jonathan Shinn, took her up to the brow of the hill, where the Fleming Addition now is, and showed her the remains of the house, the chimney was then still standing, where her great grandfather lived and died. The house was afterwards destroyed by fire, but remains can still be found.

Since accuracy is the saving grace of history, at the risk of being tedious, we, have gone into trifling details. The facts can be better obtained now than later on.

According to the records of Harrison County in the year 1793, Levi Shinn, the elder, conveyed to Jonathan Shinn for a consideration of fifty pounds, (about two hundred and fifty dol-

lars) a tract of two hundred and eighty-seven acres, the beginning point of the boundaries being given on the bank of the West Fork River at the mouth of Buffalo Lick Run, which must be the ravine pouring into the river at the Ehlin coal tipple, thence following the general direction of Clarksburg turnpike for a distance and running thence across what is now known as South Shinnston, crossing Levi Shinn's Run, now Shinn's Run, and proceeding back of the Fleming hill and taking in a part of East Shinnston and reaching the river again somewhere about Riverdale, and thence proceeding up the river with its meanders three hundred and eight poles to the beginning point.

Upon the death of Jonathan Shinn his lands passed to his heirs and it would appear in the subdividing of them a boundary line passed through the old part of the town of Shinnston from some point near the bridge spanning the river to a point near the head of Main or Walnut street, and his son, Levi, took the lands to the West of that line and Asa took those to the East, because in the conveyance of lots to the West of that line Levi was the grantor, while Asa was the grantor of the lots to the East, Samuel Shinn for some unexplained reason, joining in the deeds of Levi.

It might be worthy of remark in this connection and at this place that Asa Shinn became famed as a great preacher and author. He undoubtedly was a man of rare intellectual gifts and by the power of his eloquence thrilled vast audiences in Baltimore and other large cities of his time and wrote some notable books that can be read with profit, and became one of the founders of the Methodist Protestant Church.

His educational advantages were very meager,

but he studied grammar on horse back in riding his circuit and the language of his books is pure, correct, stately and masterful, in diction and statement. His splendid mental powers gave way and he died in an asylum.

His brother Levi, while lacking the rich gifts of his more famous brother, was a man of ability and transmitted to his off-spring well endowed minds.

The Shinnns belonged to the Society of Friends, generally called Quakers; were opposed to all forms of bloodshed, were honest, industrious and frugal, traits that are still discernable in their descendants.

The writer of the News-Letter article states that in the year 1801, there were only two acres of land cleared in what was afterwards laid off into lots and named Shinnston and in that year Levi Shinn built the house still standing on the East Side of Walnut Street, now No. 25 Walnut Street, just above the railroad, which was the first house built in Shinnston proper; and that the dwelling now occupied by Mr. Arthur Vassar, now No. 50 Walnut, was built in the year 1814 by his brother Asa, and is the second house in point of age, which fact was narrated to the writer many years ago by a man then old in years, who was raised in the town.

The News-Letter article further states that in the year 1814 these two brothers, Levi and Asa, cleared away the lands and laid off the town.

This statement is somewhat at variance with an article prepared by Hon. Harvey W. Harmer in a history of the Methodist Church of this place, in which he states it was in the year 1802.

From the position of the two above mentioned houses, with reference to the street, it would

appear that Walnut street might then have been laid off, but since no lots were sold until the year 1819, it would appear the town remained in an embryonic state an improbably long period of time.

However, that may be. it is evident that some time prior to the year 1819, Levi Shinn and Asa Shinn had plotted off from their lands about fifty eight lots, constituting what is generally known as the old part of the town.

In the year 1819 an act was passed by the Virginia Legislature recognizing the town of Shinnston, and is in the following language:

"Be it enacted by the General Assembly, That the lots and streets as already laid off on lands of Levi and Asa Shinn on the West Fork of the Monongahela River in the County of Harrison, be established a town by the name of Shinnston, and that John Righter, David Walm-sley, Samuel Shinn, John D. Lucas, Benjamin Wood, Joseph Wilson and Jeremiah Robey, Gentlemen, be, and they hereby are appointed trustees thereof."

The appointment of trustees for unincorporated towns is frequently met with in old Virginia enactments, but a diligent search of the statutes has failed to disclose the objects and purposes of such appointment or any definition of their powers and duties.

Hon. Edward G. Smith of the Clarksburg bar, tells me they were a kind of an ancillary body to the County Courts of that day.

In those early days settlements were oftentimes so remote from the county seats that the courts of those days could not well supervise the opening of roads and streets and the building of bridges, and, since human society cannot exist without some kind of a government or authority, and, hence, when a town was laid off, streets must need be opened, graded, drain-

ed, culverts put in and bridges built, and these trustees had a kind of an undefined power to look after and have charge of the police and fiscal affairs of the community and could call out what was known as the "Tithables," that was, persons between twenty and fifty years of age, and require them to come with tools and perform the labor of grading, ditching and bridge building.

Although the town had been plotted off and established as a town by legislative enactment as early as 1818, it must not be assumed that the territory occupied by Shinnston, had any semblance of a town at that early day. Shinnston was still without form and void and in the womb of time.

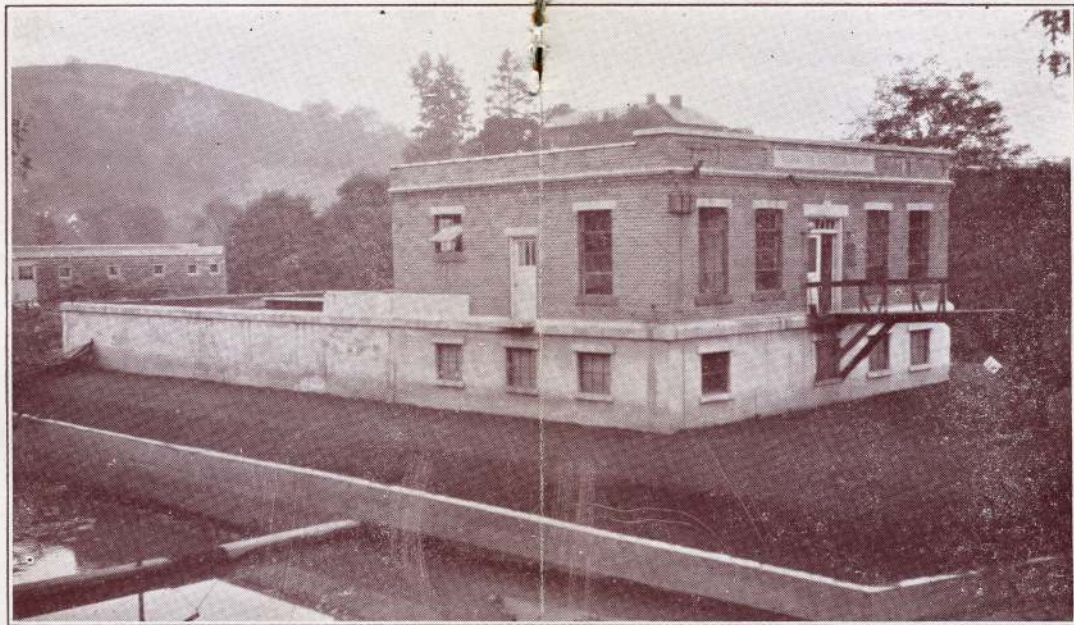
No doubt, cleared out patches began to dot the surrounding landscape and it is probable some of the children of the first settlers married and selected home sites on the parental domain without the acquisition of title and the country took on a more settled appearance, but there were no new immigrants into the territory.

The records of land transfers do not disclose any change of title until the year 1819.

New settlers came pouring in in a steady stream, among them may be mentioned the Righters, the Robeys, the Walmsleys, the Lucases, the Robinsons, the Woods, but they did not come to settle or congregate in the towns; they sought the great open, unoccupied spaces, where they could rear their families and transmit to them a patrimony.

Towns need country folk to support them, but the numbers were lacking and the social instinct was absent.

But the hills and valleys about Shinnston were fertile and productive and it was the natural geographic center for a large extent of



SHINNSTON FILTRATION PLANT

territory and settlers came on apace and some time after the year 1810, Levi Shinn, the son of Jonathan, thought the surrounding population would support a store and made the first mercantile venture in what is now Shinnston.

But it is too far in the dim and distant past to determine the location of his establishment. The oldest inhabitants have no remembrance of ever having heard any one name the location.

Some think it was on the East side on the lower end of Main Street, on space now occupied by railroad, where an old store building once stood; others think it was on South side of Pike Street about midway between Charles and Main Streets, while others think it was on the West side of Main Street, where residence of Mr. C. S. Randall is located, No. 51 Main Street. He was the first postmaster of Shinnston, having been appointed September 18th, 1819.

It would appear in this year of 1819 the fullness of time had come for the town of Shinnston, for besides the establishment of a post-office on the 10th day of June of that year, Levi Shinn made sale of three town lots, lot No. 8 to John Maulsby; lot No. 10, to Robert Mason and lot No. 11 to Moses Shinn, while on the 10th day of July of the same year he disposed of four more, lot No. 13 to Moses G. Shinn; lot No. 20 to David Earl and lots Nos. 14 and 19 to John Righter, and on the same day Asa Shinn sold three of the lots that had been laid off on his part of the land, lot No. 43, to John McIntire, lot No. 39 to Benjamin Wood and lot No. 40 to Jeremiah Robey, forty dollars being the uniform price for the lots. Samuel Shinn, for some undiscoverable reason joins in deeds with Levi.

June 10th and July 10th, 1819, appear to

have been red letter days for the sale of lots, for thereafter the sales appear to have been slow, few, and far between and the growth of the town in population was slow, since according to this News-Letter article there were only eight or nine families living in the town in 1840 and in the year 1870 the population was only two hundred and three souls, according to the census returns.

The first church was organized in the year 1802 in the home of Jonathan Shinn, and the first church building was erected in 1835 on the lot now occupied by the Anderson Garage, No. 55 Walnut Street and some reports have it that in this same building the first school of the town was taught.

In the year 1837 another act of the Virginia Legislature was passed extending the town limits so as to include twelve additional lots that had been laid off on the eastern end of the town. And on the 26th day of May, 1852, an act was passed by the Virginia Legislature incorporating the town and providing for a regular town government, with power to pass and enforce laws and ordinances and the imposition of taxes to defray expenses of the government, but not to become effective until ratified by the voters.

But it is impossible to learn if there was a ratification, since the oldest inhabitants can have no remembrance of the functioning of a town government prior to the re-incorporating under a charter obtained in 1877, nor is there any known records of such a government.

Col. Henry Haymond in his "History of Harrison County," says this charter was allowed to lapse during the Civil War and the latter one obtained.

After obtaining the charter in 1877 a town government was organized and Levi Shinn, a

great grandson of one of the settlers, was elected the first mayor and the government functioned continuously until 1915, when a city charter was obtained extending the boundaries of the town and enlarging the powers of council.

On the first day of August, 1890, the railroad was opened up and the first train run from Clarksburg to Fairmont, and in a few years coal mines were opened, and since that time the growth of the town in wealth and population has been steady and rapid.

Forty of Shinnston's sons responded to the call to arms during the civil war and helped to preserve this glorious union of states and, since the population at that time could not have exceeded two hundred inhabitants, it is doubtful if any town of the Union can report a more liberal contribution to the nation's defense or show a better spirit of loyal devotion.

The first newspaper published in the town was The Shinnston Star, and the first issue was in the year of 1891; and the first bank, the Farmers Bank, was opened for business on the 24 day of June, 1899.

Perhaps mention should be made here of a delightful little book entitled "Old Gold," written by an old resident with rich literary gifts and attainments, depicting the town and vicinage in the forties and early fifties of the last century and containing a rich mine of anecdote and giving pen pictures of the more prominent characters of the town of that period.

It is more of a portraiture than a history, but can be read with profit and delight by those somewhat acquainted with the persons portrayed and familiar with the scenes depicted.

It would be invidious to undertake to mention the sons of Shinnston that have gone forth and attained success, prominence or fame, for

the reason some equally entitled to a place on the roll of honor would be omitted, and earthly glory is a very ephemeral thing after all.

The people of Shinnston have enjoyed an envied reputation for honesty, sobriety and virtue. No foul crime or disgraceful scandal has ever sullied the fair name of the town.



SHINNSTON AS IT IS IN 1927

Shinnston is a little city with a population of twenty-two hundred and sixty-three inhabitants, as shown by a census taken in 1924; located on the West Fork of the Monongahela River, in Clay District, Harrison County, West Virginia, about midway between Clarksburg and Fairmont.

It is compactly built with streets crossing each other at right angles, and these streets are graced with many fine, modern homes and costly business buildings.

It is remarkably free from old, shabby, dilapidated buildings and the surroundings are well kept and has an appearance of prosperity.

Very few cities of the Union can boast of a greater per-capita wealth.

The total assessed valuation for purposes of taxation is three million, eight hundred and fifty-two thousand dollars, while the actual wealth is more than twice that amount.

From a natural geographic standpoint Shinnston is happily situated.

To the south east is the fertile Shinn's Run valley with its broad bottoms and well kept farms.

To the east, the Mudlick and Coon's Run countries, both garden spots.

To the north is the Matson's Run and Binghamon Creek country, tenanted with prosperous

farmers and abounding in coal mines.

To the west lay the Robinson Run and Cunningham's Run valleys, with productive bottoms and lime stone hillsides; and to the south is the river valley country, with farms, mines and factories.

Good roads radiate out from Shinnston in all these directions, Shinnston, itself, being the natural business center and trading point.

It would not be extravagant to assert there is not a better district in a better county of the state than Clay District.

Rich lime stone lands in all directions and the whole underlaid with as fine a vein of bituminous coal as can be found in the world. Thicker veins may be found, but the coal is not so good, and better coal may be found, but the veins are not so thick. Our coal vein varies from eight to ten feet of pure coal in thickness, free of slate and stone binders.

While coal mining has been carried on for more than a quarter of a century and great quantities mined and marketed, yet, compared with the amount remaining, the surface has scarce been scratched.

Timber has been pretty well removed and gas wells begin to show signs of exhaustion, yet there will likely be producing wells for more than a generation to come.

There are some four or five strata of lime stone out-cropping from the hillsides, which signifies a fertile, productive county, and while a great many of the hillsides are too precipitous for cultivation and grain raising, yet they are especially adapted for grazing and fruit growing.

Unfortunately, because of the influx of easy money from coal, oil and gas sales, rentals and royalties, agriculture has been somewhat neg-

lected; but, no doubt, the stimulus of the best markets to be found any where will in time revive and restore it.

Property values have been for years on a continuous ascent, and it would be hard to find an investor that ever lost a dollar, while those that have profited are legion.

Shinnston has been singularly free from vice and crime and a more orderly and virtuous community would be hard to find.

For the most part the inhabitants are of the old stock of early settlers of North Europe extraction, solid, industrious and frugal. Old traits persist and, we hope, will continue to persist.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

It is doubtful if any city of its size in the state has more substantial, extensive and up-to-date public improvements.

We have nearly nine miles of hard surfaced and cindered, mostly hard surfaced with brick or concrete, roads, streets and alleys within the city and more than five miles of brick and concrete sidewalks.

All the streets within the main part of the city and the more important ones in the suburbs are provided with an adequate sewerage system.

The streets are kept in a good state of cleanliness and repair and splendidly electric lighted and the police and sanitary requirements are well attended to.

All these improvements and services have been secured and maintained by taxation alone that has never been burdensome. Special assessments on property owners has never been resorted to.

MUNICIPAL EFFICIENCY

Comparisons are said to be invidious, and but for that, we could name neighboring cities with a greater concentration of wealth, where the prevailing tax rate has been and still is considerably higher than that of Shinnston and the public improvements and services do not equal, or at least, exceed or excell those of Shinnston either in quality or extent, and where life and property is no better protected, while the burden of street paving and maintenance, sidewalk construction and upkeep, and in many instances, sewer construction, is imposed upon adjacent property owners.

It would appear that the officials of these cities might get some valuable lessons in municipal efficiency and economy by coming to Shinnston.

We adhere to the old councilmaniac system of city government and have no high-salaried, ornamental, superfluous municipal officers and the people of the city of Shinnston can congratulate themselves that for every dollar exacted in the way of taxation a dollar's worth of services and improvements have been secured.

No suspicion of graft or official corruption has ever been heard or charged and scarce an instance of official extravagance or mismanagement could be specified.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

Scarce a public convenience or social advantage to be enjoyed in the larger cities is wanting in Shinnston.

The spiritual needs of the city are supplied by six churches with six resident ministers

There are within the city two public schools and a District High School to provide for the educational needs of the students. The District

High School has an enrollment of 222.

We have free mail delivery and a good supply of water from a municipally owned and operated water works system. We have three theatres for entertainment, and public service companies furnish us with a good supply of electric current and natural gas at fair rates of charges.

Nearly all the homes and business buildings have all modern conveniences of electric lights, natural gas and water.

Manual labor, both skilled and unskilled, commands as good or a better wage than elsewhere, while continuity of employment is more general than most places

Shinnston has never suffered as acutely from business depressions as the neighboring cities.

Of course, the poor we have with us always, but grinding poverty, squallor and distress is seldom met with and slums and dens of vice do not exist.

Good hard-surfaced roads radiate in all directions, linking up Shinnston with all the surrounding towns and country and we have street car and railroad facilities.

Taken all in all, a better place to live could scarce be found.

WATER WORKS

Shinnston is justly proud of its efficient, up-to-date water works and good water supply, notwithstanding natural disadvantages.

In the year 1902 a private company was organized to install a water works system with a paid up capital stock of seventy-two hundred dollars, supplemented by a four thousand dollar bond issue.

Owing to the cheapness of labor and material prevailing at that time the company was able to lay six inch cast iron and four inch

cast iron side lines throughout the larger part of the main part of the town and equip a pump house and erect two 50,000 gallon wooden tanks on the hill about two hundred and fifty feet above the main part of the town, insuring a good pressure for fire fighting, and installed forty-five hydrants.

From its earnings the company made a number of extensions and laid a line to East Shinnston, but the company was never financially able to erect and equip a filtration plant and was dubious of its practicability, owing to the polluted and chemically charged water of the river from which only a supply could be had.

In the year 1921, by means of a bond issue of sixty-one thousand dollars, the municipality made a purchase of the company plant and erected a fine imposing pump house and a large concrete reservoir and filtration plant in the bottom near the mouth of Shinn's Run and extended lines across the river to Elmwood and a year or so later supplanted the wooden tanks with a two hundred thousand gallon steel tank and extended lines to the Pleasant Hill Addition.

Engineering skill and chemical science was equal to the emergency, and by a process of filtration and chemical treatment the foul, turbid and chemically charged waters of the West Fork River are transformed into good, limpid drinking water, which by frequent tests by official chemists is pronounced pure, free of germs and deleterious substances. Every city and community, it appears, has its disadvantages and draw backs and Shinnston is no exception to the rule.

Shinnston was blessed with many natural advantages, but it had one draw back and that was a good water supply.

The West Fork River traverses an industrial

and mining region and cities and towns above us discharge their sewerage into its waters, while hundreds of coal mines along its course, or that of its tributaries, pour forth their sulphurous drainings and chemical works empty out their corrosive acids into its channel, all to be bourne along on its crest or to find lodgment on its banks, rendering the stream itself a veritable sewer, and yet by a scientific process, the water supplied the city, derived from that polluted source, has been proved to be pure and wholesome and fit for human consumption; so the only disadvantage to Shinnston's growth, happiness and prosperity has been overcome by civic enterprise and daring and scientific ingenuity.

Modern science can scarce boast of a more useful triumph than its ability to transmute foul, chemically laden and polluted water into that indispensable, life giving element—good, clean pure water.

So Shinnston can pride itself in the possession of a water system that can supply a volume in excess of its present need of good pure water and that can be expanded to meet future requirements.

It has five hundred consumers, as shown by meters installed, and has a daily capacity of one million gallons and an average daily consumption of 150,000 gallons and yearly earnings of twelve thousand dollars, showing yearly net earnings of four thousand dollars over expenditures.

CONCLUSION

As stated in the preface, this little book has been prepared by the Shinnston City Council to advertise its water works, set forth the advantages of Shinnston as a business and residential center and from a manufacturing standpoint.

Factories seeking a location can depend on

generous inducements, business men a good opportunity and new-comers a glad welcome, good social conditions and all modern conveniences and advantages.

—X—

EXTRACTS FROM THE RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR FURNISHING WATER

A deposit of five dollars shall be required of all consumers occupying property not owned by them, which shall be refunded them upon discontinuance to use water, providing all arrearages for water used shall have been paid, and five days notice of intent to discontinue shall have been given Superintendent prior thereto.

The Water Board shall have the right to shut off the water and remove its property from the premises of any consumer for any of the following reasons:

1st.—For non-payment of bills.

2nd.—for fraudulent tampering with the meter or piping.

3rd.—For removal of the customer from premises.

4th.—For selling or delivering water to other persons without written permission of Board.

5th.—For failure to make increase of advance payment or deposit lawful demand of the Board.

6th.—For leakage or waste of water from consumer's piping.

7th.—For failure to comply with rules and regulations.

Whenever water has been turned off for violation of rules, fifty cents must be paid before water will be again turned on. If meter should be disconnected, one dollar must be paid.

A 5% discount will be allowed consumers on all bills paid before the 10th day of the month succeeding month of consumption.

RATES OF CHARGES

For the first 2000 gal. per month	62 ½	cts. per M
For the next 8000 gal. per month	50	cts. per M
For the next 25000 gal. per month	35	cts. per M
For the next 25000 gal. per month	30	cts. per M
For the next 50000 gal. per month	25	cts. per M
For the next 100000 gal. per month	22	cts. per M
All over 210000 gal. per month	20	cts. per M

MINIMUM RATES

For 6 inch meter, per month		\$115.20
For 4 inch meter, per month		51.20
For 3 inch meter, per month		28.80
For 2 inch meter, per month		12.80
For 1½ inch meter, per month		7.20
For 1¼ inch meter, per month		5.00
For 1 inch meter, per month		3.20
For ¾ inch meter, per month		1.90
For 5-8 inch meter, per month		1.25

